



Westminster PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AUGUST 4, 2024 AT 11AM | 11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

An open and welcoming Christian community in service to God and neighbor

We Come Into God's Presence with Joy

Gathering Music

Life of the Church

Prelude

* Call to Worship

Gale Ring, liturgist

(congregation please read bold type)

*God has chosen our world, God has chosen our neighbors —
the stigmatized, the marginalized, the ostracized.*

“Is not this the fast that I choose:

**to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free and to break every yoke?”**

This calling chooses us; this calling chooses our neighbors.

**“Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?”**

In this time of worship, may we recognize our kinship.

In this time of calling, may we find our center.

* *You are invited to stand as you are able.*

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

God Who Loves,

You know the way of the stranger, the rejected, and the stigmatized. You identify with the marginalized, working to heal the brokenhearted and care for the forgotten. And from this place, you beckon us toward our neighbors. Our world and its systems often dismiss the needs of those most ostracized. At times, we discover that we are centering ourselves. At other times, we confess that we feel helpless. In despair, we become numb and disconnected. We ask for your forgiveness and pray that you would call us anew. Help us to choose the pathway that you have chosen. We pray in Christ's name, Amen.

Silent prayers of confession.

Assurance of God's Presence and Promise

In hope, we proclaim the everlasting mercy of God.

In grace, we are made whole.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God! Amen.

* Passing the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

* Song of Response #609 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

† **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.**

Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

We Hear God's Word

First Reading of The Word *Isaiah 59:1-9*

Anthem

Second Reading of the Word *Mark 1:40-45*

Sermon

I Do Choose

Rev. Renee Roederer

We Respond to God's Word

* Preparation for Prayer #472 *Kum ba Yah*

Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! (x3)

O Lord, kum ba yah!

Someone's crying, Lord, kum ba yah! (x3)

O Lord, kum ba yah!

Someone's singing, Lord, kum ba yah! (x3)

O Lord, kum ba yah!

Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah! (x3)

O Lord, kum ba yah!

† *You are welcome to sign as you are comfortable and able.*

We continue this practice as a way to engage our whole selves in worship.

Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

*...Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with choirs of angels and archangels
and with all the faithful of every time and place,
who forever sing to the glory of your name:*

Song of Response #552 *Holy, Holy, Holy*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest.**

The Lord's Prayer

...Joining our hearts, minds, and voices in the prayer our Lord Jesus taught us, as we now pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and Wine

Unison Prayer after Communion

Ever-present God: we thank you for this supper shared in the Spirit with your Son Jesus, who makes us and all things new and strong; we praise you for giving us all good gifts in him. We pledge to you that we will use these gifts to serve you, even as in Christ you have served us, that we might become servants using the gifts of the Spirit in your name. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

* Song of Response #717

For the Life That You Have Given

**For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known,
with these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own:
here we offer, Lord, our praises; heart and mind and strength we bring;
give us grace to love and serve you, living what we pray and sing.**

* Prayer of Dedication

* Hymn #722

*Lord, Speak to Me
That I May Speak*

CANONBURY

We Go Forth to Serve

* Benediction

Postlude

Dismissal

And let all God's people say:

Alleluia! Amen!

Our preacher today is Rev. Renee Roederer. She is a PC(USA) minister who lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan. She is the Community Care Director at the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan, where she connects with individuals and families and provides educational information, resources, referrals, companionship, and support. Renee enjoys choral singing, hiking, photography, and traveling, and she's an avid writer. One of her greatest joys in life is the large, chosen family she has built over time, with whom she enjoys keeping in touch, laughing hard, and reflecting on life.

This Week's News

Members of Riverside Community Gathering thank you for the freshly baked bread offered from our celebration of Communion today and shared with them this Wednesday.

August Donation Drive: In the month of August, we will hold a donation drive for Jewish Family Services (JFS) Refugee Assistance. Items will be accepted from Sunday, August 11 through Labor Day weekend. Bath, kitchen and household items, linens and towels, as well as furniture in good used condition, are requested. A comprehensive list of suggested donation items from JFS can be found in the July-August Link or on our website. Target, VISA, or Dollar Tree gift cards, checks (payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church), or cash may also be donated, and should be given to Dave Gross, Assistant Financial Secretary. Let's continue to work together this summer to help our neighbors in need!

Westminster Cookout! On August 16, we will be sponsoring a cookout for you, your friends and families, UDT families and children, and people from the neighborhood. Join us at 5:30pm for a fun evening which includes food, games for children of all ages and adults, and time to simply be together. Feel free to bring a lawn chair.

To make this evening a success, WE NEED YOUR HELP! Sign up on the bulletin board or online by August 11. Volunteers are needed for setup in the afternoon, grilling, helping with children's games and more.

One more chance for Listening Circles: Those who have not yet been able to participate in a listening circle are invited to a Zoom session on Wednesday, August 7 at 7pm. The listening circle will last about 90 minutes. This will likely be the last listening circle we hold, so your attendance is very much desired. Please reach out to Carol Hufnagel (carol.hufnagel@tetrattech.com) if you would like to attend or for more information.

Grow in Faith and Friendship

Reading Through the Bible Group meets Sundays at 9:30am. Please contact Marcia Anderson (hilden.anderson@gmail.com; 734-757-4305) for more info.

Sunday Morning Adult Ed meets in the fellowship hall at 9:30am.

Monday Conversations are weekly at 1pm online. The Zoom invitation is in the Friday *Good Things* and Sunday podcast emails.

Mary Martha Group meets the first and third Mondays at 7pm via Zoom. Please contact Margaret Klammer (mklammer@comcast.net) for more information.

Matthew 25 Study Group meets at 7pm on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. For meeting information please contact Elizabeth Tidd (lizbeth0405@yahoo.com) or Carol Hufnagel (carol.hufnagel@tetrattech.com).

Thursday Book Club will meet occasionally over the summer and resume regular meetings in the Fall. Please contact Linda Harnisch for more information. (lharnisch@gmail.com).

We pray for our Westminster family

Ongoing needs: Riverside Guests, Anne Gensheimer, Donna Greyerbiehl

Condolences to the family of Don Brundage on the July 20 death of Don. A memorial service is being planned for October 8.

Please email prayer requests to Gail Arnold (garnold@umich.edu) for listing here and in the *Friday Good Things Are Happening* email; or contact Jill Fairchild, prayer chain coordinator (jill@thefairchilds.net or 734-417-0816). You can join our email prayer chain by contacting Jill. To keep us current, please share updates on those for whom we are praying.

Welcome to Westminster

Our Values: Love, Compassion, Connection, Inclusion, Earth-Care, Service

Our Mission: Show the love of Jesus Christ by welcoming everyone, without exception, into the full life of the church; participating in the joyful worship of God; engaging in regular study, reflection, prayer and sharing of our faith; committing ourselves and our resources to the spiritual and physical needs of our church family and neighbors near and far; seeking to be a good neighbor in our neighborhood.

Sunday worship podcasts are at bit.ly/westpres_online.

For deacon care, please contact Gail Arnold (garnold@umich.edu).

Thank you for continuing to fulfill your pledges and financial commitments in support of the mission and ministry of Westminster Presbyterian Church.

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