

# Westminster At Worship

## *A Celebration of Worship Reception of New Members*

November 17, 2024

10:30 a.m.

Please silence your cell phones prior to entering the sanctuary.  
†Those who feel comfortable standing may do so.



### SHARE GOD'S PROMISES

**PRELUDE**

**SETH CUNNINGHAM**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WESTMINSTER AT WORK**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**†CALL TO WORSHIP**

LEADER: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

**PEOPLE: If God is for us, who is against us?**

LEADER: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam.

**PEOPLE: Nothing can separate us from the love of God.**

LEADER: God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help when the morning dawns.

**PEOPLE: God did not withhold anything from us, not even the Son, but gave him up for all of us.**

LEADER: The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

**PEOPLE: Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come,**

LEADER: nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in  
all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in  
Christ Jesus our Lord.

**PEOPLE: Nothing can separate us from the love of God.  
Let us worship God!**

**†HYMN**

*“There is a Place of Quiet Rest*

MCAFEE

*There is a place of quiet rest,  
near to the heart of God,  
a place where sin cannot molest,  
near to the heart of God.*

*Refrain:*

*O Jesus, blest Redeemer,  
sent from the heart of God,  
hold us, who wait before thee,  
near to the heart of God.*

*There is a place of comfort sweet,  
near to the heart of God,  
a place where we our Savior meet,  
near to the heart of God. (Refrain)*

*There is a place of full release,  
near to the heart of God,  
a place where all is joy and peace,  
near to the heart of God. (Refrain)*

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us pray together:

**God of abiding hope, we confess that, all too often, we act as those who have no hope. We act as if there is no chance of comfort, no promise of peace, no reason to rejoice. We live our lives as if you do not exist, and as if the only power in the world is that which we ourselves have. We fail to recognize the gentle touch of your hand, and we do not listen to your still small voice of comfort. We rob ourselves of peace with our worries, and we neglect the consolations of prayer.**

**Forgive us, God! Help us to turn from self-reliance toward you, and to live fully and joyfully into the hope and comfort you give us, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

— *A Time of Silent Confession* —

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

### †RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE

*"Gloria Patri"*

GREATOREX

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.*

*Amen, Amen.*

### †SHARING GOD'S PEACE

God is in our midst and Christ brings peace and healing.

In a spirit of joy, share the peace of Christ with one another.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you!**

## TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

## READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

**First Reading**  
**Romans 8:38-29**

**Second Reading**  
**Philippians 4:4-7**

## SERMON

*"SHARE GOD'S PROMISES"*

REV. JAMIE MILTON

## +HYMN

*"I Will Call Upon the Lord"*

I WILL CALL

*I will call upon the Lord  
(I will call upon the Lord)  
Who is so worthy to be praised  
(Who is so worthy to be praised)  
So shall I be saved from my enemies.  
(So shall I be saved from my enemies.)  
I will call upon the Lord.*

*Refrain:*

*The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock,  
And let the God of my salvation be exalted.  
The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock,  
And let the God of my salvation be exalted.*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

## RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

## PRESENTATION

LEADER: Hear these words from scripture: There is one body and one Spirit, Just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,

**ALL: one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.**

## **RENUNCIATIONS**

### **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

LEADER: As members of the body of Christ, please rise as you feel comfortable, in body or spirit and let us reaffirm the faith into which we were baptized:

LEADER: Do you believe in God the Father?

**ALL: I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

LEADER: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**ALL: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

LEADER: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**ALL: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Welcome**

*Please join Westminster in welcoming Diana and Mary during Fellowship Time following this morning's service.*

## **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD WITH THANKSGIVING**

### **INVITATION TO OFFERING**

**MUSICAL OFFERING** "LET US BUILD A HOUSE"      CHANCEL CHOIR

*~ Please record your presence on the "Friendship Pad"*

### **†DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

### **†PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Gracious and loving God, you have withheld nothing from us, not even your own Son. You give us new mercies daily, and you surround us with love that never fails. We bring these gifts to you joyfully, with confidence in your faithfulness, and we entrust to you all that we have and all that we are. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

### **†HYMN**

"Jesus Calls Us"

GALILEE

*Jesus calls us: o'er the tumult  
Of your life's wild, restless sea;  
Day by day his sweet voice soundeth  
Saying, "Christian follow me."*

*Jesus calls us from the worship  
Of the vain world's golden store,  
From each idol that would keep us,  
Saying, "Christian, love me more."*

*In our joys and in our sorrows,  
days of toil and hours of ease,  
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,  
'Christian love me more than these.'*

*Jesus calls us: by thy mercies,  
Savior, may we hear thy call,  
Give our hearts to thy obedience,  
Serve and love thee best of all.*

## **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION - JAMIE - FLOOR**

What is our comfort in life and in death?

**Knowing that we belong to God.**

What can separate us from God's love?

**Absolutely nothing can separate us from God's love.**

Jesus is with you and within you. Jesus is behind you and before you.

**Jesus is there to comfort and restore me.**

Go in peace and confidence, to love and serve the Lord.

## **POSTLUDE**

**SETH CUNNINGHAM**



### **Liturgical texts used with permission from:**

Follow Me: Comfort Those Who Mourn- Worship Helps. Growing Faith Resources 2023.

*Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 2* © 2015

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Benediction—adapted from the Heidelberg Catechism, question 1; Romans 8:35, 38–39;

St. Patrick's Breastplate

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR NOVEMBER 17, 2024

**NURSERY CARE** is available for infants and toddlers during the worship service. Our nursery is equipped with a paging system. Quality childcare is provided by Elaine Edwards who is infant/CPR trained.

**RIDES TO CHURCH NEEDED:** we have a few church members that need rides to church. If you are able to help, please call the church office. Thank you!

**ADULT BIBE STUDY THURSDAY EVENINGS:** We are beginning our new Follow Me series, "Comfort Those Who Mourn." Join us via Zoom, Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. Books are available in the office. Please contact Rev. Linda for more information.

### **ADULT BIBLE STUDY SUNDAY**

**MORNINGS:** We are continuing using the Feasting on the Word Curriculum, studying the Gospel of Mark. Join us Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room. Please see Rev. Linda for more details.

**FALL BOOK STUDY:** We're exploring the book "*Mostly What God Does: Reflections on Seeking and Finding His Love*" by Savannah Guthrie. Guthrie's conclusion is "mostly what God does is love you." If we could believe this, really believe this, how different would we be? Let's take some time and explore this! We'll continue to meet on Tuesdays in November at 1:30 p.m. in the lounge.

MINISTERS  
PASTOR  
PARISH ASSOCIATE  
LITURGIST  
DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES  
NURSERY SUPERVISOR  
CHOIR DIRECTOR  
HANDBELL DIRECTOR  
YOUTH BELLS AND CHIME CHOIR DIRECTOR  
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All the People  
Rev. Jamie Milton  
Rev. Linda Williams  
Don Clough  
Leah Sneller  
Elaine Edwards  
Dawn Auger  
Seth Cunningham  
Judy Harrelson  
Seth Cunningham  
Rachel Webb  
Martha Tapley  
Bill Petzold  
Pat Foster  
Harold Miller



# *Westminster Community Pantry Update*

## **WAYS TO SUPPORT THE WESTMINSTER COMMUNITY PANTRY:**

If you would like to sign up to work our **Westminster Community Pantry**, Wednesday evenings, 4 to 7 p.m. or Thursday mornings, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please see the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board outside the sanctuary. **MONETARY DONATIONS** are also appreciated. Every dollar donated to our Food Pantry buys up to 4 meals for our Pantry guests.

**Michigan Sugar** donated 500 two lb. bags of sugar; 100 bags will be used by Missions as the Thanksgiving committee prepares 100 Thanksgiving baskets to be distributed to Bay Country homes. The remaining sugar will be used in our Food Pantry.

**You have been very generous** to our Food Pantry guests. They are enjoying the

butter you have donated for our **November ITEM OF THE MONTH**. Thank you! Donations of the November ITEM OF THE MONTH are still being accepted.

**Our December ITEM OF THE MONTH** is flour to help with holiday baking. We will need 2 or 5 pound bags which can be left on the cart outside the pantry door. This partners nicely with the brown and granulated sugar we have received from Monitor Sugar.

We are **hearing from several of our guests** that either they or their spouse have been laid off, and **they greatly appreciate** coming to our Westminster Community Pantry.

This coming week we will be offering our Pantry guests all the makings for **green bean casserole** to add to their Thanksgiving dinner.

**YOUTH GROUP DINNERS:** Our Youth Group meets from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. on Sunday nights this time includes a meal together. If you are able to prepare and serve a meal or donate money towards dinner, please scan the QR code to sign up. Or call the church office.



**HANGING OF THE GREENS SERVICE** will be November 24th. Please plan to stay after worship that day to help finish decorating the sanctuary for the holiday season!

**100 THANKSGIVING BASKETS** will be packed after worship on November 24th. Please consider helping to assemble Thanksgiving meals for families in need. **You may still donate items for the baskets through Thursday, November 21!**

**Mission Partnership Committee's 2024 Angel Tree** will be adorned with gift tags on Sunday, November 24. We will have 75 Angel Tags listing toys and clothing items that you can purchase for a boy or girl. We will also be needing volunteers to help. Any questions, please reach out to Darlene Kusterer, 989-385-4062.

# Advent Events

We are just two weeks away from the start of Advent!

Start your holiday season with your church family at **our annual ADVENT DINNER!**

On **Sunday evening, December 1st at 5:00 p.m.**, we'll join together in the Fellowship Hall for dinner and holiday themed crafts for all ages. The Fellowship and Outreach committee will be providing chicken and meatballs as the main dishes and hope that you'll bring a salad, side dish, or dessert to round out our holiday meal. Be on the lookout for your chance to sign up!

## Nativity Display

We are also inviting you to **BRING YOUR NATIVITY SCENES** to share with us. We'd like to have them on display during the Advent dinner for folks to view.

Please bring your nativity scene to church on Sunday morning, or

arrive early to the Advent Dinner and we will take care to ensure that it is carefully displayed.

If your nativity holds particular sentimental or monetary value, you're invited to

bring a photo to share!

If you'd like to share the history or significance of your nativity set, please include a short note we can include with your display.

We look forward to celebrating the season with you and your family's nativity!



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**LUNCH & LAUGH** is being planned for Tuesday, November 26th at noon in the Fellowship Hall! Come join us! Please register your attendance by Thursday, November 21st. The cost for the meal is \$15. Please call Rev. Linda with any questions!

**THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** for this week's service are given by Penny and Phil Reagh in memory of their parents, Harry and Alice Reagh, and Edward and Laverne Dix.

**PER CAPITA 2024** Per capita for 2024 is \$29.50. Remember that Per Capita goes to fund the greater church including our Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly, which in turn, provides great support to Westminster. **Look for the blue envelopes in the pew backs or in your box of envelopes.**

**JOIN US ON FACEBOOK:** Westminster Presbyterian Church-Bay City

**BULLETIN BOARDS:** Check out the Church bulletin board just outside the sanctuary for upcoming church events and happenings, **plus sign-up sheets for volunteer opportunities for:**

- **Westminster Community Pantry**
- **Food Bank of Eastern Michigan**
- **Food of Faith**
- **Matthew 25 Cafe**
- **Fellowship Time Host**

In addition, the Community bulletin board in Fellowship Hall has information on health screenings, grief groups and other events in the area.

**TV AND SOUNDBOARD:** We're looking for individuals who can run the soundboard and help in the TV room on Sunday mornings. If you are interested in helping, please call the church office. Thank you!

## **Giving to Westminster**

There are many ways to share your gifts with Westminster.

Cash and checks are welcome. Please use your offering envelopes or the envelopes found in pew backs and place your gift in the offering plate when it is passed.

Visit our website [www.wpcbc.org](http://www.wpcbc.org) and click on the "Give Now" button at the top of the page. This will direct you to our Online Giving Portal or simply scan the QR Code below.

Contributions can also be sent through the mail to the attention of the Church Treasurer.

We're grateful for your gifts, however you choose to give.  
**THANK YOU!**



## **Westminster Presbyterian Church**

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