

## MORNING WORSHIP

### Learning Love

#### GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

##### In Preparation for Worship

*Then slowly he seemed to understand...Somehow he knew what to do.*

— Trina Paulus, *Hope for the Flowers*

##### Sharing the Life of Westminster

Susan Jennings

##### Opening Voluntary

"Jesus Loves Me"  
Chapel Ringers

arr. Martha Lynn Thompson

##### ++Call to Worship (Psalm 118)

One: With the Lord on our side, we do not fear.  
Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

**All: God's steadfast love endures forever!**

One: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.  
Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

**All: God's steadfast love endures forever!**

One: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

**All: God's steadfast love endures forever!**

##### ++Hymn 250

"In the Bulb There Is a Flower"

Promise

##### Prayer of Adoration

**Creator of goodness and joy, in this season of Easter rejoicing, we praise you for the blessing of this day and the promise of tomorrow. You are our help when evening comes and our joy in the morning. You call us to your abundant feast at the table of your Word. Open our hearts to your love that we may dwell ever more deeply in you. This is your day, and we will worship you, our Risen Lord. Amen.**

##### ++Response Hymn 246

"Christ Is Alive!"

Truro

**Christ is alive! Let Christians sing,  
The cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring.  
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**

##### ++Passing the Peace of Christ

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

**All: And also with you.**

##### Ministry of Music

"River in Judea"

arr. John Leavit

*Oftentimes I dream of music, of the river that freely flows.  
And it sings a song sweeter than honey, one everybody knows.  
Late at night, I hear it singing, then again when I wake at dawn.  
And it fills me up with hope and goodwill, the will to go on.  
There is a river in Judea that I heard of long ago.  
And it's a singing, ringing river that my soul cries out to know.  
I believe it keeps on trav'lin', but it rests on the Sabbath day.  
And the time when it pauses in stillness, I almost hear it pray.  
When I'm weary and downhearted, how I long for the song it sings,  
For the calm within its gentle blue, the peace that it brings.  
There is a river in Judea that I heard of long ago.  
And it's a singing, ringing river that my soul cries out to know.  
May the time not be too distant, when we meet by the river, meet by the shore.  
'Til then, dream of that wonderful day as we sing once more:  
There is a river in Judea that I heard of long ago.  
And it's a singing, ringing river that my soul cries out to know. Hallelujah!*

Kirk Singers

++ Stand in body or in spirit

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"My God Is with Me"

Mark Patterson

*My God is with me wherever I go. My God is with me, I am never alone.  
Early in the day and late at night, my Lord walks right by my side.  
When I am weak, God makes me strong; my Lord's with me all day long.  
My God is with me wherever I go. My God is with me, I am never alone.  
My God is with me!*

Cantus, Cherub, and Carol Choirs

##### Blessings with Younger Disciples

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

John 21:1-19

New Testament p. 115

One: The Word of the Lord.  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

##### Sermon

"Learning Love"

Rev. Jen Porter

#### RESPONDING TO THE WORD

##### ++Affirmation of Faith {from "A Brief Statement of Faith (Presbyterian Church USA)"}

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

**With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

##### Offering Our Lives

Offertory:

"Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me"

arr. K. Lee Scott

*Gracious spirit, dwell with me, I would gracious be;  
Help me now thy grace to see, I would be like thee;  
And, with words that help and heal, thy life would mine reveal;  
And, with actions bold and meek, for Christ, my Savior speak.  
Truthful spirit, dwell with me, I would truthful be;  
Help me now thy truth to see, I would be like thee;  
And, with wisdom kind and clear, thy life in mine appear;  
And, with actions neighborly, speak Christ's sincerity.  
Holy Spirit, dwell with me, I would holy be;  
Show thy mercy tenderly, Make me more like thee;  
Separate from sin, I would and cherish all things good,  
And whatever I can be give him who gave me thee.  
Mighty spirit, dwell with me, I would mighty be;  
Help me now thy power to see, I would be like thee;  
'Gainst all weapons hell can wield, be thou my strength and shield;  
Let thy word my weapon be, Lord, thine the victory.  
Gracious spirit, dwell with me, I would be like 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!**

##### The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

*For those worshiping in the sanctuary, we invite you to come forward down the center aisle to receive the communion elements. If you are sitting in a side section of pews, first please make your way to the back of the center aisle and proceed forward. All bread is gluten-free. When you have partaken of the elements, you may place your used cup in the baskets as you return to your seats by way of the side aisles. If you would like the elements brought to you, please raise your hand and a server will bring them to you. Children are welcome to participate in this sacrament.*

##### 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.**

##### The Words of Institution

##### Communion of the People

##### Prayer of Response

**Giving God, Living Lord, you have fed us with your Word. You have poured out your love that we might live. We thank you, for we have tasted your goodness. Fed, we are strengthened; filled, we are renewed to share your bread of heaven with our hungry world. Amen.**

#### GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

##### ++Closing Hymn 490 "Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters"

Beach Spring

##### ++Charge and Benediction

##### Closing Voluntary

"Christ Is Arisen"

J.S. Bach

#### CONGREGATIONAL 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.*

"Jesus Loves Me," "River in Judea," "My God Is with Me," "Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me" used by permission under ONE LICENSE, License #724668-A. All rights reserved.

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**AHEAD IN WORSHIP**

**May 8 – Celebration of New Members  
Sift through the Noise**

Rev. Lynette Sparks  
John 10:22-30  
Music: Hannah Nelson, Clarinet  
Linda Nelson, Violin  
Lee Copenhaver, Cello  
Sanctuary Choir

**May 15 – Baptism Sunday  
Who Are We That We Could Hinder God?**

Rev. Lynette Sparks  
Acts 11:1-18  
Music: Sanctuary Choir

**Upcoming in Adult Faith Formation**

Offerings begin 15 minutes after the service concludes.

**May 1: Mental Health Awareness.**

Mental health professionals from our congregation join us for conversation and to answer questions as we step into Mental Health Awareness month.

**May 8: No Adult Faith Formation**

**May 15 & 22: Matthew 25**

With the PC(USA), Westminster's leadership is actively exploring how our denomination's Matthew 25 initiative fits with our ministry. We already live out much of its heart. How can it help to further call us into faithful ministry and engagement in the world around us? This conversation offers the opportunity for congregation members to learn about what the Matthew 25 initiative is as we anticipate further study in the months ahead. Led by a team of church elders, members, and Rev. Lynette Sparks.

**PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

Preacher ..... Rev. Jen Porter, Associate Pastor  
Liturgists ..... Susan Jennings, Pastoral Care, Membership, and Mission  
..... Nancy Greidanus, Minister for Children and Their Families  
Musicians ..... Helen Hofmeister, Minister of Music  
..... Cantus, Cherub, and Carol Choirs  
..... Emma Taranko, Children's Choir Director  
..... Chapel and Kirk Singers  
..... Sanctuary Choir  
..... Janlee Richter, Accompanist  
Ushers..... Team B  
..... Bernie and Kathy Smith, Bill and Roleen Westfall  
..... Gordon Griffin, David Abbott, Chris Mayhew, Randy Block  
Acolytes..... Emma and Katie Kloostra  
Worship Center 1 .....Katie Prince  
Worship Center 2..... Tim Born  
Nurturing Center ..... Heidi McPheeters and Sam Baker

**Welcome to Westminster**

**MASKING UPDATE**

Based on the most current guidance from the CDC, local vaccination rates, and the continued, significant decline in local COVID-19 case numbers, the Way Forward Committee has decided that masking in our facilities is now optional, including in Sunday worship.

**MEMBERSHIP**

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. 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.

**YOUTH**

If you would like more information about youth ministry, please contact our Interim Lead Youth Coordinator Christy Roosien at [christyr@wpcgr.org](mailto:christyr@wpcgr.org). To sign up for updates via email from our youth program, email [emmar@wpcgr.org](mailto:emmar@wpcgr.org).

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



*Learning Love*

**THIRD SUNDAY  
OF EASTER**

**MAY 1, 2022  
10:00 A.M.**

# Announcements

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**WALK FOR GOOD FOOD: Sunday, May 1, 11:30 a.m.** Join us today to raise awareness and money for accessible food for West Michigan and our food pantry. Join the team, the Westminster Walkers, as we walk to Cherry Park for a picnic after worship. All ages are encouraged to participate!

**MINDFULNESS AND SELF-COMPASSION CLASS: Thursdays, April 7-May 12, 1-3 p.m., Multipurpose Room** Carol Hendershot, Certified Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction Instructor, is leading a free, six-week Mindfulness course. Sign up at <https://forms.gle/qpVFWn7bgHbXHhTc9>. With any questions, contact Rev. Jen Porter at [jenp@wpcgr.org](mailto:jenp@wpcgr.org).

**WPA BUS TRIP: Thursday, May 12** WPA is pleased to announce that our spring bus trip is returning! We'll be traveling to South Bend, IN to tour the South Bend Chocolate Factory, have lunch at PEGGS restaurant, and explore the National Studebaker Museum for the fee of \$10. Fliers with details of the trip and registration form are available at the information desk or on the website at [westminstergr.org/adult-faith-formation/wpa-bus-trip/](http://westminstergr.org/adult-faith-formation/wpa-bus-trip/). Registration deadline is May 8, 2022.

**ELISABETH CIRCLE: May 17, 1:00 p.m., Parlor** Elisabeth Circle will celebrate its end of season meeting on May 17. We invite you to bring your own lunch, socialize, and select a book for fall. New members and visitors are always welcome. Contact Lois Waldecker at 616-784-0900 with any questions.

**TRINITY MENTAL HEALTH EVENT: May 21, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church** During May, Mental Health Awareness Month, we are collaborating with Trinity Lutheran on a "Minding Your Mind" co-hosted mental health event. Temple Emanuel and At-Tahweed Islamic Cultural Center, our interfaith partners, have also been invited to participate. Childcare is provided for children under 6-years-old and there is no cost to participate. Any donations for the event will go to our Westminster Mental Health Fund. Participants will gather for a presentation and then choose two breakout sessions to participate in. The event will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church. Any inquiries or questions can go to Susan Jennings or Rev. Jen Porter. Register at <https://bit.ly/52122mindyourmind>.

**WESTMINSTER CAMP 2022: September 1-4, 2022** Absolutely everyone is welcome! Camp 2022 begins in the late afternoon of Thursday, September 1, and culminates with worship and camp activities on Sunday, September 4. Camp provides time for spiritual, mental, emotional, physical, and communal joy. Contact Nancy Greidanus at [nancyg@wpcgr.org](mailto:nancyg@wpcgr.org) if you have questions. Visit [westminstergr.org](http://westminstergr.org) to register.

**SEARCH FOR MINISTER WITH YOUTH/YOUNG ADULTS:** If you know of someone who might be a strong candidate for our Minister with Youth and Young Adults position or know someone who might know of potential candidates, please share their names and contact information with Rev. Lynette Sparks at [lynettes@wpcgr.org](mailto:lynettes@wpcgr.org) or Karyll Russell, search committee chair, at [mattandkaryll@hotmail.com](mailto:mattandkaryll@hotmail.com).

# This Week's Calendar

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## SUN. MAY 1

- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service .....Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour ..... Gathering Place
- 11:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation ..... Chapel
- 11:15 a.m. New Member Orientation ..... Various Locations
- 11:30 a.m. Walk for Good Food and Picnic ..... Cherry Park
- 1:00 p.m. Game On Board Game Group..... Online

## MON. MAY 2

- 11:00 a.m. Quilting Group .....Multipurpose Room
- 1:30 p.m. Spiritual Formation Group ..... Library
- 5:15 p.m. Deacon Moderators ..... Online
- 7:00 p.m. Session.....Chapel, Online

## TUES. MAY 3

- 6:00 p.m. WCDC Staff House Meeting ..... Conference Room

## WED. MAY 4

- 6:30 a.m. Youth Prayer Breakfast ..... Wolfgang's
- 1:30 p.m. Exploring Faith Book Group .....Parlor
- 1:30 p.m. Together West Michigan..... Library
- 6:00 p.m. West Michigan Gay Men's Chorus ..... Choir Room

## THURS. MAY 5

- 10:30 a.m. Food Pantry .....Front Lobby
- 1:00 p.m. Self Compassion Class .....Mulitpurpose Room
- 7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal ..... Choir Room

## SUN. MAY 8

- 9:00 a.m. Session Meeting.....Parlor
- 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal ..... Choir Room
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service .....Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour ..... Gathering Place

# Standing Together Mental Health Event at Trinity Lutheran

## MINDING YOUR MIND:

Staying Centered in Today's World

Saturday, May 21, 2022

8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The best gift you can give yourself is care for your mind, body, and spirit. Please join our interfaith community for a morning of mental health awareness and connection. Come and engage in a collaborative space focused on having open, honest conversations about mental health. Learn ways to stay centered in today's world and how to value your mental health. Together we will explore more about caring for our minds individually and collectively.

Our Keynote speaker is Dr. Cynthia Kok, MSW, PhD. She will be presenting on mental wellbeing, destigmatizing mental illness, and coping with today's stressors. Dr. Kok is a licensed psychologist in Grand Rapids and has extensive experience in psychotherapy and education. After this general session, attendees will select two breakout sessions.



This event is provided at no cost to you by Trinity's Health Ministry Team and Westminster's Mental Health Panel. Donations will be accepted for the Molhoek-McPheeters Fund through Westminster. This fund provides financial support for people who may need assistance covering the cost of outpatient mental health services.

**Contact Rev. Jen Porter at [jenp@wpcgr.org](mailto:jenp@wpcgr.org) or Susan Jennings at [susanj@wpcgr.org](mailto:susanj@wpcgr.org) with any questions.**

Visit [westminstergr.org](http://westminstergr.org) for a link to register or return this form to the office or church offering box:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mark your top two choices for breakout sessions

- Therapy 101 - Corina Dulecki, LMSW*
- Understanding Anxiety and Depression - Jim Bottenhorn, LLP*
- Strategies and Tips for Mental Health Care - Caroline Hall*
- Teen concerns: For Kids and Adults - Kelli Hoffman, LLPC*
- Walking a Labyrinth - Gale Volkerding, LMSW*
- Zen Doodling - Andrea Niall Alderink, educator*

# Westminster Camp 2022

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

No matter your age or particular interests, camp has something wonderful for you. Join us as we explore Camp Henry's summer theme: "Re-Shaped." We will deepen relationships with our church family in the beautiful setting of Camp Henry with all it has to offer: accommodations for many different needs, food prepared for you, plenty of activities for body and soul, and space to relax in God's creation. Everyone is welcome, one day or all: September 1 - 4, Thursday evening through worship Sunday.

**Register at [westminstergr.org](https://westminstergr.org)**



**SEPT.  
1-4**

Questions?  
Contact Nancy  
Greidanus at  
[nancyg@wpcgr.org](mailto:nancyg@wpcgr.org)

