



# Westminster PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 15, 2024 AT 11AM | 17TH 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

Lynda Berg, liturgist

(congregation please read bold type)

*The heavens are telling the glory of God.*

**With Wisdom, we rejoice, knowing the streets are full of God's glory!**

*The sky proclaims God's handiwork.*

**With Wisdom, we rejoice, worshipping in the sanctuary of creation!**

*The ways of the Holy One make wise the simple.*

**With Wisdom, we rejoice, sharing in the oneness of love.**

**Let us worship the Holy One in the streets, sanctuaries, and squares!**

*(Based on Psalm 19 and Wisdom of Solomon 7:26-8:1, from Presbyterian Outlook)*

\* Hymn #20

*All Things Bright  
and Beautiful*

ROYAL OAK

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

## Lighting of the Peace Candle

(based on Romans 15:13)

**May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

Song of Response #378      *We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom, v.1*

**We wait the peaceful kingdom,  
when wolf and lamb shall lie  
in gentleness and friendship  
without a fear or sigh,  
when lion shall be grazing,  
when snake shall never strike;  
a little child shall lead us  
both strong and weak alike.**

## Call to Confession

### Unison Prayer of Confession

**God of love, you teach us to deny what is unhealthy and unloving. You call us to turn away from violence, indifference, and apathy. You guide us toward that which is life-giving and supportive to our neighbors. Forgive us when we forget that calling and are distracted by our human concerns. Accompany us in new paths, where we invest in one another's thriving and courageously practice hope. Help us to be the embodiment of your compassionate love in everything we do. Amen.**

*Silent prayers of confession.*

### Assurance of Grace

*Through Jesus Christ we are forgiven, we are loved,  
and we are called into abundant life.*

**Thanks be to God for this good and gracious news.**

\* 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

Psalm 19

Anthem

*Where Two or Three  
are Gathered*

by John Purifoy

Westminster Choir; Andrea and Eric Klooster, Carol and Doug Franklin, soloists

Where two or three are gathered in my name,  
there will I be, there will I also be.

Where two or three are gathered in my name,  
there will I be, there will I also be.

You and I are gathered in His name,  
seeking grace, giving thanks and praise.

You and I are gathered in His name,  
Lord, be with us we pray.

Father, Son, Holy Spirit, come to us this day.

Father, Son, Holy Spirit, come to us this day.

Amen.

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† *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.*

*We Respond to God's Word*

\* Preparation for Prayer #468

*In My Life*

† **In my life, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.**

**In my life, Lord, be glorified today.**

**In our song, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.**

**In our song, Lord, be glorified today.**

**In your church, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.**

**In your church, Lord, be glorified today.**

**In your world, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.**

**In your world, Lord, be glorified today.**

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

\* Song of Response #712

*As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought, v.3*

**In gratitude and humble trust  
we bring our best today,  
to serve your cause and share your love  
with all along life's way.  
O God who gave yourself to us  
in Jesus Christ your Son,  
help us to give ourselves each day  
until life's work is done.**

\* Prayer of Dedication

\* Hymn #718

*Take Up Your Cross,  
the Savior Said*

TRURO  
(#772)

*We Go Forth to Serve*

\* Benediction

Postlude

Dismissal

*And let all God's people say:*  
**Alleluia! Amen!**

## *This Week's News*

**Shopping bags of nonperishable food** and personal and household items dedicated with our offering today will be given to Hope Clinic's food pantry.

**The 2023-24 Annual Meeting** of the congregation is today! Following worship, we will share a delicious lunch, receive the annual report, and hear from select ministry teams. Let's celebrate God's faithfulness throughout this past year and anticipate the year ahead!

**Football Parking Season!** The next home game is 9/21 with a 3:30pm kickoff. We start gathering around 3 hours before gametime to help park cars and enjoy a pot-luck tailgate together. Drop in any time! Bring a comfortable chair for outdoor seating and a dish to pass (if you are able). All are welcome!

**The approved minutes** and ministry team reports for June can be found on the bookshelf across from the elevator. Note: there are no July reports since Session takes July as a Sabbath month.

**A Season of Peace:** This morning, we will be lighting a Peace Candle in recognition of PC(USA)'s *A Season of Peace*, which extends through October 6th. It is intended as a time of growth, encouragement, challenge, inspiration, and education, which invites you to consider your own relationship to peacemaking and justice. More information about *A Season of Peace* can be found at [presbyterianmission.org](http://presbyterianmission.org) or in your Friday Email.

**Save the Date!** The Holy Vision Team has been hard at work compiling their report! Please mark **Saturday, November 16** in your calendars for a time to gather as a congregation, along with Jan and Paul from Transitional Ministry Pathways, and receive the Holy Vision Team report. More info to come!

## 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. Our current study is based on Donald K. McKim's book, *Presbyterian Beliefs*.

**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** meets weekly at 1pm at Westminster and over Zoom. Please contact Linda Harnisch for more information. (rlharnisch@gmail.com).

### We pray for our Westminster family

**Ongoing needs:** Kathy Kam, Elke Kramer, Betty Reed

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](http://bit.ly/westpres_online).

**For deacon care,** please contact Gail Arnold ([garnold@umich.edu](mailto: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.

**Westminster Staff** may be reached by phone at 734-761-9320

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