

MORNING WORSHIP

Learning Love Pt. 2

GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

In Preparation for Worship

"We can discover who we are, where we are going, how to get there, how to be animated by singing the songs of the soul along the way, and how to live."

— Francis Dorff

Sharing the Life of Westminster

Rev. Jen Porter

Opening Voluntary "Allegro" from Divertimento No. 4

W.A. Mozart

Linda Nelson, Violin

Hannah Nelson, Clarinet

Lee Copenhaver, Cello

++Call to Worship (Psalm 118)

One: We gather together in the presence of our Shepherd God,

All: who calls us each by name,

One: who restores our souls,

All: who leads us in the way of righteousness,

One: and whose goodness and love never stop pursuing us.

All: This is the God we have come to worship!

++Hymn 301

"Let Us Build a House"

Two Oaks

(stanzas 1, 2, 4)

Prayer of Adoration

Rev. Kyle Kooyers

Surprising God, in the resurrection of Jesus Christ you make all things new. Long ago, you called your church to a love beyond all social and cultural differences and gave them the gift of your Holy Spirit. You call us to that same spirit of openness and call us to enact that same love in your Spirit. We give praise for this new day in which we can build a house where love can dwell and where all are welcome in your name. Amen and Alleluia!

++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 "Larghetto" from Divertimento No. 4

W.A. Mozart

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

Psalm 23

Old Testament p. 501

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Learning Love Pt. 2"

Rev. Jen Porter

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Reception of New Members

The Meaning of Membership

Elder Jeanne DeWaard

Susan Jennings

Questions to the New Members

Questions to the Congregation

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Gracious God, by water and the Spirit, you claimed us all as your own, cleansing us from sin, and giving us new life. You made us members of your body, the Church, calling us to be your servants in this world. Renew in each of these new members the covenant you made in their baptism. Continue the good work you have begun in them. Send us all, by the power of your Spirit, to love and serve you with joy, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. In the name of Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray:

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.

Charge

Focus on Mission: Cuba

Cuba Team

Offering our Lives

Offertory:

"The Lily of the Valley" African-American Spiritual
arr. Wendell Whalum

He's the Lily of the valley. Oh, my Lord.

I've never been to heaven but I've been told, oh, my Lord.

That the streets up there are paved with gold, oh, my Lord.

What kind of shoes are those you wear? Oh, my Lord.

That you can walk up in the air, oh, my Lord.

These shoes I wear are gospel shoes, oh, my Lord.

You can wear these if you choose. Oh, my Lord.

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.

Living Lord, you meet us in unexpected places and surprise us with the abundance of your love. Accept our offering for the good of the world as we joyfully give thanks for our life in you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

++Closing Hymn 547 "Go, My Children, with My Blessing" Ar hyd y nos

++Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary "Allegretto" from Divertimento No. 4

W.A. Mozart

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.

Our new members will be in a reception line in the Gathering Place after worship. Please stop by to greet and welcome them.

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AHEAD IN WORSHIP

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

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

May 22 – Sixth Sunday of Easter

Rev. Kyle Kooyers
Music: Sanctuary Choir, Orchestra

Upcoming in Adult Faith Formation

Offerings begin 15 minutes after the service concludes.

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 Rev. Kyle Kooyers, Parish Associate
..... Nancy Greidanus, Minister for Children and Their Families
..... Jeanne DeWaard, Elder for Social Justice
..... Susan Jennings, Minister for Pastoral Care, Mission, and Membership

Musicians Helen Hofmeister, Minister of Music
..... Linda Nelson, Violin
..... Hannah Nelson, Clarinet
..... Lee Copenhaver, Cello
..... 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 John Meyers
Worship Center 2..... Lisa Smith and Rowen Heethuis
Nurturing CenterMaggie Atwater and Amanda Schnepf

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. More information about worship and updates from the church can be found at westminstergr.org. You are welcome and celebrated here!

MASKING

Based on the most current guidance from the CDC, local vaccination rates, and the 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.

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. To sign up for updates via email from our youth program, email emmar@wpcgr.org.

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



Learning Love Pt. 2

**FOURTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER**

**MAY 8, 2022
10:00 A.M.**

Announcements

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/. Registration deadline is today, so register now to reserve your spot!

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>.

MOZART MUSIC May 22, 10:00 a.m. During the service on May 22, 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.

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 if you have questions. Visit westminstergr.org to register.

ALMA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM: Hey there seniors, transfer students and parents. Go to Alma's website at alma.edu to see the wonderful educational opportunities available there. The Florence and Minnie Behl Scholarship to Alma is a scholarship 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 or Mary Carrington at 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 or Karyll Russell, search committee chair, at mattandkaryll@hotmail.com.

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) 717-5533.



This Week's Calendar

SUN. MAY 8

- 10:00 a.m. Worship ServiceSanctuary
11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour Gathering Place

MON. MAY 9

- 9:30 a.m. Sandwich Brigade Dining Room
11:00 a.m. Quilting GroupMultipurpose Room
4:30 p.m. UCCF Meeting..... Conference Room
5:00 p.m. WCDC Families House Meeting Chapel
6:30 p.m. Administrative/Caring Deacons Parlor, Hybrid
6:30 p.m. Supporting DeaconsFormation Suite, Hybrid
7:00 p.m. Facilities Committee..... Conference Room

TUES. MAY 10

- 12:00 p.m. UCCF Listening Post LunchParlor
7:00 p.m. FASD Support Group Library

WED. MAY 11

- 6:30 a.m. Youth Prayer BreakfastWolfgang's
5:45 p.m. Communications Committee Conference Room
6:00 p.m. West Michigan Gay Men's Chorus.....Choir Room

THURS. MAY 12

- All Day WPA Bus TripSouth Bend
10:30 a.m. Food Pantry.....Front Lobby
1:00 p.m. Self Compassion ClassMulitpurpose Room
5:00 p.m. Technology Team Meeting..... Online
7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir RehearsalChoir Room

SAT. MAY 14

- 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Choir RehearsalChoir Room
6:30 p.m. Youth Group Overnighter..... Various Rooms

SUN. MAY 15

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