

MORNING WORSHIP  
It's Not About the Fish—Part 2

GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

In Preparation for Worship

"Do not ask the Lord to guide your footsteps if you are not willing to move your feet."  
— Anonymous

Sharing the Life of Westminster

Rev. Jen Porter

Opening Voluntary

"Humbly We Adore Thee"

arr. Eugene Englert

++Call to Worship

One: Praise the God of all creation.  
**All: Worship the One who calls us—**  
One: speaking with a different voice,  
**All: offering an unexpected invitation.**  
One: Celebrate the presence of our loving God.  
**All: Rejoice, the realm of God is near!**

++Hymn 435

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

In Babilone

Prayer of Confession

Cheri Reid

**Holy God, we would rather proclaim death to our enemies, than see them forgiven and redeemed. Forgive our hardness of heart, O God, and our reluctance to see your divine image in those who hate and despise us. Teach us to love our enemies, that our lives may proclaim your truth—that love is stronger than hate, and mercy is greater than vengeance. We pray in the name of the Prince of Peace.**

Silent Confession

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



Assurance of God's Grace (2 Corinthians 5:17-18)

One: Hear the Good News: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!  
**All: All this is from God, with whom we are reconciled through Christ. 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."**

++ Stand in body or in spirit

++Passing the Peace of Christ

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
**All: And also with you.**

Ministry of Music

"Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning" arr. K. Lee Scott  
John Schlafley, Tenor

Blessings with Younger Disciples

(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 3:1-10

Old Testament p.860

One: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"It's Not About the Fish—Part 2"

Rev. Lynette Sparks

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

++Affirmation of Faith (from Brief Statement of Faith, Presbyterian Church, USA)

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.**

**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.**

Offering Our Lives

Offertory

"Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God"

Carl Mueller

John Schlafley, Tenor

++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

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

**Holy God, we thank you for this feast of grace and life. As we have been served, help us to serve our neighbors. As we have been fed, help us to feed all who are hungry. As we have been loved, help us to love the world—because in Christ Jesus you have loved us. Amen.**

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

++Closing Hymn 340

"This Is My Song"

Finlandia

++Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary

"Earth and All Stars"

arr. John Ferguson

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.

"Humbly We Adore Thee," "Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning," "Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God," "Earth and All Stars" used by permission under ONE LICENSE, License #724668-A. All rights reserved.  
"Kyrie" used with permission of Lee J. Afdahl

AHEAD IN WORSHIP

**August 14**

Guest Preacher: Bryce Wiebe  
Music: Eric Tanner, Violin; Stacey Tanner, Cello

**August 21**

**Sacrament of Baptism**  
**It's Not About the Fish—Part 3**  
Rev. Lynette Sparks  
Jonah 4:1-11  
Music: Harper Davis, Soprano

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: *The Bug Girl (a true story)* by Sophia Spencer and Margaret McNamara

Next week: *The Belonging Tree* by Maryann Cocca-Leffler and Kristine A. Lombardi

Leaders: Deb, Gabe, and Mallory Larson

Real-life 7-year-old Sophia Spencer was bullied for loving bugs until hundreds of women scientists rallied around her. Now Sophie tells her inspiring story in this picture book that celebrates women in science, bugs of all kinds, and the importance of staying true to yourself. In preschool and kindergarten, Sophia was thrilled to share what she knew about grasshoppers (her very favorite insects), as well as ants and fireflies... but by first grade, not everyone shared her enthusiasm. Some students bullied her, and Sophia stopped talking about bugs altogether.

When Sophia's mother wrote to an entomological society looking for a bug scientist to be a pen pal for her daughter, she and Sophie were overwhelmed by the enthusiastic response—letters, photos, and videos came flooding in. Using the hashtag BugsR4Girls, scientists tweeted hundreds of times to tell Sophia to keep up her interest in bugs—and it worked! Sophia has since appeared on Good Morning America, The Today Show, and NPR, and she continues to share her love of bugs with others.

**Activity:** Create butterflies or other bugs.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher.....Rev. Lynette Sparks, Senior Pastor  
Liturgists.....Rev. Jen Porter, Associate Pastor  
.....Cheri Reid, Elder for Nominations  
Musicians.....Helen Hofmeister, Minister of Music  
.....John Schlafley, Tenor  
Ushers.....Team B  
.....Bernie and Kathy Smith, Gordon Griffin  
.....Stephen Marshall, Randy Block, and Chris Mayhew

**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).



*Jonah, John August Swanson*

*It's Not About the Fish—Part 2*

**SEASON OF THE SPIRIT**

**AUGUST 7, 2022**  
**10:00 A.M.**

# Announcements

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## **BRIEF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

**August 21 following worship in the Sanctuary** The Session has called a brief Special Meeting of the Congregation for Sunday, August 21 in the Sanctuary immediately following the morning worship service, for the purpose of electing nominees brought by the Nominating Committee to fill vacancies in the office of Elder and office of Deacon.

## **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](mailto:nancyg@wpcgr.org) if you have questions. Visit [westminstergr.org](http://westminstergr.org) to register.

**SAVE THE DATES!** As fall is approaching, please save the following dates for Westminster Presbyterian Adults (WPA) events in the next couple of months:

- **Thursday, September 8, 2022** - Our monthly meetings will resume with lunch and a rousing game of BINGO.
- **Wednesday, October 12, 2022** - Spend the day with us on a bus trip to Ludington that includes a visit to the Mason County Research Center, Port of Ludington Maritime Museum, and House of Flavors.

More information will follow in the coming weeks both in the bulletin and the website. Check it out!

**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>.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Westminster began in 1861 as new church development by the Grand Valley Presbytery. Twenty-five members from the First Presbyterian Church on the other side of the river were our founders. Ninety-one years later, Westminster sponsored new church development on the SE side of Grand Rapids. Westminster's organizational service was held on October 12, 1952. Of the sixty-five founding members, forty-four were from Westminster.

**ELISABETH CIRCLE:** The Elisabeth Circle has selected Wholehearted Faith by Rachel Held Evans as its study/discussion book for the 2022-2023 year. September 2022 will be our first fall meeting. Elisabeth Circle always welcomes new members and visitors. For information about purchasing the book or any other questions, please call Lois Waldecker at (616)784-0900.

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

**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. AUGUST 7

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

## MON. AUGUST 8

- 9:30 a.m. Sandwich Brigade .....Dining Room  
4:30 p.m. UCCF Board ..... Conference Room  
7:00 p.m. Facilities Committee ..... Conference Room

## THURS. AUGUST 11

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

## SUN. AUGUST 14

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

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## Announcements

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**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.

**FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED: CANNED MEAT AND SOUP** The Food Pantry is asking for donations of canned meat and canned soup during the month of August. The Pantry is also low on plastic grocery bags. Items can be brought to the greeter's desk. Thank you!

**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!

**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.