



Westminster PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AUGUST 30, 2026 AT 10AM | 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

Bryce Babcock, liturgist

(congregation please read bold type)

God has called us and gathered us from every place.

We come because we belong to God.

It is too small a thing to live only for ourselves.

God calls us to be a light to the nations.

The Love of God is growing among us—

like a tiny seed becoming shelter, like yeast transforming the whole loaf.

Let us worship the God who calls us here.

* Hymn #20

*All Things Bright
and Beautiful*

ROYAL OAK

Call to Confession

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

Unison Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, too often we make our lives smaller than your dreams for us. We settle for comfort instead of courage, for fear instead of faith, and for self-concern instead of your expansive love. We forget whose we are, and we fail to see your image in our neighbors. Forgive us, renew our vision, and enlarge our hearts, that we may become faithful servants of your Kingdom. Hear us now as we offer our silent prayers.

Silent prayers of confession.

Assurance of Grace

* 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 **Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52**

Anthem

Psalm 149

arr. Nancy Nourse

Lynda Berg, soprano; Gail Arnold, flute
Eric Klooster and Shawn McDonald, percussion

Psalm 149

Hallelujah!

Sing to the Lord a new song;

Sing His praise in the congregation of the faithful.

Let Israel rejoice in his maker,

let the children of Zion be joyful in their king.

Let them praise His name in the dance;

Let them sing praise to Him with timbrel and harp.

Let them praise His name in the dance!

For the Lord takes pleasure in His people

and adorns the poor with victory.

Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; let them be joyful in their beds.

Let the praises of God be in their throat

and a two edged sword in their hand

To wreak vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples;

To bind their kings in chains and their nobles with links of iron;

To inflict on them the judgment decreed.

This is the glory for all His faithful people.

A Moment to Wonder: Blessing of the Backpacks

Children, or anyone engaging with learning in some way this fall, are welcome to come forward to the chancel steps for a short lesson and blessing.

We Respond to God's Word

* Preparation for Prayer #740 *Lead Me, Guide Me*

**Lead me, guide me, along the way,
for if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.**

**I am weak and I need your strength and power
to help me over my weakest hour.
Help me through the darkness your face to see.
Lead me, O Lord, lead 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 #591 *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!*

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

* Prayer of Dedication

* Hymn #726

*Will You Come
and Follow Me*

KELVINGROVE

We Go Forth to Serve

* Dismissal

And let all God's people say:

Alleluia! Amen!

Postlude

Rev. Renee Roederer is a non-profit leader and ordained PC(USA) minister who lives in Ann Arbor. She serves as the Senior Director of Programs and Community Care at the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan. Renee enjoys choral singing, hiking, nature photography, and traveling, and she's an avid writer, and you are invited to engage with her writing on her personal website, Smuggling Grace (reneeroederer.com). One of her greatest joys in life is the large, chosen family she has built over time, with whom she enjoys keeping in touch, laughing hard, and reflecting on life.

This Week's News

Lunches for HOPE: Westminster's Mission Ministry Team is once again collecting items for our Sack Lunches for Hope Clinic. While the lunches are simple, they provide nourishment, dignity, and hope to people who need them most. Visit our website for the signup link to provide needed items, or you can donate monetarily through our online giving page. Drop off items now through September 13.

Fall Worship Schedule: Mark your calendars for our worship time change! We will continue our Summer Schedule through Labor Day weekend, and then we will return to 11am worship on Sunday, September 13.

Football Parking: Westminster kicks off football parking and tailgate season on September 5! The season opener vs Western Michigan starts at 7:30pm. All are invited to help park some cars and enjoy a potluck tailgate together. The lot will plan to be open at 11am that day, so come by any time and stay as long as you like!

Game Night! Our next Game Night is coming up on Friday, September 4. 7pm in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a friend and join the fun!

Annual Meeting: This year's annual meeting of the congregation will be on Sunday, September 20, following worship. We'll share lunch together, receive the annual report, and hear from select ministry teams. Mark your calendars and plan to join us for this important gathering!

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

Ongoing needs: Kathy Kamm, Elke Kramer

Condolences: We hold Doug and Carole Franklin and family in our prayers as they grieve the loss of Doug's father, Dave Franklin, who died on August 18th.

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