



Westminster PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 22, 2026 AT 11AM | 1ST SUNDAY IN LENT

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

Earl Begg, liturgist

(congregation please read bold type)

God of the wilderness, there is no place your presence does not reach.

Be near to us, O Christ, who was tempted as we are.

Guide us, Lord, that we might not avoid struggle,

But open ourselves to blessing.

Strengthen us by the heaven-rending words of the Spirit.

Comfort us in the stillness and silence.

Meet us in the cleansing depths of repentance.

And bless us in our brokenness.

In faith, let us worship the Lord.

Based on The Revised Common Lectionary

* Hymn #463

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

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

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Jesus, our refuge, we confess that we have been blind to your presence. We have held our fears closer than your words. We have endured suffering alone, and avoided the suffering of others. But, you are a Savior who does not shy away from hardship. Renew our souls by your patient mercy. Build up our faith, that we may be your presence to those around us.

Silent prayers of confession.

Sung Response

Lord Have Mercy

by Steve Merkel

**Lord have mercy,
Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy on me.**

Assurance of Grace

*Jesus, our Savior and friend, has borne the weight of sin and broken its power.
By His mighty name, you 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 #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.**

We Hear God's Word

First Reading of The Word

Psalm 32:1-7

Anthem

Lord Have Mercy

by Steve Merkel

Westminster Choir

Heather Gerety & Andrea Klooster, soloists

Jesus, I've forgotten the words that You have spoken.
Promises that burned within my heart have now grown dim.
With a doubting heart, I follow the paths of earthly wisdom.
Forgive my unbelief; renew the fire again.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy on me.
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy on me.

I have built an altar where I've worshipped things of man.
I have taken journeys that have drawn me far from You.
Now I am returning to Your mercies ever flowing.
Pardon my transgressions; help me love You again.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy on me.
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy on me.

I have longed to know You and all Your tender mercies,
like a river of forgiveness, ever flowing without end;
So I bow my heart before You in the goodness of Your presence,
Your grace forever shining like a beacon in the night.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy on me.
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy on me.
Lord, have mercy; Lord, have mercy on us.

We Respond to God's Word

* Preparation for Prayer #471

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

O Lord, hear my prayer.

O Lord, hear my prayer.

When I call, answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer.

O Lord, hear my prayer.

Come and listen to 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 #654 *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful*

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful;

in the Lord I will rejoice!

Look to God; do not be afraid.

Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.

* Prayer of Dedication

* Hymn #819

Be Still My Soul

FINLANDIA

We Go Forth to Serve

* Dismissal

And let all God's people say:

Go with us God.

Postlude

This Week's News

Ann Arbor Daytime Warming Center: The Westminster Mission Ministry Team has again committed to provide food and volunteers to the Ann Arbor Daytime Warming Center on Tuesday, Feb 24th. The warming center will be located at First Baptist Church in Ann Arbor and will serve those needing respite from the cold weather. This year, Westminster will be providing that day's breakfast meal. Check our website or your Friday email for more information and to sign up for a spot. Your help can provide a much needed warm and safe space for those without shelter in February.

One Great Hour of Sharing: From now until Easter, we have the opportunity to support PC(USA)'s annual special offering, One Great Hour of Sharing. Collected donations go toward Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People programs. Contributions can be made online at westpresa2.org/online-giving or by check to Westminster with "One Great Hour of Sharing" in the memo line.

We pray for our Westminster family

Condolences: We hold Steve and Nick Angerman in our prayers as they grieve the death of their beloved wife and mother, Martha Angerman.

We hold Vickie and Dave Gross in our prayers as they grieve the death of Vickie's brother, Scott David Pfeiffer.

Ongoing needs: Donna Greyerbiehl, Kathy Kamm, Elke Kramer

For deacon care, contact your deacon directly or send an email to the deacon moderator, Amy Welzenbach (awelzenbach411@gmail.com). 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.

Grow in Faith and Friendship

Reading Through the Bible Group meets Sundays at 9:30am in Room 34 and via Zoom. Contact Marcia Anderson (hilden.anderson@gmail.com; 734-757-4305) for more information.

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

Children and Youth Faith Formation meets on the second and third Sundays of each month at 9:30am. Contact Cathy Daniels (catld1121@gmail.com) for more info.

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. 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. Contact Linda Harnisch for more information (rlharnisch@gmail.com).

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 westpresa2.org/online-sermons.

For deacon care, please contact Amy Welzenbach (awelzenbach411@gmail.com).

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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