

# MORNING WORSHIP

Together in the Kin-dom: 160 Years of God's Faithfulness

## GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

### In Preparation for Worship

"The character of God given us in Jesus is so overwhelmingly powerful for the care of life, not only in this age, but in the age to come, that we may be sure about the long term, for the long term is safely in God's good hands."

— Walter Brueggemann

### Sentences of Scripture

Rev. Lynette Sparks

### Opening Voluntary

Concerto Grosso #11

G. F. Handel

I. Andante larghetto, e staccato

Eric Tanner and Diane Helle, Violin

Stacey Tanner, Cello; Westminster Festival Strings

### Sharing the Life of Westminster

Rev. Laurie Hartzell

### Introit (11:00)

"A Song of Glad Thanksgiving"

Terry Kirkland

We sing a song of praise to God, a song of glad thanksgiving  
For home and family, teachers and friends; Gifts of God's great love.  
For sun and moon and stars at night; Gifts of God's great love.  
For hills and valleys, rivers and streams; Gifts of God's great love.

Josh Zallar, Violin; Carol Choir

### ++Call to Worship

One: We gather, looking back to see the paths taken,

**All: looking forward to see our path.**

One: We honor those who have gone before us,

**All: learning from their successes and failures.**

One: We celebrate who we are today,

**All: and welcome the possibilities and opportunities before us.**

One: We gather to worship God,

**All: the God of yesterday, today, and tomorrow.**

### ++Hymn 687

"Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

St. Anne

stanzas 1-4: all sing

stanza 5: choir only

stanza 6: all sing

### Prayer of Confession

Elder Karen Meyers

**O God, you have never stopped moving in the world and calling your church to follow your lead. Forgive us when we forget your faithfulness to us in times past. Forgive us when we fail to trust your spirit leading us into the future. Forgive us when we hold so tightly to the past, that we hesitate to listen to your message coming to us through the voice of a neighbor, a stranger, or a new generation. Forgive us, O God, and grant us assurance that you have never stopped reforming your church, for you are the one who makes all things new.**

Silent Confession

### Kyrie - Unison

"Lord, Have Mercy"

Lee J. Afdahl



### The Assurance of God's Grace

One: Friends, believe the Good News.

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

### ++Response Hymn 581

"Glory be to the Father"

Gloria Patri

(stanza 1)

**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.**

### ++Passing the Peace of Christ

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

**All: And also with you.**

### Ministry of Music

Concerto Grosso #11

G.F. Handel

V. Allegro

Linda Nelson and Eileen Doty, Violin

Lee Copenhaver, Cello; Westminster Festival Strings

### Recognition of Heritage Members (11:00)

Elder Karen Meyers  
and Rev. Jen Porter

### Blessings with Younger Disciples (11:00)

Nancy Greidanus

(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

### Scripture

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; 12:1-2

New Testament p. 225

One: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

Together in the Kindom:  
160 Years of God's Faithfulness

Rev. Lynette Sparks

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### Testimony of God's Faithfulness

Nancy Taylor

### Offering Our Lives

Rev. Kyle Kooyers

Offertory:

"Saints Bound for Heaven"

arr. Parker/Shaw

Our bondage it shall end, by and by.

From Egypt's yoke set free, Hail the glorious jubilee,

And to Canaan we'll return, by and by.

Our Deliv'rer he shall come, by and by.

And our sorrows have an end with our three-score years and ten,

And vast glory crown the day, by and by.

And when to Jordan's floods, we are come.

Jehovah rules the tide and the waters he'll divide,

And the ransomed host shall shout, we are come.

Then with all the happy throng, we'll rejoice.

Shouting glory to our king, till the vaults of heaven ring,

And through all eternity, we'll rejoice!

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!**

## SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

For those worshiping in the sanctuary, we are using pre-packaged communion elements with gluten-free bread and juice. If you didn't receive one before you entered the sanctuary, simply raise your hand, and an usher will bring you one. Children are welcome to participate in this sacrament. You may place the used packaging materials on the communion racks on the back of the pews, and then dispose of them in bins when you exit the sanctuary at the conclusion of the service.

### Invitation to the Lord's Table

### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.**

### 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.**

### Words of Institution

### Communion of the People

### Prayer of Response

**Faithful God, you have fed us at this table along with that great multitude of your faithful people. Keep us faithful to your call, and abide with us always, that we may serve you in all things. In the name of Jesus Christ, who called the Church into being. Amen.**

## GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

### ++Closing Hymn 326

"For All the Saints"

Sine Nomine

### ++Charge and Benediction

### Closing Voluntary

"Fugue in E-flat Major"

J.S. Bach

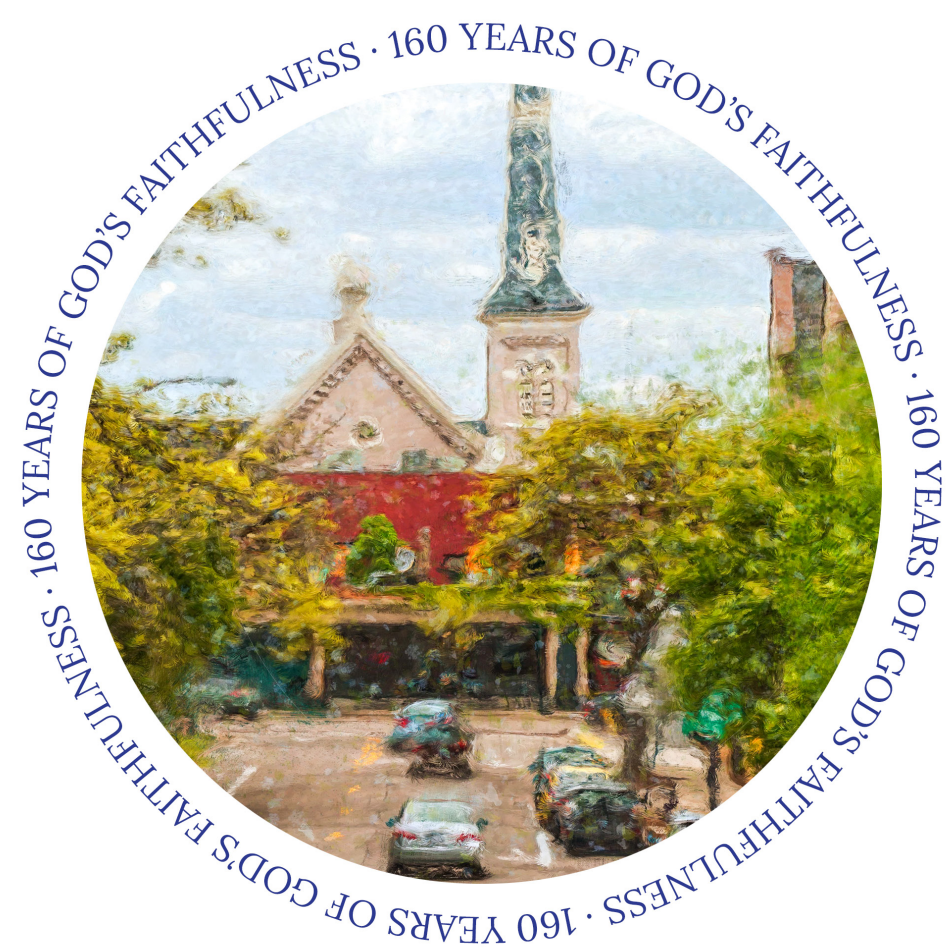
The Closing Voluntary today is in three parts. The first part begins with a theme that is reminiscent of the first several notes of the opening hymn today, "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past." The similarity is believed to be coincidental. The second part of the piece contains new material, and the third contains new material plus a combination of lines from both the first and second sections. The piece ends with a grand restatement of the opening theme in the bass notes of the organ.

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.

"Kyrie" used with permission of Lee J. Afdahl  
"A Song of Glad Thanksgiving" and "Saints Bound for Heaven" are used with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #724668-A. All rights reserved.



Together in the Kin-dom



The view of Westminster from the intersection of Ransom and Fountain Street.

# TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NOVEMBER 7, 2021  
8:30 & 11:00 A.M.

## PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

- Preacher..... Rev. Lynette Sparks
- Liturgists ..... Rev. Laurie Hartzell, Interim Associate Pastor  
..... Karen Meyers, Elder for Older Adults  
..... Rev. Jen Porter, Associate Pastor  
..... Nancy Greidanus, Minister for Children and Their Families  
..... Nancy Taylor, Westminster Member  
..... Rev. Kyle Kooyers, Parish Associate
- Musicians..... Helen Hofmeister, Minister of Music  
..... Westminster Festival Strings  
..... Henry Duitman, Westminster Festival Strings Director  
..... Carol Choir  
..... Emma Taranko, Carol Choir Director  
..... Josh Zallar, Carol Choir Violinist  
..... Janlee Richter, Harpsichord and Piano
- Acolytes..... Dillan and Duncan Roosien
- WORSHIP CENTERS** 11:00 a.m.  
Worship Center 1 (Young 5's and Kindergarten)..... John Meyers  
..... Kate Bylsma  
Worship Center 2 (1st and 2nd Grade)..... Francisco Calderon  
..... Marcos Calderon
- NURTURING CENTER** (Age 3 and 4) ..... Maggie Atwater

## 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](mailto:susanj@wpcgr.org). More information about worship and updates from the church can be found at [westminstergr.org](http://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.

616-456-1456 / [westminstergr.org](http://westminstergr.org) / Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

### AHEAD IN WORSHIP

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

### **November 14 — Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost Confirmation Sunday: Big God, Big Questions**

Rev. Laurie Hartzell  
Scripture: Matthew 16:13-19  
Music: 8:30 Ellen Pool, Piano  
11:00 Kirk Singers, Sanctuary Choir

### **November 21—The Reign of Christ Together in the Kin-dom: A Covenant Community**

Rev. Lynette Sparks  
Scripture: 2 Samuel 23:1-7  
Music: 8:30 Natalie Feldpausch, Oboe  
11:00 Sanctuary Choir

### Ahead in Adult Faith Formation **9:45-10:40 Meeting in the Chapel**

**Nov. 7: Celebrating Our 160 years!**  
Carolyn Morse

**Nov. 14: Looking Ahead in Adult Faith Formation**  
Rev. Jen Porter

## 160th Anniversary

This morning we celebrate our 160th anniversary by displaying items from our archives that were used in worship by our forebears.

**COMMUNION TABLE:** The table was given in 1887 by William O. Hughart in celebration of the birth of his grandson Oden Hughart Howard.

**BAPTISMAL FONT:** The font was given by Mr. William O. Hughart in Celebration of the birth of his grandson Oden Hughart Howard.

**PULPIT:** Our liturgy this morning is presented from our 1885 pulpit. It was a gift from the youth of Westminster and dedicated with the new sanctuary on October 1, 1885.

**PULPIT BIBLE:** The Bible is dated 1886 and is an authorized version of the Old and New Testament.

**SILVER FLOWER URNS:** The silver urns were used in our worship service during the 1920s.

### There is a Wondrous Story

There is a Wondrous Story  
That often has been told,  
So full of grace and glory,  
So new and yet so old.  
And now again we tell it,  
So rich, so full, so free;  
And hosts unnumbered swell it  
Throughout eternity.

He who was rich in glory  
Came down to earth below  
In love, O wondrous story  
To lowest depths did go  
Jesus, the spotless Victim,  
Died there upon the tree,  
That we might know God's favour,  
From judgment ever free.

How dark that night of sorrow  
Through which the Saviour passed!  
And deep the stormy warers,  
And fierce the tempest blast!  
But O the mighty Saviour,  
Victorious o'er the grave,  
Has ris'n in glorious power,  
And lives the lost to save.

That darkness all is ended,  
That night forever past;  
To God's right hand ascended,  
He'll come again at last,  
To call His ransomed people  
To yonder glory bright—  
Made like His own image,  
To dwell with Him in light.

## Announcements

### BRETON VILLAGE D&W PARTNERING WITH FOOD PANTRY:

**October 27- November 7** Between October 27 and November 7, store guests who visit the Breton Village D&W will have the opportunity to donate \$1, \$5, \$10 or round up their purchase at any checkout lane. One hundred percent of all funds raised by the Breton Village D&W will go directly to our pantry, which will in turn have a huge impact on the food-insecure families we serve. The Breton Village D&W is located at 1814 Breton Rd SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

**WPA PROGRAM: November 11, 1:00 p.m., Chapel** The Westminster Presbyterian Adults (WPA) group is pleased to announce that we are resuming our monthly events in November! WPA is Westminster's fellowship ministry for older adults who may or may not be retired. Rev. Lynette Sparks will be our guest speaker for November, sharing the personal and professional experiences that led her to accepting the call to minister to the body of Christ at Westminster. Please contact the church office at 616-456-1456 to let us know by November 8 if you plan on attending.

**THE ELISABETH CIRCLE November 14, 1:00 p.m. Parlor** We will return to discussing *Holy Envy* by Barbara Brown Taylor. Chapter 8 is our starting point this fall. Elisabeth Circle always welcomes visitors and new members. Contact person is Lois Waldecker at (616)784-0900.

**CAMP HENRY ANNUAL LUNCHEON: Nov 19, Embassy Suites, downtown GR** We are excited to hold the Camp Henry Annual Luncheon in person this year at the Embassy Suites in downtown Grand Rapids with a livestream option as well. Register online for either option at <http://camphenry.org/2021luncheon>

**WPC FICTION BOOK GROUP: November 21, 7:00 p.m., Parlor** The WPC Fiction Book Group's meeting on November 21 will feature historical fiction at its best. We will be discussing *The Lost Girls of Paris* by Pam Jenoff, "a remarkable story of friendship and courage centered around three women and a ring of female secret agents during World War II, 1946." All are welcome.

**22ND ANNUAL INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION November 22, 7:00 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church** Join us for a celebration where many traditions and cultures will come together to give thanks for one another, even in the midst of uncertainty and division. A virtual freewill offering will be taken for the Afghan refugee resettlement work of Samaritas and Bethany Christian Services. To attend in-person, please register at: <https://bit.ly/interfaiththanks21>

**BEGIN ADVENT WITH FELLOWSHIP AND FUN! November 28, 9:45 a.m., Gym** All generations are invited to get together to make an Advent craft to use throughout the season. This year, we will coordinate with our church school theme of "Messengers of the Covenant" by creating a device from which to hang Christmas cards in our homes and by making and sending Christmas cards to our older church friends. We'll have fun, fellowship, and treats to take home! We'll meet in the gym at 9:45 on November 28. Questions? Ask Nancy Greidanus ([nancyg@wpcgr.org](mailto:nancyg@wpcgr.org)).

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### STEWARDSHIP UPDATE:



Thank you to all who have responded with generosity during Stewardship Pledge Season. Many have responded with increased pledges. We are grateful. To date, we have received \$615,578. Our Estimated Need for 2022 is \$1,585,000. Please join us by returning your pledge by mail, online at [westminstergr.org/support-our-ministry/](http://westminstergr.org/support-our-ministry/), or using the QR code. If you have questions, please reach out to Kathy Cisler ([kathrync@wpcgr.org](mailto:kathrync@wpcgr.org)) or Cheryl Bremer ([stewardshipelder@wpcgr.org](mailto:stewardshipelder@wpcgr.org)). We are counting on each other to be ALL-IN, as God has blessed us.

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## This Week's Calendar

### SUN. NOVEMBER 7

7:30 a.m. Strings Rehearsal.....Sanctuary  
 8:30 a.m. Worship Service.....Sanctuary  
 9:30 a.m. Church School and Children's Choirs..... Upstairs  
 9:40 a.m. Confirmation Classes..... Conference Room  
 9:45 a.m. Adult Faith Formation ..... Chapel  
 10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal..... Choir Room  
 11:00 a.m. Worship Service.....Sanctuary  
 1:00 p.m. Game On Board Game Group ..... Online  
 4:00 p.m. Porter Hills Communion ..... Porter Hills  
 4:00 p.m. HS Youth Group.....Youth Room  
 4:00 p.m. Chapel Singers.....Choir Room  
 5:00 p.m. MS Youth Group.....Youth Room  
 5:00 p.m. Kirk Singers.....Choir Room

### MON. NOVEMBER 8

11:00 a.m. Quilting Group.....Multipurpose Room  
 4:30 p.m. True North Board Meeting ..... Parlor  
 6:30 p.m. Administrative Deacons Meeting..... Parlor  
 6:30 p.m. Caring Deacons Meeting..... Online  
 6:30 p.m. Supporting Deacons Meeting..... Online  
 7:00 p.m. Facilities Committee .....Library

### TUES. NOVEMBER 9

7:00 p.m. FASD Support Group.....Library

### WED. NOVEMBER 10

6:30 a.m. Youth Prayer Breakfast..... Wolfgang's  
 5:30 p.m. Communications Committee.....Library  
 6:30 p.m. WM Gay Men's Chorus..... Choir Room  
 7:00 p.m. Stewardship Meeting..... Formation Suite

### THURS. NOVEMBER 11

10:30 a.m. Food Pantry ..... Front Lobby  
 12:45 p.m. WPA Event ..... Chapel  
 7:00 p.m. Membership Growth and Development..... Online  
 7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal..... Choir Room

### SAT. NOVEMBER 13

5:00 p.m. Confirmand and Session Tailgate..... Parking Lot  
 6:00 p.m. Meeting to Recieve Confirmands..... Dining Room

### SUN. NOVEMBER 14

8:30 a.m. Worship Service.....Sanctuary  
 9:30 a.m. Church School and Children's Choirs..... Upstairs  
 9:40 a.m. Confirmation Classes..... Conference Room  
 9:45 a.m. Adult Faith Formation ..... Chapel  
 11:00 a.m. Worship Service.....Sanctuary  
 12:20 p.m. Baptism Seminar ..... Formation Suite  
 4:00 p.m. HS Youth Group.....Youth Room  
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 7:00 p.m. Facilities Committee .....Library

### TUES. NOVEMBER 9

7:00 p.m. FASD Support Group.....Library

### WED. NOVEMBER 10

6:30 a.m. Youth Prayer Breakfast..... Wolfgang's  
 5:30 p.m. Communications Committee.....Library  
 6:30 p.m. WM Gay Men's Chorus..... Choir Room  
 7:00 p.m. Stewardship Meeting..... Formation Suite

### THURS. NOVEMBER 11

10:30 a.m. Food Pantry ..... Front Lobby  
 12:45 p.m. WPA Event ..... Chapel  
 7:00 p.m. Membership Growth and Development..... Online  
 7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal..... Choir Room

### SAT. NOVEMBER 13

5:00 p.m. Confirmand and Session Tailgate..... Parking Lot  
 6:00 p.m. Meeting to Recieve Confirmands..... Dining Room

### SUN. NOVEMBER 14

8:30 a.m. Worship Service.....Sanctuary  
 9:30 a.m. Church School and Children's Choirs..... Upstairs  
 9:40 a.m. Confirmation Classes..... Conference Room  
 9:45 a.m. Adult Faith Formation ..... Chapel  
 11:00 a.m. Worship Service.....Sanctuary  
 12:20 p.m. Baptism Seminar ..... Formation Suite  
 4:00 p.m. HS Youth Group.....Youth Room  
 4:00 p.m. Chapel Singers.....Choir Room  
 5:00 p.m. MS Youth Group.....Youth Room  
 5:00 p.m. Kirk Singers.....Choir Room

## This Week's Calendar

### SUN. NOVEMBER 7

7:30 a.m. Strings Rehearsal.....Sanctuary  
 8:30 a.m. Worship Service.....Sanctuary  
 9:30 a.m. Church School and Children's Choirs..... Upstairs  
 9:40 a.m. Confirmation Classes..... Conference Room  
 9:45 a.m. Adult Faith Formation ..... Chapel  
 10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal..... Choir Room  
 11:00 a.m. Worship Service.....Sanctuary  
 1:00 p.m. Game On Board Game Group ..... Online  
 4:00 p.m. Porter Hills Communion ..... Porter Hills  
 4:00 p.m. HS Youth Group.....Youth Room  
 4:00 p.m. Chapel Singers.....Choir Room  
 5:00 p.m. MS Youth Group.....Youth Room  
 5:00 p.m. Kirk Singers.....Choir Room

### MON. NOVEMBER 8

11:00 a.m. Quilting Group.....Multipurpose Room  
 4:30 p.m. True North Board Meeting ..... Parlor  
 6:30 p.m. Administrative Deacons Meeting..... Parlor  
 6:30 p.m. Caring Deacons Meeting..... Online  
 6:30 p.m. Supporting Deacons Meeting..... Online  
 7:00 p.m. Facilities Committee .....Library

### TUES. NOVEMBER 9

7:00 p.m. FASD Support Group.....Library

### WED. NOVEMBER 10

6:30 a.m. Youth Prayer Breakfast..... Wolfgang's  
 5:30 p.m. Communications Committee.....Library  
 6:30 p.m. WM Gay Men's Chorus..... Choir Room  
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