



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



by Vivienne Duncan, based on John 15:1

Youth Sunday

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 25, 2021

10:00 A.M.

MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 A.M.

Youth Sunday

GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

In Preparation for Worship

"Each time I look back. . . I am reminded of how God's abundant love and grace continuously show up in my life"
– Grace Fryer

Opening Voluntary

"Allegro in A Major"
Abby Strand, Piano

Johann Wilhelm Hässler

Sharing the Life of Westminster

Sylvie DeVries and Emily Anderson

Easter Acclamation

This is the Good News!
The cross is empty!
This is the Good News!
The Word of God is near to us!
This is the Good News!
We are fed by God's love!
This is the Good News!
Once we were no people, now we are God's people!
This is the Good News!
The light shines in the darkness
and the darkness can never put it out!

Many voices:
Emily Anderson, Molly Born,
Marcos Calderon, Harper Coffill,
Kees Duncan, Vivi Duncan,
Lily Fiore, Declan Hayes,
Gabe Larson, Breslin Lawrence,
Keith Lawrence, Brady Miller,
Charlie Molitor, Dillan Roosien,
Matt Russell, Jocelyn Russell,
Claire Schmidt

++Opening Hymn 301

"Let Us Build a House"
verses 1,4, and 5

Two Oaks

**Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.**

**Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let this bring an end to fear and danger:
all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.**

**Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.**

Call to Confession

Harper Davis, Maren Gregg, Brooke Miller,
Karys Russell, Nadia Schoon

Prayer of Confession

**Dear God, we as human beings long for connection. Yet, we allow ourselves to get
distracted by our worries, our busyness, and by forgetting who we are and whose we are.
The pandemic has forced our connections to be even more broken. Forgive us, God. Help
us to stay connected even in our darkest times. Hear our prayers and our longings for
connection. Amen.**

++Stand as you are able

++Response Hymn

“Wade in the Water”

arr. H. T. Burleigh

Janlee Richter, Piano

Assurance of Pardon

++Passing the Peace of Christ

Maren Gregg, Brooke Miller, Nadia Schoon

(A sign of forgiveness and reconciliation.)

Ministry of Music

“He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands”

Traditional American Spiritual

Karys Russell, Cello

Meg Strand, Piano

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Lily Fiore and Emma Kloostra

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

Scripture

John 15:1-11

New Testament

Senior Sermons

Grace Fryer and Fritz Duncan

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

The Prayers of the People

Gracie Cole and Kees Duncan

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.

Offering Our Lives

Creation Care

Sami Duroucher

Offertory

“In the Bulb There Is a Flower”

Hymn of Promise

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there’s spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

There’s a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
there’s a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

Elizah Hyde, Audrey Faasse, Madelyn Faasse

++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:

Camille Gerville-Réache

Loving God, you have blessed us with this earth so that we may share the fruits of your labor with each other. With COVID, we have had the chance to retract from some of the ways we desecrate the land. May this be a new beginning and may we extend our services to provide for the earth and care for her as she has cared for us. We offer this prayer and ourselves in Christ’s name, Amen.

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

++Closing Hymn 300

“We Are One in the Spirit”

They’ll Know We Are Christians

**We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;
we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored: (Refrain)**

Refrain

**And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.**

**We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;
we will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
and together we’ll spread the news that God is in our land: (Refrain)**

**We will work with each other; we will work side by side;
we will work with each other; we will work side by side,
and we’ll guard human dignity and save human pride: (Refrain)**

**All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God’s only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one: (Refrain)**

Charge and Benediction

Fritz Duncan and Grace Fryer

Closing Voluntary

“Lord, Prepare Me” (Sanctuary)
Janlee Richter, Piano

*Thompson and Scruggs;
Arr. Butler-Moore*

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Senior Sermons.....Fritz Duncan and Grace Fryer
LiturgistsYouth; all the prayers have been written by our youth.

Minister of Music Helen Hofmeister
Worship MusiciansJanlee Richter, Piano

.....Audrey Faasse, Madelyn Faasse,Elizah Hyde,
.....Karys Russell, Abby Strand, Meg Strand

Technology Team Dan Cisler, Rachel Kamstra, and Peter Larson

“Let Us Build a House”
“Wade in the Water”
“In the Bulb There Is a Flower”
“We Are One in the Spirit”
“Lord, Prepare Me”

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AHEAD IN WORSHIP

Broadcast from the Westminster Sanctuary

**May 2 – Fifth Sunday of Easter
Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper
Ministry Means Movement**

Rev. Lynette Sparks
Scripture: Acts 8:26-40
Music: Linda Nelson, Violin
Hannah Nelson, Clarinet
Lambert Zuidervaart, Bass

**May 9 – Sixth Sunday of Easter
Them, Too**

Rev. Lynette Sparks
Scripture: Acts 10:44-48
Music: John Nienhuis, Baritone

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.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOUTH SUNDAY AFTERGLOW: Sunday April 25, Noon, Riverside Park

Youth and their families are invited to gather at Riverside Park at Noon. We will gather by the entrance off Monroe near the pond. We will have donuts and coffee and juice. Stop by between noon and 1:30. Stay as long as you want or as short as you want.

DAD AND ME WEEKEND AT CAMP HENRY: April 30-May 2 | All Ages | \$99 per person (four & under free)

Calling all dads, grandpas, and uncles! Get ready for a weekend packed full of activities at Camp Henry while enjoying quality time with the kids. Both sons and daughters are welcome. This event runs from Friday at 7pm to Sunday at 1pm. For more information go to camphenry.org/events

WALK FOR GOOD FOOD: May 2-May 12.

This year's #Walk4GoodFood is almost here! We welcome your participation in a few different ways! Go to <http://accessofwestmichigan.org/walk/>. Scroll down a little and Click on the 'red beet' to either make a donation to the Westminster team or to join the team as a walker and help us raise money. If you don't feel comfortable using the computer you can contact Nancy Greidanus at nancyg@wpcgr.org or Angie Kelley at angiek@wpcgr.org with any questions. If you want to give cash or write a check you can mail them to the church. Please make out checks to Access of West Michigan.

PUT CAMP 2021 ON YOUR CALENDARS! Thursday, September 2-5, Camp Henry.

Enjoy some late summer days at Camp Henry by joining your church family at Camp2021. Camp2021 begins in the late afternoon of Thursday, September 2 and culminates with worship and camp activities on Sunday, September 5. Camp Henry has procedures and plans in place to keep everyone safe and healthy, and Camp provides a great time for spiritual, mental, emotional, physical, and communal joy. Be on the lookout for more information and registration.

CAMP HENRY'S FAMILY CAMP: May 28-May 30, Camp Henry.

Enjoy camp with the whole family and get away with your loved ones to play, relax and connect with the outdoors. Camp Henry will provide programming for all ages, food service, and lodging for this fun-filled weekend! This event runs from Friday, May 28, at 7pm to Sunday, May 30, at 11am. Register [here](#) to reserve your spot!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: YOUTH RETREAT AT CAMP HENRY WITH REV. ALONZO JOHNSON:

Oct. 23, 2021 We'll lean into how to do justice, love kindness, and walk with God on this special day together. This will be a time you don't want to miss!

UPCOMING EVENTS AT CAMP HENRY:

Camp Henry has many upcoming events to enjoy spring in the outdoors, including Spring Work Day, Dad and Me Weekend, and Family Camp. You can register for events and see the full calendar of happenings by clicking below—stay tuned for trail ride dates! Click [here](#) for more info about events at Camp Henry.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! The Sandwich Brigade is looking for volunteers! If you are interested in supporting this ministry that started in November 2020, we could use your help as the summer months approach. The brigade prepares 150 sandwiches every Monday to deliver to our neighbors at Heartside Ministries. We could use a few subs to fill in this summer as our 'regular' volunteers may be on vacation or out of town. We typically have 3-4 volunteers for each Monday, so you wouldn't be alone in this endeavor! If interested in participating, or if you have questions, please contact Susan Jennings at susanj@wpcgr.org.

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.

SECURITY CARD ACCESS In recent months, a new security system has been installed at the church. In conjunction with that, the Facilities Committee has established new guidelines for issuing access cards to optimize both security and accessibility for members who need it:

- Access will be given to committee chairs/moderators.
- Regular volunteers will have access based on time and date of service.
- Access with a card will be through the front door only, with exceptions based on specific roles (e.g. WCDC, Food Pantry, communion preparers).
- We request that all others turn in their old cards to minimize the cost of purchasing new cards.
- We also request that all physical keys be turned in to eliminate new purchases.
- When roles change, access cards are to be turned in so they can be given to new members in that role.
- All communication regarding security cards should be directed to Brad Hambelton, Facilities Manager, at bradh@wpcgr.org.

CAMP HENRY HAS A NEW PROJECT- AND THEY NEED YOUR HELP! Camp Henry is super excited to be building Hank's House, a new Duplex that will be an amazing addition, and will help house some of our awesome year-round staff members. They are seeking volunteers to help with construction and carpentry - or skilled trades workers to assist with plumbing, electrical, drywall, HVAC, and more! Find out how to help [here](#).

WESTMINSTER TECH ASSISTANCE TEAM! The Tech Assistance Team is a group of Westminster volunteers who can assist the WPC Community with navigating the technology that has become so important for keeping in touch during the pandemic. The Tech Assistance Team can help you with questions such as:

- How do I watch the YouTube livestream on my Smart TV?
- What are all the buttons in a Zoom call for?
- How do I use Facebook?
- How can I prevent emails from being marked as spam?

...and many, many more!!

You can use the form any time to submit general tech assistance requests or you can call the office and they'll pass your request on to the team! Got a request? Let us know [here](#)!

THE DEACON'S FUND: This fund was established many years ago to assist church members with short term financial needs, such as utility payments, transportation, and insurance payments. The fund is generously funded by the congregation, and we want to put it to use for those that have been hard hit by under-employment, illness, or other unforeseen circumstances. To initiate a request, please contact Susan Jennings at susanj@wpcgr.org or 456-1456. All information will be kept confidential.

YOUTH MAILING LIST: Did you know that each week an email is sent to youth and their parents with information about the upcoming youth events? If you didn't know this, have a teen living in your home, and would like to be on this email list, send a note to Laurie at laurieh@wpcgr.org. She will be sure you get on the list!

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 the church office at 616-456-1456.

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.

Westminster Child Development Center Returnables for Reading WCDC is collecting bottles and cans to fund our ever-growing library. We strive to provide books that act as a mirror, where our children can see themselves, as well as those that are windows into the outside world, to reinforce the value of our differences and celebrate our diversity. Please join this effort to provide our young learners with the stories that will help them better understand the people and cultures of our world. If you have cans and/or bottles to donate, you can ring the bell under the blue WCDC awning (located on the La Grave side of Westminster Presbyterian Church) from 6:30 – 6:00 Monday-Friday, and a staff member will collect your donation. Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support of this crucial mission.

Upcoming Calendar of Events

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

SUN. APRIL 25

10:00 amOnline Worship

MON. APRIL 26

12:00 pmText Talk

7:30 pmSocial Justice Committee

TUES. APRIL 27

4:00 pmWay Forward Meeting

WED. APRIL 28

12:00 pmFood Pantry Board Meeting

Thurs. April 29

10:30 amFood Pantry

4:00 pmBBO Red Cluster Meeting

SUN. MAY 2

10:00 amOnline Worship

1:00 pmGame On Board Game Group

4:00 pmMiddle and High School Youth Group