



Westminster PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JULY 26, 2026 AT 10AM | 9TH 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

Nancy Lunsford, liturgist

(congregation please read bold type)

*Seed-planting, fish-netting,
bread-baking, pearl-hunting God,
you shape us into living parables.*

*Pray with your Spirit in us
**so that we may understand our experiences
as healing metaphors.***

*May we become creative and abundant stewards
of the environment you entrusted to our love.*

Let us worship the Lord.

Adapted from the Revised Common Lectionary

* Hymn #24

*God, Who Stretched
the Spangled Heavens*

HOLY MANNA

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

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of love and mercy, we know that your presence is constantly breaking in all around us, but too often we close ourselves off from your arrival. We shut our eyes to your ways of transformation and instead follow kingdoms of selfishness, power, and exploitation. Holy Spirit, call us back to you. Remind us that small acts of love are more precious than gold. Attune our hearts to your still, small voice, and may we listen well.

Silent prayers of confession.

Assurance of Grace

*Jesus Christ, our savior and friend, calls us beloved and calls us into belonging.
In His name, your sins are forgiven and you are made new.
Thanks be to God! Amen.*

* Passing the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

* Song of Response #582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

We Hear God's Word

First Reading of The Word **Romans 8:31-39**

Anthem

A Moment to Wonder

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

Second Reading of the Word **Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-51**

Sermon

*Hope in a
Heavenly Kingdom*

Nate Veldhoff

We Respond to God's Word

* Hymn #749

Come! Live in the Light!

WE ARE CALLED

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 #591 *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!*

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

* Prayer of Dedication

* Hymn #772

Live into Hope

TRURO

We Go Forth to Serve

* Dismissal

And let all God's people say:

Alleluia! Amen!

Postlude

This Week's News

Playground Expansion! Westminster will be adding a play structure for younger ages this summer! This is a gift to our neighborhood and a place for Westminster and UDT preschool children to play. Please consider contributing a special gift toward this project through our online giving page. Also, stay tuned for information on the assembly day for the project expected in early August. We will need many hands!

Youth Summer Book Read: The next youth book discussion will take place on Sunday, August 2nd at 7pm at Ben and Jerry's on State Street, discussing the book *The Faithful Spy: Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the Plot to Kill Hitler* by John Hendrix. If you need a copy, there are several in the public office, or reach out to Pastor Hannah.

Blessing of the Animals: Join us for a joyful and interactive Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, August 23rd at 7pm! Bring a pet, a photo of a beloved animal (wild or domestic), a stuffed animal, or just yourself. We'll begin with a brief outdoor worship service, reflecting on how God's love is revealed through our furry, feathered, and scaly friends. Then we'll mingle through stations offering blessings for animals and people, treats and toys for pets in attendance, and crafts to help care for creatures in the wider world.

Quarterly Contribution Statements are available for pickup on the coffee bar counter.

Game Night! Our next Game Night is coming up on Friday, August 7. 7pm in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a friend and join the fun!

Grow in Faith and Friendship

Reading Through the Bible Group meets Sundays at 11:15am in the Library and via Zoom over the summer. Contact Marcia Anderson (hilden.anderson@gmail.com; 734-757-4305) for more information.

Sunday Morning Adult Ed meets in the fellowship hall at 9am for the summer.

Children and Youth Faith Formation is off for the summer and will resume in the fall. 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 is off for the summer and will resume in the fall. Contact Linda Harnisch for more information (rlharnisch@gmail.com).

We pray for our Westminster family

Ongoing needs: 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.

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

Westminster PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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