

MORNING WORSHIP

Together in the Kin-dom: A Community for Children and Youth

GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

In Preparation for Worship

"There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children."

— Nelson Mandela

Sentences of Scripture

Rev. Lynette Sparks

Opening Voluntary

"These Treasured Children" (Puer nobis nascitur)
Helen Hofmeister, Organ

Sharing the Life of Westminster

++Call to Worship

Julia DeJonge

One: We gather this morning as God's people

All: to worship the One who loves each and every child.

One: We gather together with listening hearts

All: to hear the hopes of children and nurture the hope within each of us.

One: We gather in the name of Christ who welcomed the children,

All: for the kin-dom of God belongs to people like these.

++Hymn 409

"God Is Here"

Abbott's Leigh

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we confess that often we fail to hear the voices of those who are young, impoverished, and hurting. We ignore the voices of those who speak in other languages, come from other communities, or have different life experiences than our own. We turn away from voices that call us to account, or to commit, or to sit with their pain. We give more credence to the voices of those with status, power, and wealth, or to those who tell us what we want to hear. Forgive us, and call us to faithfulness. Remind us to heed the voices of children and young people. Open us to what they have to teach us, that we too might receive your kingdom with the wonder and gratitude of children. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Silent Confession

Kyrie - Unison

"Lord, Have Mercy"

Lee J. Afdahl

"Kyrie" used with permission of Lee J. Afdahl

The Assurance of God's Grace

One: Friends, believe the Good News.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

++Stand in body or in spirit

++Response Hymn 817 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

Dunlap's Creek

(stanza 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

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Ministry of Music

"Well" (based on "It Is Well with My Soul")
Linus Guerra, Saxophone
"Well" used with permission of Gerrett Hope

Sacrament of Baptism

(11:00 a.m.) Nancy Greidanus and Tim Born
(Receiving the Sacrament of Baptism today is Roman Zavala, child of Melissa and Diego Zavala.)

Waters of Baptism

Response Hymn 486

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise
(Stanza 1) Stuttgart

Reception into the People of God

One: This child is now received into the holy universal Church. See what love God has given us that we should be called children of God. And we are!

All: Child of the Covenant, we welcome you into Christ's church for we are all one in Christ. We promise to love, encourage, and support you. We promise to help you know Christ.

One: Thanks be to God.

All: Alleluia! Amen!

Blessings with Younger Disciples

(Children three years through second grade may finish their time of worship in the worship centers. Children's worship leaders or parents will shepherd them from the sanctuary to their rooms. Parents may pick them up in their worship rooms following the service.)

Congregation: As you worship together, may God be with you.

Children: And also with you.

Congregation: Go in peace!

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Mark 10:13-16

New Testament, p. 46

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Together in the Kin-dom: Rev. Lynette Sparks
A Community for Children and Youth

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

++Affirmation of Faith (Adapted from the Confession of 1967, Presbyterian Church, USA.)

The kingdom of God represents God's triumph over all that resists the divine will and disrupts God's creation. Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in all people. With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God.

Prayers of the People

Rev. Laurie Hartzell

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

Offertory

8:30

"Andantino" Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)
Helen Hofmeister, Organ

11:00

"Gloria" Franz Joseph Haydn
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Et in terra pax hominibus, bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te. Bendicimus te.
Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.

Glory to God in the highest.
And on earth peace to all those of good will.
We praise thee. We bless thee.
We worship thee. We glorify thee.
Sanctuary Choir

++Doxology

**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 Thanksgiving and Dedication

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

To you, O God, we offer our lives—our abundance, our poverty, all that we have, all that we are—a sign of our great thanksgiving for the treasure of your grace. Take and use us for good in the world that you love. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

++Closing Hymn 487 "These Treasured Children"

Puer Nobis Nascitur

++Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary

"Finale" on Puer Nobis Nascitur Flor Peeters (1903-1986)

(The organ Opening Voluntary and Closing Voluntary are both based on the tune, Puer Nobis Nascitur, which is the melody for today's closing hymn. These two pieces of music were written 300 years apart.)

The Charge - Go into the world in peace. Have courage. Hold on to all that is good. Return no one evil for evil. Do justice. Walk with those who are fainthearted. Help those who suffer. Honor all people. Love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

AHEAD IN WORSHIP

In person 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Livestreamed at 11:00 a.m.

October 3 – Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost World Communion Sunday

Together in the Kin-dom: A Community of Peace

Rev. Jen Porter
Scripture: Colossians 3:12-17
Music 8:30: Viviana Kloostra, Soprano
11:00: Carol Choir, Kirk Singers, Sanctuary Choir

October 10 – Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost Together in the Kin-dom: A Community of Sacrifice

Rev. Lynette Sparks
Scripture: Mark 10:17-31
Music 8:30: Mark Jackson, Tenor
11:00: Chapel Singers, Sanctuary Choir

Welcome to Westminster

WELCOME

If you have questions about the life of the church or becoming a member, please email Susan Jennings at susanj@wpcgr.org. More information about worship and updates from the church can be found at westminstergr.org. You are welcome and celebrated here!

ASSISTANCE

If you'd like a large-print bulletin or a hearing device, please ask one of the ushers at a sanctuary entrance. For T-loop hearing assistance, set your hearing aid to T.

CHILDREN

Parents of three year olds to fifth graders, come to the children's check in tables in the gathering place before the service to sign in.

Children are welcome throughout the service! Ask an usher if you'd like special worship bags, folders, or children's bulletins to help your kids engage in worship. The nursery (babies through two-year-olds) is available during the service. Children (ages 3 through 2nd grade) will begin worship in the sanctuary and be invited to continue worship in the interactive settings of our worship centers. Leaders will shepherd them to their centers, but parents are welcome to lead them as well. Children will wait for you at the end of the service in the Children's Ministry hallway off the Gathering Place.

MASKING UPDATE

Per CDC guidelines, we ask that you wear a mask for all indoor gatherings at church. This includes worship and meetings. The Way Forward Committee and staff continue to monitor CDC recommendations and infection levels in our community. We will have masks available at church if you need one.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher Rev. Lynette Sparks, Senior Pastor
Liturgists Rev. Jen Porter, Associate Pastor
..... Julia deJonge, Elder for Personnel
..... Nancy Greidanus, Minister for Children and Families
..... Tim Born, Elder for Children's Ministries
..... Rev. Laurie Hartzell, Interim Associate Pastor

Musicians..... Helen Hofmeister, Minister of Music
8:30 & 11:00 Linus Guerra, Saxophone
..... Grand Valley State University Student
11:00 Sanctuary Choir
..... Janlee Richter, Accompanist

Acolytes..... Dillan Roosien
..... Duncan Roosien

WORSHIP CENTERS - How the Church Tells Time

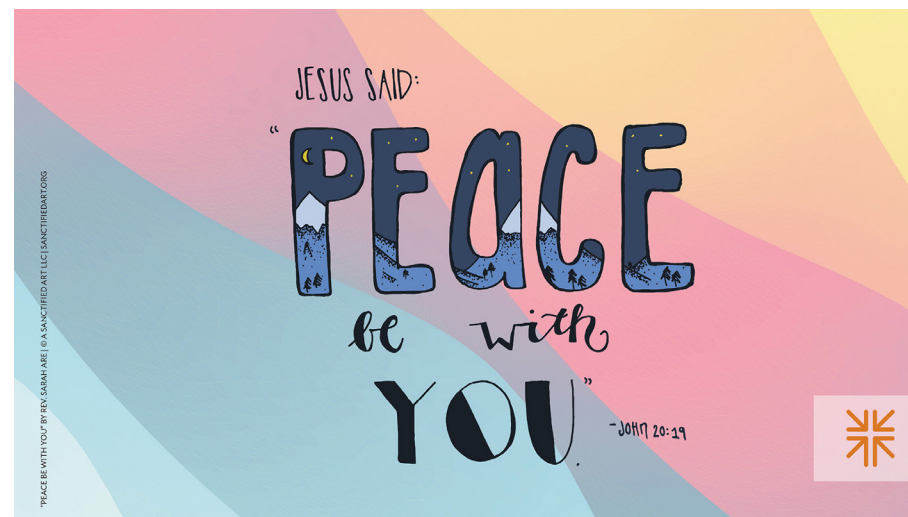
8:30 a.m. Chris Dugan

11:00 a.m.

Worship Center 1 (Young 5's and Kindergarten)..... Katie Prince
..... Audrey Faasse
..... Madelyn Faasse
Worship Center 2 (1st and 2nd Grade)..... Erin Molhoek
..... Nadia Schoon

NURTURING CENTER (Age 3 and 4) Heidi McPheeters
..... Sarah Schantz

PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING 2021

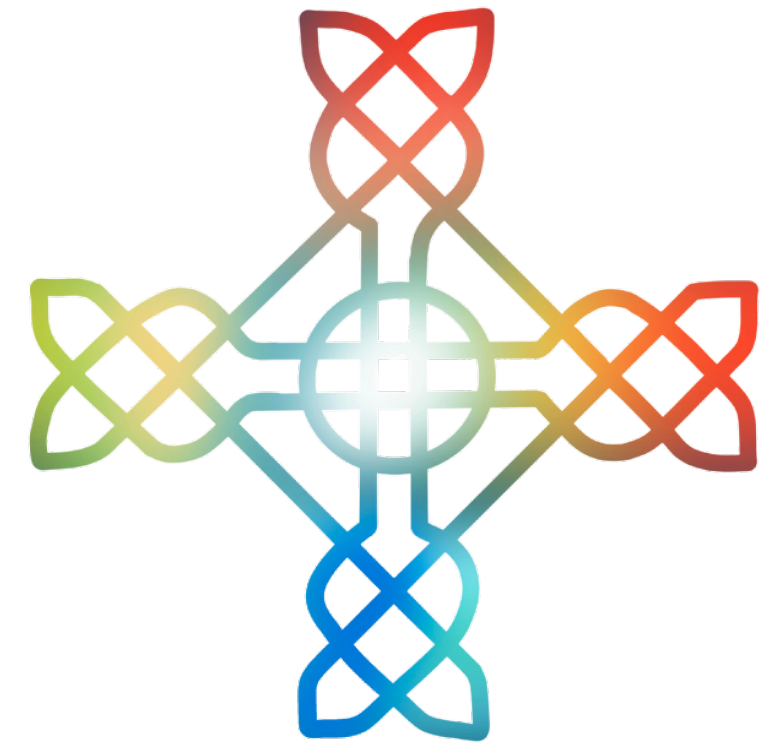


Peace at all times in all ways: The Peace & Global Witness Offering offers light to those in the shadows and guides us all into the ways of peace. We come together to promote the peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice in our own communities and around the world. 25% of this offering stays with our local congregation to support peacemaking and reconciliation in our own community. Please give as generously as you are able to support this work.

616-456-1456 / westminstergr.org / Office Hours: Mon - Thurs. 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



Together in the Kin-dom:



A Community for Children and Youth

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 26, 2021
8:30 & 11:00 A.M.

Announcements

KYLE KOOYERS ORDINATION: September 26, 2:30 p.m., Sanctuary
Kyle is getting ordained! The Presbytery of Lake Michigan is recognizing his work with the Kaufman Interfaith Institute as validated ministry of the Presbyterian Church (USA). The service will also be livestreamed for those who cannot attend in person.

PIANO CONCERT: September, 27, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary.
This concert is part of the Grand Valley Chamber Music Series and will feature music by Brahms. Performers include Dr. Sookkyung Cho, piano professor at Grand Valley, plus other Grand Valley faculty members. The concert is free; join us!

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY: Sunday, October 3
Next Sunday, we will be celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper during our worship at both services. If you are worshipping with us online, please have bread and juice ready so that you may participate in this sacrament of grace.


YOUTH GROUP: Sunday, October 3, 3 p.m.
The Youth Group will explore ARTPRIZE together on Sunday, October 3. We will meet at church at 3 p.m. Chapel choir will still meet in the church at 4 p.m. and Kirk Singers will still meet at 5 p.m. Pick up time will be 6:30 p.m.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER? October 20 and 27, 6:00 p.m.
If you're thinking about joining Westminster or want to learn more about our church and the ministry we are called to, please join us for our upcoming New Member Orientation! We will meet Wednesday, October 20, and Wednesday, October 27, from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. New members will be received during the 11:00 worship service on Sunday, October 31. To sign up for the informational sessions, contact Susan Jennings at 616-717-5542 or susanj@wpcgr.org.

YOUTH RETREAT: October 12 and 13, Camp Henry
We invite you to a retreat to reconnect with your youth group, reflect on the theme of "Together," deepen in faith, and have a blast in the beautiful setting of Camp Henry in the fall! We're excited to welcome Rev. Alonzo Johnson from the Presbytery for the retreat. The deadline for registration is October 11th. Registration can be found on the Youth page of the website.

CAMP HENRY 5K: Saturday, October 16, virtually or at Camp Henry
Run for Camp is back at Camp Henry this year! You can run or walk, and you can also participate virtually if you prefer. The event sponsors the scholarship program that helps get kids to camp. Sign up to be a runner, walker, fundraiser, sponsor, or volunteer at runsignup.com/runforcamp

SUNDAY MORNING GREETERS: If you appreciate being greeted with a friendly hello when you come to worship, please consider being a greeter! It's an easy way to meet new people and to offer hospitality at the same time. Contact Susan Jennings at susanj@wpcgr.org if you are interested in signing up. Thank you!

DONATIONS
 Donations can be made by scanning the QR code on this page, through our secure online giving site, by check sent to the church office, and through other forms. If you have questions about how to give to the church, please email angiek@wpcgr.org or call 616-717-5581.

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This Week's Calendar

SUN. SEPTEMBER 26

8:30 a.m. Worship Service Sanctuary
9:30 a.m. Church School and Children's Choirs.....Upstairs
9:40 a.m. Confirmation ClassConference Room
9:45 a.m. Adult Faith FormationChapel
10:15 a.m. 3rd Grade Worship Seminar..... Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. Worship Service Sanctuary
2:30 p.m. Kyle Kooyers' Ordination Sanctuary
4:00 p.m. Youth Group and Choirs..... Youth+Choir Rooms

MON. SEPTEMBER 27

11:00 a.m. Quilting Group Multipurpose Room
7:00 p.m. Social Justice Committee..... Parlor
7:00 p.m. Children and Families CommitteeOffsite
7:00 p.m. Piano Concert..... Sanctuary

TUES. SEPTEMBER 28

7:00 p.m. Evergreen Circle Library

WED. SEPTEMBER 29

6:30 a.m. Youth Prayer Breakfast..... Wolfgangs
6:30 p.m. WM Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal... Choir Room
7:00 p.m. Worship Committee..... Conference Room

THURS. SEPTEMBER 30

10:30 a.m. Food Pantry Front Lobby
7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal Choir Room

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11:00 a.m. Worship Service Sanctuary
1:00 p.m. Game On Board Game Group..... Online
3:00 p.m. Youth Group..... Meet at Church
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