

MORNING WORSHIP
It's Not About the Fish—Part 1

GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

In Preparation for Worship

"Jesus knew that there is no substitute for the struggle in facing our fears, our shortcomings, and our mortality, and then realizing that God still loves us."

— Eric H.F. Law

Sharing the Life of Westminster

Rev. Lynette Sparks

Opening Voluntary "Scherzettino on an English Melody" David Blackwell

++Call to Worship (from Psalm 105)

Rachel Kamstra

One: Alleluia! Give thanks to the Lord! Praise God's name and make known God's deeds to all people.

All: For the Lord, our God, is faithful to a thousand generations.

One: Sing to God; sing praise and tell of all God's wonderful works.

All: Glory in God's holy name; let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice!

++Hymn 23 "God, You Spin the Whirling Planets"

Pleading Savior

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that we are not always faithful when you call us. Our reasons are many: we think we're not qualified; our lives are too full; or we are simply afraid of failing. We often forget that you call us to be ourselves in the places where our very self is what is most needed. Forgive our reluctance to open our hearts to others. Give us the grace to say "Yes" to your call, even now, as we offer our silent confession...

Silent Confession

Kyrie - Unison "Lord, Have Mercy" Lee J. Afdahl

Assurance of God's Grace

One: Forgiveness and mercy ceaselessly flow from the heart of God. This is good news!

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

++Response Hymn 817 "We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight" Dunlap's Creek

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 "Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel" arr. Leonard Van Camp

Jeff Wilkinson, Tenor

Josh Leckrone, Baritone

Blessings with Younger Disciples

Nancy Greidanus

(Children three years through fourth 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

Jonah 1:1-2:10

Old Testament p.859

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"It's Not About the Fish—Part 1"

Rev. Lynette Sparks

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

++Affirmation of Faith (from The Confession of 1967)

Rev. Kyle Kooyers

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

Prayers of the People and 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

"O Lovely Peace" from Judas Maccabaeus

G. F. Handel

Jeff Wilkinson, Tenor

Josh Leckrone, Baritone

++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.

Generous God, we give you thanks for all your blessings to us. Use these gifts we offer as a sign of your great love for the world, so that all may know and share the abundance of your grace; in your holy name we pray. Amen.

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

++Closing Hymn 724

"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

Angel's Story

++Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary

"Fanfare"

David Blackwell

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.

"Scherzettino," "Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel," and "Fanfare" used by permission under ONE LICENSE, License #724668-A. All rights reserved. "Kyrie" used with permission of Lee J. Afdahl

AHEAD IN WORSHIP

August 7

It's Not About the Fish! - Part 2

Rev. Lynette Sparks

Jonah 3:1-10

Music: John Schlafley, Tenor

August 14

Guest Preacher: Bryce Wiebe

Eric Tanner, Violin; Stacey Tanner, Cello

SUMMER BOOKS FOR CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

During the summer, children's ministry focuses on reading children's books that teach children how to apply biblical concepts to real world situations. Your children can join the children's centers during worship, or you can follow along with your children at home!

This week: *Norman Didn't Do It! (Yes, He Did.)* by Ryan T. Higgins

Next week: *The Bug Girl (a true story)* by Sophia Spencer and

Margaret McNamara

Leaders: Katie Prince and Alissa Enzenberger

Norman is a porcupine. Mildred is a tree. Norman and Mildred are best friends. Just the two of them. And only the two of them. But when a surprise pops up, life will never be the same again.

Ryan T. Higgins' signature wit, whimsy, and humor brilliantly explore the depths and complexities of friendship.

Activity: Children may pot a plant cutting and give it a name.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher.....Rev. Lynette Sparks, Senior Pastor
Liturgists..... Rachel Kamstra, Elder for Communications
..... Rev. Kyle Kooyers, Parish Associate
..... Nancy Greidanus, Minister for Children and their Families

Musicians..... Helen Hofmeister, Minister of Music
..... Jeff Wilkinson, Tenor
..... Josh Leckrone, Baritone

Ushers..... Team A
..... Mary Dirkse, Lou VanderHave, and Chuck Wylie
..... Bill Baguley, Tom Kormos, Jeanne Marshall,
..... Michael Marshall, Pete Persons, Bill and Carole Warren
..... Todd Helle, and Heather Lermont-Pape

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



Jonah in the Whale, Frank Wesley (1923-2002)

It's Not About the Fish—Part 1

SEASON OF
THE SPIRIT

JULY 31, 2022
10:00 A.M.

Announcements

FALL WORSHIP SCHEDULE: Given the current mix of in-person and online worship attendance, the Worship Committee has decided that this fall we will continue with our Sunday morning worship schedule of one service at 10 a.m. That will remain the schedule until in-person numbers increase enough to consider a change.

UPDATE ON THE SAMIMI FAMILY: The Samimi family—the refugee family that Westminster helps support—awaits their 3rd child due in September, so there is plenty of driving to appointments and grocery runs. Jawad and Yawar have each logged 17 hours of drivers training with Ron Toering so far this summer. This week they are driving with a professional instructor from Century Driving School. We anticipate both will take their road test by August 15. The children, Basmila and Nilofar, are enjoying the Michigan summer attending camps and riding their bikes. Please hold the family in your prayers as they continue to learn and adapt to their new life in Grand Rapids.

ASSISTANT FACILITIES MANAGER POSITION OPENING: We need your help finding an Assistant Facilities Manager! The primary focus of this full-time position is to serve as back-up to the facilities manager and to ensure that Westminster's facilities are properly maintained and cleaned to host events and programming. If you know someone who would be a good candidate for this role, please pass along the "Employment Opportunities" page on our website (under the "Get Involved" tab) or direct them to our Facilities Manager, Brad Hambelton, at bradh@wpcgr.org or 616-717-5536. Thank you for your help in finding someone to work in this vital role!

DID YOU KNOW? In 2016, after a year of research, the history of our stained-glass windows was compiled in a pamphlet which is available in the Gathering Place. Our windows are registered with the Michigan Stained-Glass Census. To enter their website go to our website, click on About and then click on Our Story. Our windows are among 100s of stained-glass windows in Michigan featured on this site.

FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED: The Food Pantry is asking for donations of cereal during the month of July. The Pantry is also low on plastic grocery bags. Items can be brought to the greeter's desk. Thank you!

CAMP HENRY 2023 REGISTRATION: Summer Camp registration for next year is now open! Sign up now at camphenry.org/summer-camp to reserve your spot for 2023.

RUN FOR CAMP 5K: October 15 The 2022 Run for Camp 5K is back again this fall at Camp Henry! We're excited to welcome runners and walkers back to Camp. Can't make it? No problem! Register for the Virtual option and you choose your place to rock the 3.1 miles! More details and sign up here: <http://camphenry.org/runforcamp>.

PARKING LOT GATES: Construction to install two parking gates has begun in our parking lot. Please consult the FAQ on the home page of our website or in the weekly email newsletter for more information.

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 or call (616) 717-5533.



This Week's Calendar

SUN. JULY 31

- 9:15 a.m. Baptism Seminar..... Parlor
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour.....Gathering Place

MON. AUGUST 1

- 1:30 p.m. Spiritual Formation GroupLibrary

WED. AUGUST 3

- 1:30 p.m. Exploring Faith Book Group Parlor

THURS. AUGUST 4

- 10:30 a.m. Food Pantry Front Lobby

SUN. AUGUST 7

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

Upcoming Events

MEET AND GREET WITH NEW MINISTER WITH YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

July 31 Would you like to meet Kat Jonker, our new Minister with Youth and Young Adults? Although she doesn't officially start with us until August 15, Kat will be available for a meet and greet during coffee hour immediately following the worship service. This opportunity is for anyone, whether or not you are a youth or young adult!

WESTMINSTER CAMP 2022: September 1-4, 2022, Camp Henry

No matter your age or particular interests, Westminster Camp has something wonderful for you. Join us as we explore our 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 on Sunday. Contact Nancy Greidanus at nancyg@wpcgr.org if you have questions. Visit westminstergr.org to register.