



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Treasure in Clay Pots

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

JANUARY 31, 2021

10:00 A.M.

MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 A.M.
Treasure in Clay Pots
Ordination and Installation of Officers

GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

In Preparation for Worship

To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good. —1 Corinthians 12:7

Opening Voluntary

(A musical prayer offered on behalf of the people of God.)

“Gavotte”

Matthew Camidge

Helen Hofmeister, Harpsichord

Welcome and Sharing the Life of Westminster

Rev. Jen Porter

Call to Worship

Pipher Family

Opening Hymn 662

“Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”

Ratisbon

**Christ, whose glory fills the skies; Christ, the true, the only light;
Sun of Righteousness, arise; triumph o’er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.**

**Dark and cheerless is the morn unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day’s return till thy mercy’s beams I see;
till they inward light impart, cheer my eyes and warm my heart.**

**Visit then this soul of mine; pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiancy divine; scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display, shining to the perfect day.**

Prayer of Confession

Holy and all-powerful God, who commands all spirits, comforts those in distress, and casts out destructive forces, we confess that we are unable to do your will. We protect what is familiar and reject what is unknown. We admire those with courage but excuse ourselves when we fail to follow in your way. We diminish your power to make the impossible real: to overcome oppression, to cast out the fears that paralyze us, to banish the demons of judgment and worthlessness. Forgive us, lead us, and make us new. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer...

Silent Confession

Assurance of God’s Grace

++Response Hymn 817

“We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight”

Dunlap’s Creek

(verse 1)

**We walk by faith and not by sight;
with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e’er spoke:
“My peace be with you here.”**

++Passing the Peace of Christ

(A sign of forgiveness and reconciliation.)

Ministry of Music

“Allemande” and “Allegro” from Suite No. 8
Helen Hofmeister, Harpsichord

G. F. Handel

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

(We pray that the words of Scripture may be encountered as God’s Word.)

Scripture

2 Corinthians 4:7-11

New Testament

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Treasure in Clay Pots

Rev. Laurie Hartzell

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Presentation of Those Elected

The Constitutional Questions

Prayer of Ordination and Installation

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Susan Jennings

Offering Our Lives

Offertory

“Prelude in D Major”
Helen Hofmeister, Harpsichord

J. S. Bach

++ Doxology *(means “words of glory”—they are a traditional expression of praise to God.)*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!**

++Prayer of Dedication

Eternal God, you are creator of the world and giver of all that is good. In gratitude, we dedicate these gifts and our lives to you. With the church through all the ages, we thank you for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

++Closing Hymn 321

“The Church’s One Foundation”

Aurelia

**The church’s one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord.
She is his new creation by water and the word.
From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride.
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.**

**Though with a scornful wonder this world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: “How long?”
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.**

**Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore:
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blessed,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.**

**Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.**

Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary

“Les anges”

Olivier Messiaen

Helen Hofmeister, Harpsichord

Music Note: The composer of the Closing Voluntary today, Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992), prints the following inscription under the title, “Les anges” (The Angels): “a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God, and saying Glory to God in the Highest!” The music depicts the movement of the wings of the angels as they are soaring in the sky. At the end of the piece, the music fades away as the angels are lost to view. “Les anges” includes no bass notes on the organ; only the upper registers are heard.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher Rev. Laurie Hartzell, Interim Associate Pastor for Youth and Mission
Liturgists Rev. Jen Porter, Associate Pastor for Faith Formation and Pastoral Care
..... Susan Jennings, Minister for Pastoral Care and Membership
..... Ben, Sarah and Emmett Pipher
..... Carol Lautenbach, Elder for Nominations
..... Chris Dugan, Clerk of Session

Minister of Music Helen Hofmeister
Worship Musicians Kathy Vandervelde, Soprano; John Schlafley, Tenor

Technology Team Peter Larson and Dan Cisler

AHEAD IN WORSHIP

Recorded from the Westminster Sanctuary

February 7— Fifth Sunday of Epiphany

Kyle Kooyers, Assoc. Director,
Kaufman Interfaith Institute preaching
Music: Janlee Richter, Piano
Paul Austin, Horn
Kathy VanderVelde, Soprano and Eric Richter, Tenor

February 14— Transfiguration of the Lord

What Goes Up Must Come Down

Rev. Lynette Sparks preaching
Scripture: Mark 9:2-9
Music: Kathleen Pool, Soprano

We're glad you worshiped with us today!
If you would like to know about the life and ministry of Westminster,
visit our website at westminstergr.org or contact Susan Jennings at susanj@wpcgr.org.

*Announcements following on page 5 - 6,
Ordination and Installation of Officers on page 7,
church calendar on page 8, Pantry Souper Bowl flyer on page 9.*

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

STAFF CHANGES: After 25+ years of service to the church, Becky Stein-Wells is retiring. We have been blessed by her presence, her ability to make others feel welcome, her creativity, and her support for members and staff. She will remain a beloved member of our community, and will continue volunteering at Westminster.

We are excited to welcome Christine Davis as Administrator for Program Staff. She graduated from Grand Valley State University with a major in advertising and public relations and a minor in political science. She interned at the Ronald McDonald House of Western Michigan and has experience working in libraries. Christine loves to cook, crochet, and explore Grand Rapids on her bike.

GIRL SCOUT COOKIES FOR THE FOOD PANTRY: Church member, Lily Fiore is again selling cookies for donation to the food pantry. The clients of the food pantry really look forward to this treat. Last year, Lily was able to donate over 100 boxes to the food pantry thanks to the generosity of our members. The cost this year is \$5.00 per box. The sale will continue through January 29, 2021. If interested please contact Leslie Fiore at lfiore648@gmail.com for more details.

THE YOUTH GROUPS will be meeting via ZOOM on **Sunday, January 31**. High schoolers will meet at 3:30p. Here's the link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89069159530>. This will be a time to "Ask the Pastor" questions about God and faith. The Middle School group will meet at 4:30p to play some games and also talk about one of the questions that came up last week: "Why does it feel like God leaves us sometimes?" Here's the link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87481295771>.

SOUPER BOWL AND GR SCAVENGER HUNT: The Middle and High School Youth Groups are invited to bring cans of soup for the Food Pantry Souper Bowl on **Saturday, February 6 at 11 a.m.** Then, we will split in groups to do the Grand Rapids Winter Wonderland Downtown Scavenger Hunt together. There is an app on your phone for this scavenger hunt, so bring your phone and dress warmly. Snacks for the road will be provided.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP AT WESTMINSTER? If you would you like to learn more about Westminster and our ministries, or considering becoming a member, please contact Susan Jennings at susanj@wpcgr.org or 717-5542. We are trying to garner interest in a new member orientation for this winter/spring. Thank you!

VALENTINE'S DAY BAGS FOR FOOD PANTRY CLIENTS: Even though we can't get together to have our big Valentine's event, we can still share our love! The Children and Families Ministries Committee will have kits available for pick up so that you can put together bags filled with valentine cards, treats, and toiletries for our friends who come to the food pantry. Sign up [here](#) to drop off items and pick up kits. Questions? Ask Nancy Greidanus at nancyg@wpcgr.org with questions.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: This is a reminder that each Sunday, our Children's Worship team creates videos for children that go with the themes of Sunday services and our church calendar. You can find these videos on the Westminster YouTube Channel. Contact Nancy at nancyg@wpcgr.org for more information.

FROM THE FOOD PANTRY: A COUPLE OF REQUESTS... MASKS! The pantry is open on each Thursday and practices COVID masking and social distancing. Our clients really appreciate washable masks, and we are having a hard time keeping up. This will greatly enhance our ability to continue to serve safely. The Pantry is also in need of **CLEAN PLASTIC BAGS**, which can be dropped off at church on Thursdays between 10:30 am and 2:30 pm.

RECEIPTS: the pantry is still participating in the *SpartanNash Direct Your Dollars* program. Please remember to mail in your D & W and Family Fare receipts to the pantry. **The entire receipt.** For each \$150,000 in receipts, the pantry receives \$1,000! This is a great revenue source for us. Keep praying for this ministry – It is vital to our purpose to help those in need.

SUPPORT FOR HEARTSIDE NEIGHBORS: COVID-19 has been tough for most of us, especially the most vulnerable. Even as our Open Door Ministry is closed, we have been able to partner with Heartside Ministries in supporting our neighbors. Hats, mittens and books are needed by Heartside Ministries. If you are able to make a donation, please be in touch with Lexy McCullough at lexymcc@sbcglobal.net.

COVID 19 EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND: We have received inquiries about making donations to Westminster's COVID 19 Emergency Assistance Fund. If you would like to make a contribution, you may do so [by clicking here](#) or mail in your donation to the church with checks made out to Westminster Presbyterian Church and indicating COVID 19 fund in the memo. Your donations will continue to help the underserved in our community that have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.

SOCIAL WITNESS AND FAITH FORMATION MOVIE DISCUSSION: On Sunday, February 7, Social Witness and Faith Formation are hosting a movie discussion at 6:30pm on the 2019 film “Just Mercy.” This film lifts up Brian Stevenson’s systemic work around mass incarceration and racial inequality. He calls us to believe that evil can be overcome. View the movie prior to our discussion and then click [here](#) to join the discussion.

BROAD BASED ORGANIZING RED CLUSTER MEETING: The first step in Broad Based Organizing is developing relationships of trust. To that end, the organizations in the group have been split into clusters. Westminster is part of the “Red Cluster.” Other organizations in the Red Cluster include: EnVivo Church, Oakdale Park Church, The Restorative Justice Commission, and the Health Homes Coalition. On **Thursday, February 18, 4pm**, members of the Red Cluster organizations are invited to a ZOOM meeting together. After a brief introduction, everyone present will be split into groups of 2 or 3 to do 30-minute one-on-ones with each other. This is your chance to begin to get to know people in our community joining us in this work. Anyone from Westminster is invited to be part of this Red Cluster meeting to get to know others. Click [here](#) to join the meeting.

CAMP HENRY HAS A NEW WAY TO SPEND TIME WITH YOUR FAMILY: Need a spot for your family to play or exercise? Check out our Jacobs Recreation Pavilion! Full-length court, Basketball, Volleyball, and Pickleball Walls can open for access to fresh air and Bathrooms are available. Connect with Jordan Bont, Guest Experiences Director, to reserve your spot! Email jordanb@campheny.org or call 231-652-6472.

SPOTLIGHT: DAY CAMP | AGES 5-8: Day Camp is the perfect way to get a taste of Camp Henry while still sleeping at home. Each day has a theme and new adventures await! Day Camp is for ages 5-8 and lunch is provided. Each session runs Monday to Friday from 9:30am to 4:00pm. Dates and Rates: Cost: \$245 (Transportation from Grand Rapids \$40). Week 3: July 5-9, 2021; Week 4: July 12-16, 2021; Week 5: July 19-23, 2021. Learn more [here](#).

PARENTS OF 3-YEAR-OLDS: When Westminster children progress from the nursery to joining us in worship, we like to celebrate by giving them a Jesus Storybook Bible. Because we are not yet worshipping in person, we think it is even more important that our 3-year-olds have a Bible to read at home. If your child turned three anytime between March 2020 and the end of February 2021, please let Nancy Greidanus know at nancyg@wpcgr.org.

THE WPC FICTION BOOK GROUP: Another month, another thought-provoking book. On **Sunday, February 21**, the WPC Fiction Book Group will meet via Zoom to discuss *The Dutch House*. Critics raved that this is her most powerful novel to date: “a richly moving story that explores the indelible bond between two siblings, the house of their childhood, and a past that will not let them go. *The Dutch House* is the story of a paradise lost, a tour de force that digs deeply into questions of inheritance, love, and forgiveness, of how we want to see ourselves, and of who we really are.” We log on at 7:00 p.m. New voices are always welcome! Email Marcie Beck at beckmarcella7@gmail.com for the link.

ONLINE CONTRIBUTIONS: Please [click here](#) for a document that provides information on ways you can give digitally to the church. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Kathy Cisler through her phone number at the church, (616) 717-5533.



Using Engage Giving by Scanning the QR Code: Scan the code using a QR code reader app or the camera on your phone or mobile device. It will take you to the Engage Giving log-in window where you can follow the directions above for giving using the website

WESTMINSTER COMMUNITY FACEBOOK GROUP: If you’re on Facebook and haven’t already, please join our WPC Community Group! We share reflections after services, our pets, our joys, and church updates in the group as another way to stay connected during these times. [Click here](#) to join the group.

SANDWICH BRIGADE: This group is providing sandwiches each Monday to our neighbors at Heartside Ministries. Since our church building has been closed and therefore unable to provide a physical space to our neighbors through the Open Door Ministry, this is a way we can provide assistance to folks in the Heartside area. If interested, or if you’d like more information, please contact Daryl Fischer at darylkfischer@gmail.com.

MEMBER THANK YOU: I want to thank all of my Westminster Family who sent cards and called me after the death of my mother, Kathryn Orosz. I really appreciated your thoughtfulness and kind words. The year 2020 was a difficult year for a lot of people, but it was really hard on me losing my older brother, Jeff Hitchcock, in July, and my mother in December. Again thank you for all of your kind words and prayers. Vickey Parker.

Those being Ordained, Installed, and Commissioned at Today's Service January 31, 2021

Elder for Stewardship	Cheryl Bremer - Ordained and Installed	
Elder for Children's Ministries	Tim Born - Installed	
Elder for Spiritual Life & Learning	Kyle Kooyers - Ordained and Installed	
Elder for Camp Henry	Tom Macholan - Ordained and Installed	
Elder for Older Adults	Karen Meyers - Ordained and Installed	
Trustee	Brent Early	Commissioned
	John Flietsra	Commissioned
	Steve Schoon	Commissioned
	Bill Warren	Commissioned
	Steve Wonch	Commissioned
Memorial Trust	Jennifer Faber	Commissioned
	Alix Thompson	Commissioned
	Karen Henry Stokes	Commissioned
Administrative Deacon	Aaron Huntington	Installed
	Eric Lanning	Installed
	Deb Toering	Installed
	Bob Van Sprange	Installed
Caring Deacon	Diane Bartoszewicz	Installed
	Joel Fortuna	Installed
	Jen Kotchenruther	Ordained and Installed
	Margaret Tuori	Installed
Supporting Deacon	Mary Dirkse	Installed
	Pat Hornick	Ordained and Installed
	Josh Leckrone	Installed
	Pam Marshall	Installed
	Laurel Schantz	Installed

Upcoming Calendar of Events

WESTMINSTER'S BUILDING IS STILL CLOSED
ALL MEETINGS TAKE PLACE VIRTUALLY
WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE FOOD PANTRY

SUN. JAN 31

10:00 amOnline Worship
10:00 am .. Ordination and Installation of Officers Online
11:00 amValentine kit pick-up (parking lot)

MON. FEB 1

12:00 pm Text Talks Online
5:30 pmDeacon Moderators Online
7:00 pmSession Online

TUES. FEB 2

4:30pm Way Forward Online

THURS. FEB 4

10:30amFood Pantry

SAT. FEB 6

11:00amFood Pantry Souper Bowl (parking lot)

SUN. FEB 7

10:00amOnline Worship
11:00amValentine Bag Drop Off (parking lot)
4:00pm Youth Group Online

MON. FEB 8

12:00pm Text Talks Online
6:30pmDeacon Meeting Online
7:00pmFacilities Committee Online



SOUPER BOWL

Saturday, February 6, 2021

“Souper Bowl”

Drive Thru Food Drive

Drive Up... (11:00a - 1:00p)

Drop Off...

Drive Away...

Enter the Westminster Parking Lot off Jefferson Ave.

Drop off your cans of soup by the entry doors.

Exit on Oakes Street.

The over 7,000 individuals served from the Westminster Food Pantry in 2020 selected 17 items from a list of approximately 50 products each visit; From dish soap, to rice, beef stew, crackers, and yes, also soup. In fact, almost always soup.

Soup is a staple for our Heartside neighbors. It's hardy, tasty, easy, can be mixed, often it can even be opened without a can opener. Soup is a vital component for many.

In 2020 we received over \$31,000 in “in-kind” donations, meaning actual gifts of product. Soup was one of the most popular donations—a huge help. We can purchase soup through Feeding America for a fraction of the cost at a grocery store.

Please assist the pantry in carrying out its mission to feed the hungry and give grace and assistance to those neighbors in need. Soup cans and cases, along with monetary donations can be brought to the church parking lot on Saturday, February 6. Thank you! Questions: contact angiek@wpcgr.org.

Cans... Cases... Checks...

Financial contributions can be made online by going to the website (westminstergr.org) and clicking on *Donations and Giving*.