



Westminster PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARCH 15, 2026 AT 11AM | 4TH 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

Bryce Babcock, liturgist

(congregation please read bold type)

Open unto us, courage for our fear.

Open unto us, hope for our despair.

Open unto us, peace for our turmoil.

Open unto us, joy for our sorrow.

Open unto us, strength for our weakness.

Open unto us, wisdom for our confusion.

Open unto us, forgiveness for our sins.

Open unto us, love for our hates.

Open unto us, Your heart for our hearts.

Lord, Lord, open unto us. Amen.

Adapted from a prayer by Rev. Howard Thurman

* Hymn #307

*God of Grace
and God of Glory*

CWM RHONDDA

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

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

**O Lord, you are our shepherd,
And yet we want.
We lie down when we could act,
We stir the pot when we could offer peace,
We wander tempting paths instead of following you.
We seek courage and comfort in earthly things rather than in you.
We hate our enemies and refuse to break bread with them,
We see scarcity even when you offer us abundance.
We pray for forgiveness, for your goodness and mercy,
So that we might dwell in You, in your grace, forever. Amen.**

Written by Rev. Beth Merrill Neel, based on Psalm 23

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

* 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 23

Anthem

*Surely, He Has Borne
Our Griefs*

by John Carter

Westminster Choir

Surely, surely, he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows;
Yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God and afflicted.
And carried our sorrows;
Surely, surely, he has borne our griefs.
He was wounded for our transgressions,
He was bruised for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that made us whole,
and with his stripes we are healed.
Surely, he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows;
Yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.
Surely, he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows.

† *You are welcome to sign as you are comfortable and able.*

We include this practice as a way to engage our whole selves in worship.

A Moment to Wonder

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

Second Reading of the Word John 9:1-21

Sermon

All the Wrong Questions Rev. Hannah Lundberg

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 #740

Lead Me, Guide Me

LEAD ME GUIDE ME

We Go Forth to Serve

* Dismissal

And let all God's people say:

Go with us God.

Postlude

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.

Habitat House of Faith: Westminster has two opportunities coming up in the month of March to serve with Habitat for Humanity: 3/21 and 3/27, 9am-3pm. We are looking for 4 volunteers each service date. No experience necessary, and all tools will be provided! Visit our website for more information and to sign up, or contact Ron Fairchild with questions (ron@thefairchilds.net).

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.

Letters Against Isolation: Letters Against Isolation is a non-profit organization whose mission is to "fight senior loneliness one letter at a time." On Friday, March 20 at 7pm, we will gather in Room 41 to write notes and letters to seniors in nursing homes and other care centers. Letters can be simple with stickers or more involved. Kids are encouraged to join us. Also, there is a high need for letters in other languages. If you have that skill, please join us. Everything will be supplied—we just need you!

Looking to Holy Week

Final day to order Easter Flowers: Today is the deadline to get your order placed! Purchased plants will decorate the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, and then may be taken home or donated for the deacons to deliver to Westminster at-home members. The daffodils and tulips will be in 6" pots with gold foil and a lovely bow. The price this year is just \$12: the same as last year! Flowers may be purchased on our website. After filling out the order form, payment may be made online or by mailing a check to church.

Holy Week Service: The Worship Ministry Team is planning a Holy Week Service for Thursday, April 2. This service combines the liturgy and traditions of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday on the same day and includes a simple meal together. It will begin at 6pm with a modest meal in Fellowship Hall where we will also hear the traditional scriptures of Maundy Thursday and partake in holy communion. We will then move to the Sanctuary to continue our worship focusing on the liturgy and events of Good Friday.

While this format is quite simple in design, we will need support from all of you. There are sign up sheets on the bulletin board near the library to bring food: soup in crockpots, crackers and cookies. We also need help with the setup and/or cleanup. Many hands make light work, and bring us an even stronger sense of Christian community. If you have questions, contact Lynda Berg (lrwberg@sbcglobal.net). We're hoping everyone will be able to participate in our Holy Week Service next month.

Save the Date: Kid's Easter Party! On Saturday, April 4, we will host our annual Kid's Easter Party. Come by Westminster 10am-11:30am to enjoy a small-animal petting farm, crafts, story time, and of course, an Easter Egg Hunt! Bring your kids and grandkids, invite your neighbors, and join the fun!

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).

We pray for our Westminster family

Current Needs: Tom Brown

Ongoing needs: Cara Doane, Donna Greyerbiehl, Kathy Kamm

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.

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

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