



Westminster PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 17, 2024 AT 11AM | 26TH 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

Nancy Lunsford, liturgist

(congregation please read bold type)

The world cries to us in its distress. How shall we answer?

We cannot pass by as though nothing is wrong.

How shall we answer?

**We cannot become so focused on ourselves
that others mean nothing to us.**

How shall we answer?

**We shall be the neighbor in service, reconciliation, and compassion
wherever we can. Let us worship God together!**

* Hymn #401

Here in This Place

GATHER US IN

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

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

**They may not be beaten down or lying by the road,
but there are people we pass by, Watching God.
Some are family and friends we take so much for granted,
we cannot see how we have stripped
them of our love and compassion.
Others are neighbors:
who have been left half-dead by crushing work;
who have fallen into the hands of despair;
who have been abandoned by all those who walked on by them.
Many are strangers, people we don't know, but quickly judge:
they are weak, or poor, or the enemy,
or because they remind us of who we once were, or could become.**

**Rescue us from the power of our sins, Righteous One of all generations.
Pour out your justice on us, rather than your judgment,
that we would be moved with pity and spurred to action;
that we would hear of the hope that is ours,
and share it with our sisters and brothers;
that we would shower mercy on all we meet,
even as we have received forgiveness for our sins
through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

Inspired by Luke 10:25-37, Thom Shuman, posted on Lectionary Liturgies

Silent prayers of confession.

Assurance of Grace

*Children of the Most High:
you are forgiven and brought into the kingdom.
Be filled with spiritual wisdom,
lead lives worthy of your inheritance,
bear fruit in all you say and do and think.
God has rescued us and redeemed us from our sins,
setting aside judgment to shower us with mercy.
We will go and do likewise.*
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!

† *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 Hear God's Word

First Reading of The Word **Psalm 25:1-10**

Anthem

*How Marvelous Are
the Works of the Lord*

by David Angerman
and Joseph Martin

Westminster Choir

How marvelous are the works of the Lord, how excellent are His ways.
How wonderful is His glory and fame, ever the same,
great is the name of the Lord.

Great is the God of Israel, and great are the works of His hands.
He alone is the King of kings, creation bows at His command.

How marvelous are the works of the Lord, how excellent are His ways.
How wonderful is His glory and fame, ever the same,
great is the name of the Lord.

Great is the God of Abraham and perfect is His law.
In majesty and in holiness He rules Lord of all!

How marvelous are the works of the Lord, how excellent are His ways.
How wonderful is His glory and fame, ever the same,
great is the name of the Lord.

He alone is the King of kings, He alone is the King of kings,
He rules Lord of all.

How marvelous are the works of the Lord, how excellent are His ways.
How wonderful is His glory and fame, ever the same,
great is the name of the Lord;
is His glory and fame, ever the same, great is the name of the Lord.
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Second Reading of the Word **Luke 10:25-37**

Sermon

Along the Way

Rev. Paul Rhebergen
Rev. Jan Nolting Carter

We Respond to God's Word

* Hymn #727

*Will You Let Me Be
Your Servant*

THE SERVANT SONG

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 #733

We All Are One in Mission

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS
WALDVOGELEIN

We Go Forth to Serve

* Charge and Benediction

* Song of Response #748

Go with Us, Lord

Dismissal

And let all God's people say:

Alleluia! Amen!

Leading us in worship today are Rev. Paul Rhebergen and Rev. Dr. Jan Nolting Carter, Co-Founders of Transitional Ministry Pathways. Friends, colleagues and business partners, they have been walking with us this past year as we discern God's path for us in this season. Paul and Jan have a reputation for listening carefully and connecting the dots, seeing patterns and adapting plans to meet the needs of the groups or the learners with whom they are working. We welcome them to Westminster this morning!

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.

Holy Vision Gathering: Please join us after worship today as we gather as a congregation and hear from the Holy Vision 2024 team. Lunch is provided; we would love for as many people to be in attendance as possible!

Thanksgiving Eve Service and Bread Exchange: Wednesday, November 27th, 7pm at Westminster. Everyone is invited to participate by bringing a loaf of bread, homemade or from a bakery, to exchange during the Service. Please attach a note if your bread contains nuts or is gluten-free. During the service, every person or family will be invited to come up and take a loaf of bread from the baskets for their Thanksgiving table. All the bread that is left over will be given to Riverside Community or to at-home members. If you are unable to attend on Thanksgiving Eve and would like a loaf of bread, please contact your Deacon or Suzanne Lange (sueegnal93@gmail.com).

Christmas is right around the corner, or rather, Christmas decorating at WPC is coming soon! We need about 10 to 15 people to help on Friday, November 29 for prep work in the morning and for the decorating in the afternoon. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

Deacon Christmas Baskets: The Westminster Deacons are once again working with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to help two families this Christmas. See the link in your Friday Email or visit our website for more info and to sign up to provide a gift. Please bring all gifts to Westminster by December 8. Thank you for your generosity and care!

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 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: Cara Doane, Anne Gensheimer, Donna Greyerbiehl

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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