



Westminster PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 14, 2025 AT 11AM | 14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

We Come Into God's Presence with Joy

Life of the Church

Prelude

* Call to Worship

Zora Polikoff, liturgist

Come into this space where God gathers us in love.

We come, bringing our joys and our struggles.

*Here, we learn to rejoice with those who rejoice,
and to weep with those who weep.*

Together, we seek the peace of Christ.

Let us worship the One who never gives up on us.

With grateful hearts, we worship God.

* Lighting of the Peace Candle

*Let us join together in naming one of the many promises of our faith, in the
name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who offers peace.*

**“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were
called in the one body. And be thankful.”** *(Colossians 3:15)*

In this light, we remember Christ our peace.

May Christ's peace shine in us and through us.

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

* Hymn #623

*I've Got Peace
like a River*

PEACE LIKE A RIVER

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

**God of mercy, you call us to live in harmony,
to welcome one another with patience and joy,
and to forgive as we have been forgiven.
Yet we confess that we find it easier to love those who are like us.
We grow impatient with differences, we hold grudges,
and we struggle to seek peace beyond the walls of our comfort.
Forgive us, O God.
Soften our hearts, widen our welcome.
Teach us to live as your people of peace,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Silent prayers of confession.

Assurance of Grace

God's mercy is wider than we can imagine. In Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

* 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 **Romans 12:9-18**

Anthem

*One Bright Word
of Peace*

by John Purifoy

Westminster Choir

Word made flesh, come dwell in me and speak to me of peace.
Rise above the voice of doubt dividing You from me.
Stay beside me through the night of my uncertainty,
speaking one bright word to me, that one bright word of peace.

Word of God, come near to me and speak to me of peace.
Drown the voice of deep despair and put my mind at ease.
Whisper reassuringly to make the shadows flee,
speaking one bright word to me, that one bright word of peace.

The word we long to hear is "peace" above all words this day.
Come let it ring throughout the earth and in our hearts, we pray.
Word of life, come live through me that I may speak of peace.
Let the voice of war and hate and persecution cease.
In the darkness of this time may light begin to sing.
Speak that one bright word of peace into the world through me.

A Moment to Wonder

Children are invited to come forward for a short lesson on the chancel steps.

Second Reading of the Word Luke 15:1-10

Sermon

Peace Among Us

Rev. Hannah Lundberg

We Respond to God's Word

* Song of Response #288 *Spirit of the Living God*

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Prayers of the People and 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.

Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

* Song of Response #378

We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom, v2

Where is the peaceful kingdom?

When will this new day start?

We long for peace and comfort

to reign within each heart.

Yet not in our lives only,

nor simply in our home:

we pray that all creation

will one day find shalom.

* Prayer of Dedication

* Hymn #300

We Are One in the Spirit

THEY'LL KNOW
WE ARE CHRISTIANS

We Go Forth to Serve

* Dismissal

And let all God's people say:

Alleluia! Amen!

Postlude

This Week's News

Caring for our community: Pick up a cloth grocery bag in the main entry today and bring it back next Sunday with nonperishable food and personal and household items, for Hope Clinic's food pantry.

The 2024-2025 Annual Meeting of the Congregation is today, September 14th, following worship. Together, we will share a delicious lunch, receive the annual report, and hear from select ministry teams. Please join us!

Earth-Care: As part of the national SUN DAY climate initiative, members of many local faith communities will gather on Sunday, September 21 from 2:00-3:30pm at the First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor (4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd) to share inspiration and actions that address climate change, with speakers and music focused on faith-based climate action. All are welcome to join as we live into our church's value of Earth-Care with others in Ann Arbor.

Baptism Reception: Next Sunday, September 21st we will celebrate the Baptism of Colton Ngo-Nelidov during worship. Afterward, there will be a short reception when Terry and Lam will share some stories from Paraguay before they depart again.

Approved minutes and ministry team reports from the June Session Meeting are available on the bookshelf across from the elevator.

Lunches for Hope: The Mission Ministry Team is once again sponsoring Sack Lunches for Hope Clinic. Visit our website or check your Friday email for more info and the signup link. Our goal is to pack 96 lunches! Drop off items at Westminster beginning on Sunday, September 7th and continuing until Sunday, October 12th.

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: an opportunity to discuss Sunday's sermon in a small group. 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

For deacon care, contact your deacon directly or send an email to the deacon moderator, Janet Eaton (jmfeaton@umich.edu). To list prayer requests here, in the *Friday Good Things Are Happening* email, or Prayer Chain, contact Jill Fairchild (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 Janet Eaton (jmfeaton@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

Rev. Hannah Lundberg,
Stated Supply Pastor;
hannah@westpresa2.org

Shawn McDonald, Director of Music;
smtenor@yahoo.com

Margaret Compton, Office and
Facilities Manager;
wpcoffice@westpresa2.org

Dave Gross, Bookkeeper,
Financial Secretary;
bookkeeper@westpresa2.org

Nate Veldhoff, Communications
and Media Director;
communications@westpresa2.org

Evelyn Vogel, Custodian

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1500 Scio Church Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48103 · www.westpresa2.org

(734) 761-9320 · wpcoffice@westpresa2.org