



Westminster PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 27, 2024 AT 11AM | 23RD 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

Ralph Lange, liturgist

(based on Psalm 34:1-3)

I will bless the Lord at all times—

Praise will continually be in my mouth.

My soul shall rejoice in the Lord;

Let the humble hear it and rejoice.

Come, glorify our God with me.

Let's exalt God's name together!

* Hymn #418

*Softly and Tenderly
Jesus is Calling*

SOFTLY AND TENDERLY

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

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Holy God, hear our prayer:

For the mending of our hearts, torn apart by our unkindness;

For the healing of our souls, wasting away from the despair around us;

For the forgiveness we seek for the sin we have allowed to persist;

For the reconciliation of the world, whose division condemns us;

We pray for the courage to admit our fault,

The strength to amend our actions,

And the hope that your grace awaits us.

Through Christ we pray. Amen.

Written by Rev. Beth Merrill Neel

Silent prayers of confession.

Assurance of Grace

(based on Psalm 34:17-18)

The Lord hears his people when they call to him for help.

God rescues them from all their troubles.

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted;

God rescues those who are crushed in spirit.

The Lord will redeem those who serve God.

Everyone who trusts in God will be freely pardoned.

Therefore, let us receive the grace of God.

In Christ, we are forgiven, loved, and called into abundant life.

* 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 **Hebrews 7:23-28**

Anthem

Bless This House

by May Brahe

Westminster Choir

and Helen Taylor

Bless this house, O Lord we pray, make it safe by night and day;
Bless these walls, so firm and stout, keeping want and trouble out;
Bless the roof and chimneys tall, let Thy peace lie over all;
Bless this door, that it may prove ever open to joy and love.

Bless these windows shining bright, letting in God's heavenly light;
Bless the hearth a-blazing there, with smoke ascending like a prayer;
Bless the folk who dwell within; keep them pure and free from sin;
Bless us all that we may be fit, O Lord, to dwell with Thee,
Bless us all that one day we may dwell, O lord, with Thee.

Second Reading of the Word **Mark 10:46-52**

Sermon

What Do We Ask For?

Rev. Hannah Lundberg

† *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

* Hymn #346

*For the Healing
of the Nations*

ST. THOMAS

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 #543

*God, Be the Love to
Search and Keep Me*

GREEN TYLER

We Go Forth to Serve

* Benediction

Postlude

Dismissal

And let all God's people say:

Alleluia! Amen!

This Week's News

Service of Remembrance: Sunday, November 10 at 5pm. This service will be a peaceful and meditative time to remember those we loved and still love. Those from the wider community and those from all faith traditions are welcome. You are invited to bring a small framed photo of your loved one and light a candle in their memory.

Adult Ed Class: Anti-Racism. As a Matthew 25 church, our Westminster community has heard the call for action to address systemic poverty, structural racism, and congregational vitality. Join us on two Sunday mornings, November 3rd and 10th, for a conversation about anti-racism and how our church can work together on issues of justice, diversity, and inclusion. Meetings will be at 9:30-10:30 in the Fellowship Hall. We will be discussing materials from the Presbytery and other sources, which will help us develop anti-racism policies for the church. All are welcome to join these important discussions.

The minutes of the 9/15/24 Annual Meeting of the Congregation as well as the minutes and ministry reports from the 9/27/24 Session meeting are available on the bookshelf across from the elevator.

Westminster Tailgate: The next home game is 11/2 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!

Memorial Services: The memorial service for Conn Doane will be held at Westminster on Friday, 11/1. Visitation is at 3:30pm with a service at 5pm.

A memorial service for Bill Kuhn is planned for 11/25, 1pm at Westminster.

News Continued

Hope Lunches: The Mission Ministry team wants to thank all of you for your generous donations towards the HOPE lunch project this month. We not only met our goal of 96 lunches, but we will exceed that number, as many of you also donated cash to this cause which we will use to buy extra food for lunches. We'll give you the final count next Sunday. But today, on the altar you see samples of what these lunches actually are: 1 protein source, 1 granola bar, 1 fruit cup, 1 drink. This very simple lunch is intended to tide folks over from one dinner to the next evening's dinner. Every little bit helps and gives hope to people who are in great need of both. Thank you.

The Soles4Souls drive with First Presbyterian Church of Saline will continue through October 31st. All styles, sizes, and types of shoes are welcome for this project, provided they are in good condition. Some of you have asked how does this work? What happens to the shoes? They will be used to:

1. *Create opportunity:* Gently used shoes that are collected get funneled to developing countries, where people start small businesses to sell them.
2. *Generate income:* By selling shoes, business owners have money to provide for their family—and people who need shoes the most get them at a price they can afford.
3. *Provide relief:* Funds generated through the 4Opportunity program allows Soles4Souls to use 100% of donor contributions for direct assistance and disaster relief programs in all 50 states.
4. *Protect the environment:* By repurposing discarded shoes and clothing, we can keep them out of landfills and help promote sustainability.

So, look through your closets and see what you find that might help with this wonderful project. There is a box across from the library where you can deposit shoes and also a large plastic receptacle outside of the Scio Church entrance for times when the church is closed.

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. On Nov 3 and 10, we will be discussing materials from the Presbytery and other sources which will help us develop anti-racism policies for the church.

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: Fran Bolhouse, Cara Doane, Anne Gensheimer

Condolences to the family of Bill Kuhn on the October 4 death of Bill.

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.

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

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