

## MORNING WORSHIP

*Who Are We That We Should Hinder God?*

### GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

#### In Preparation for Worship

*"In Christ's sight, there are no insiders and outsiders, for we are finally of one nature and one flesh and one grief and one hope."* –William Sloane Coffin

#### Sharing the Life of Westminster

Rev. Lynette Sparks

**Opening Voluntary** "Children of the Heavenly Father" *arr. John Ferguson*  
Helen Hofmeister, Organ

#### ++Call to Worship

Elder Linda Bieze

One: Praise the Lord, all the earth!

**All: Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise the Lord in the heights.**

One: Praise the name of the Lord, and the Lord's glory shall be praised,

**All: for people near and people far, for people present and people to come, for the young and for those wise with age.**

One: Come, let us praise the Lord.

**All: Come, let us worship God.**

#### ++Hymn 610 "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" *Azmon*

#### Prayer of Adoration

**We praise you, O God, for all the things we can see, and sometimes understand: the sun, moon and stars, the clouds, and changing weather. We praise you, O God, for all the things that we cannot see or understand: the outer galaxies, the heavenly choirs, and your eternal realm. We praise you O God, for all the things in life that we experience: the created world, people of all ages and circumstances, playful expressions of your divine creativity. We join in their eternal chorus of praise to you, O God, whose name is glorious, and whose ways are holy. Amen.**

#### ++Response Hymn 246 "Christ Is Alive!" *Truro*

*(stanza 1)*

**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 "Be Thou My Vision" *arr. Alice Parker*

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; nought be all else to me, save that thou art.  
Thou my best thought by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.  
Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
Thou my great Father, I thy true son, thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.  
Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise. Thou mine inheritance, now and always;  
Thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.  
High King of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

Sanctuary Choir

#### Sacrament of Baptism

Elder Tim Born and Nancy Greidanus

Receiving the Sacrament of Baptism today:

*Ames Everett Brown*, son of Annaliese and John Brown

*Madison Juliet Enzenberger*, daughter of Alissa and Wayne Enzenberger

*Torrey Laine Flietstra*, daughter of Jay and Kristi Flietstra

*Robert Shuart Hakim*, son of Emily and Andrew Hakim

*Arie Andrew Velting*, son of Martha and Brent Velting

#### Waters of Baptism

#### Response Hymn 486 "Child of Blessing, Child of Promise" *Stuttgart*

#### Reception into the People of God

One: These children are 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: Children 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 *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 Acts 11:1-18 *New Testament p. 130*

One: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

#### Sermon "Who Are We That We Should Hinder God?" *Rev. Lynette Sparks*

### RESPONDING TO THE WORD

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

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.**

**In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. Amen.**

#### ++Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer *Rev. Jen Porter*

**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: "The Lord Is My Light" *Peter Hallock*  
Psalms 27, 139, 63

*The Lord is my light, the refuge of my life and my salvation:  
Of whom then shall I be afraid?*

*If I take the wings of the morning, or go up into heaven,  
Your right hand will hold me.*

*In the shadow of your wings I will rejoice and bless your holy name;*

*And I will sing of your Glory, O Lord my strength,*

*As long as I live.*

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: Generous and giving God, we offer our gifts this day as those who have received so much more. You give yourself to us; you offer all of creation to meet our needs for food and shelter; you offer your love to all. You give us the repentance that leads to life, and all our giving pales by comparison. Take and use these gifts for your purpose in the world, so that your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. We pray in the name of our Risen Lord. Amen.**

### GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

#### ++Closing Hymn 485 "We Know That Christ Is Raised" *Engelberg*

#### ++Charge and Benediction

**Closing Voluntary** "Today the Son of God Triumphs" *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.*

*"Children of the Heavenly Father," "Be Thou My Vision," and "The Lord Is My Light" used by permission, etc. used by permission under ONE LICENSE, License #724668-A. All rights reserved.*

**AHEAD IN WORSHIP**

**May 22 – Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Rev. Kyle Kooyers  
Music: Sanctuary Choir, Orchestra  
Missa Brevis K.275 W.A. Mozart

**May 29 – Seventh Sunday of Easter**

**Worship in the Sanctuary**

Rev. Jen Porter  
Music: Sanctuary Choir

**Worship at Camp Henry**

Sara Zallar, Preacher  
Music: Janlee Richter

**Upcoming in Adult Faith Formation**

Offerings begin 15 minutes after the service concludes.

**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.

*The flowers in the sanctuary this Sunday are given by the Enzenberger family in loving memory of Aunt Julie Johanna Enzenberger.*

**PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY’S SERVICE**

Preacher ..... Rev. Lynette Sparks, Senior Pastor  
..... Rev. Jen Porter, Associate Pastor  
Liturgists ..... Linda Bieze, Clerk of Session  
..... Nancy Greidanus, Minister for Children and Their Families  
..... Tim Born, Elder for Children Ministries

Musicians ..... Helen Hofmeister, Minister of Music  
..... Sanctuary Choir  
..... Janlee Richter, Accompanist

Ushers..... Team B  
..... Bernie and Kathy Smith, Gordon Griffin, Stephen Marshall  
..... David Abbott, Randy Block, and Chris Mayhew

Worship Center 1 .....Katie Prince  
Worship Center 2..... Lisa Smith and Rowen Heethuis  
Nurturing Center .....Amanda Stek

**Welcome to Westminster**

**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!

**MASKING**

Based on the most current guidance from the CDC, the Way Forward Committee has decided that masking in our facilities is optional, including in Sunday worship.

**ASSISTANCE**

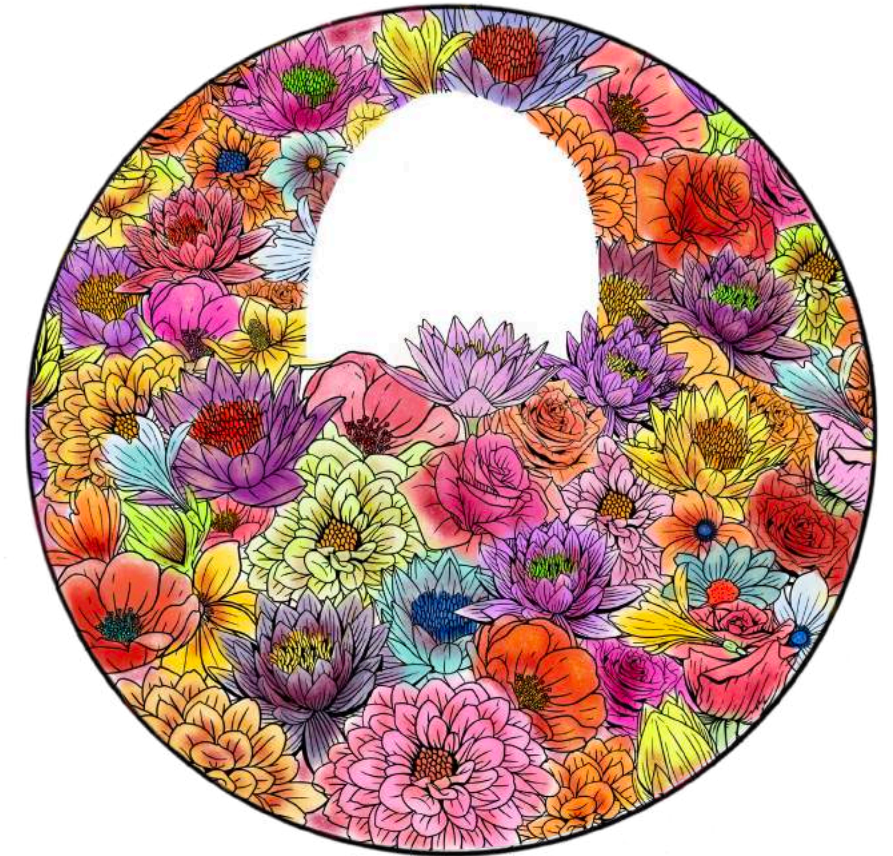
If you’d like a large-print bulletin or a hearing device, please ask one of the ushers at a Sanctuary entrance. For T-loop hearing assistance, set your hearing aid to T.

**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).



*Who Are We That We Should Hinder God?*

**FIFTH SUNDAY  
OF EASTER**

**MAY 15, 2022  
10:00 A.M.**

# Announcements

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**BAPTISMAL FONT:** Our historic baptismal font has been in continuous use since 1887, making it 135 years old. The first baby baptized in the font was Oden Hughart Howard on July 17, 1887. His grandmother Jane Alanson Howard gave the font in celebration of her grandson's baptism. One can't help but wonder how many worshipping with us this morning were baptized in this font.

**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. 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. Any inquiries or questions can go to Susan Jennings or Rev. Jen Porter. Register at <https://bit.ly/52122mindyourmind>.

**MOZART MUSIC May 22, 10:00 a.m.** The Sanctuary Choir will present the Missa Brevis in B-flat Major K. 275 by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791). This mass was written in either 1772 (he would have been 16!) or 1777. The music is both cheerful and serious and reflects the gravity of the text, especially in the Credo movement. It ends with a chorus, "Grant Us Peace," that alternates with soloists.

**WORSHIP AT CAMP HENRY: May 29, 10:00 a.m.** In addition to worship in the Sanctuary, we will also hold a worship service at Camp Henry, with Sara Zallar preaching. We look forward to inviting the lake communities around Camp Henry to worship with us.

**WESTMINSTER CAMP 2022: September 1-4, 2022** 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.

**CALL FOR GRADUATES:** If you or someone you know is a graduate this year, please share your name and where you're graduating from with Emma Richter, our communications manager, at [emmar@wpcgr.org](mailto:emmar@wpcgr.org) or 616-717-5544. We will celebrate our graduates in the bulletin in the next couple of weeks.

**ALMA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:** Hey there seniors, transfer students and parents. Go to Alma's website at [alma.edu](http://alma.edu) to see the wonderful educational opportunities available there. The Florence and Minnie Behl Scholarship to Alma is a program available to Westminster members (approximately 10% of tuition, room and board, books and fees) or relatives of members (approximately 5% of the same amounts). If you are interested, contact Angie Kelley at [angiek@wpcgr.org](mailto:angiek@wpcgr.org) or Mary Carrington at [mwc545@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mwc545@sbcglobal.net) for more information. Go Scots!

**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).

**Donations:** Donations can be made by scanning the QR code on this page, through our secure online giving site, or by check sent to the church office. If you have questions about how to give to the church, please email [angiek@wpcgr.org](mailto:angiek@wpcgr.org) or call (616) 717-5533.



# This Week's Calendar

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## SUN. MAY 15

- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service..... Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour .....Gathering Place
- 11:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation.....Chapel

## MON. MAY 16

- 9:00 a.m. Sandwich Brigade.....Dining Room
- 11:00 a.m. Quilting Group ..... Multipurpose Room
- 6:00 p.m. Mission Partnerships Meeting.....Hybrid, Library
- 6:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting..... Hybrid, Parlor

## TUES. MAY 17

- 1:00 p.m. Elisabeth Circle..... Parlor
- 5:00 p.m. Sandwich Brigade Meeting.....Online
- 7:00 p.m. Nominating Committee..Hybrid, Conference Room

## WED. MAY 18

- 6:30 a.m. Youth Prayer Breakfast ..... Wolfgang's
- 4:00 p.m. Personnel Committee.....Online
- 6:00 p.m. West Michigan Gay Men's Chorus..... Choir Room

## THURS. MAY 19

- 10:30 a.m. Food Pantry..... Front Lobby
- 6:30 p.m. Faith Formation Committee ..... Online
- 7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal..... Choir Room

## SAT. MAY 22

- 8:30 a.m. Minding Your Mind Event..... Trinity Lutheran
- 9:30 a.m. Dress Rehearsal..... Choir Room, Sanctuary

## SUN. MAY 22

- 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal..... Choir Room
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service..... Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour .....Gathering Place
- 11:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation.....Chapel

**Welcome to our new members that were officially received into membership on Sunday, May 8! We look forward to getting to know them and the work we will do together as a community of faith.**



Joshua & Shanna Corner



Julius Henderson



Perry Krumpolz



Brenna Threatt



Rachel Woodward