

MORNING WORSHIP

Musings from a Door

GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

In Preparation for Worship

"In the universe, there are things that are known, and things that are unknown, and in between them, there are doors." - William Blake

Sharing the Life of Westminster

Susan Jennings

Opening Voluntary "Around You, O Lord Jesus"

arr. Jonathan Reuss

++Call to Worship (from Psalm 24)

One: Lift up the gates of your soul; open the closed doors of your mind,

All: that the King of glory may come in!

One: Who is this King of glory?

All: The God of countless hosts, this is the King of glory!

++Hymn 33 "Praise Ye the Lord, God's Glories Show"

Llanfair

Prayer of Confession

Patient and loving God, we stand at the gate and peer through. We keep creating our own ways, believing that we know what is best, and we ignore the voice of the one Shepherd who will guide us to peace and hope. We wander aimlessly and then wonder why we get so lost. Forgive us, O Lord. Help us stop and listen to the Shepherd's voice. Take us in your hand, and guide us in your ways, as we offer our confession to you...

Silent Confession

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

Musical notation for the Kyrie - Unison "Lord, Have Mercy" with lyrics: Lord, have mer - cy up - on us, Christ, have mer - cy up - on us, Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

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."

++Passing the Peace of Christ

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

All: And also with you.

Ministry of Music "Prelude in E major, Largo, op. 28 no. 9"

Frederic Chopin

Janlee Richter, Piano

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

Psalm 121

Old Testament p. 571

John 10:1-10

New Testament p.103

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Musings from a Door"

Rev. Linda Knieriemen

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

++ Affirmation of Faith (A New Creed, United Church of Canada)

We are not alone. We live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Amen.

Offering Our Lives

Offertory

"A Gaelic Blessing"

John Rutter

Janlee Richter, Piano

++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, giver of bread and cup, send us from your table in confidence that we are your own children born of your Spirit. We are fed at your table, filled with your grace, sent to speak your truth and offer your love to the world in Christ's name. Amen.

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

++Closing Hymn 451 "Open My Eyes, That I May See"

Open My Eyes

++Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary

"Built on a Rock"

arr. Edwin T. Childs

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.

AHEAD IN WORSHIP

September 11
Fall Kick-off Sunday with Brunch Following
Seeing through Matthew 25

Rev. Lynette Sparks
Matthew 25:31-46
Music: Sanctuary Choir

September 18

Do You Love Me?

Rev. Lynette Sparks
John 21:15-19
Music: Sanctuary Choir
Cheri Reid, 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: *It Fell from the Sky* by the Fan Brothers
Next week: *The Story of Ferdinand* by Munro Leaf

Leaders: Erin Molhoek and Coreen Hausig

It fell from the sky on a Thursday. None of the insects know where it came from, or what it is. Some say it's an egg. Others, a gumdrop. But whatever it is, it fell near Spider's house, so he's convinced it belongs to him. Spider builds a wondrous display so that insects from far and wide can come look at the marvel. Spider has their best interests at heart. So what if he has to charge a small fee? So what if the lines are long? So what if no one can even see the wonder anymore?

But what will Spider do after everyone stops showing up?

Activity: Children may create mini fun parks from recycled materials for plastic creatures.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher Rev. Linda Knieriemen
Liturgist Susan Jennings, Pastoral Care, Mission, and Membership

Musicians..... Janlee Richter, Organ and Piano

Ushers..... Team C
..... Doug and Joanie Dowling, Keith Combs,
..... Kari and Chris Fuller, Ann and Jim Jarvis,
..... Kevin Larr, Rich Zimmerman, Sharon VanderWilp

ABOUT TODAY'S GUEST PREACHER:

Rev. Linda Knieriemen, a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, served as associate pastor at Westminster from 1995 to 2005 when she accepted a call to serve as Head of Staff/Senior Pastor in Holland, Michigan. Since her retirement in 2021 she has been volunteering at Holland's Community Action House Food Club, working two days a week at a gallery in downtown Holland. She is also trained, certified and practicing as a Death Doula. In her spare time, Wordle, Worldle, Nerdle, keep her mind exercised and Porter, a 7 year old springer spaniel assures she gets her steps in each day!

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!

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 Minister with Youth and Young Adults Kat Jonker at katj@wpcgr.org.



Musings from a Door

SEASON OF
THE SPIRIT

SEPTEMBER 4, 2022
10:00 A.M.

Announcements

WPA FALL LUNCHEON: September 8, Dining Room WPA is pleased to announce the return of our fellowship luncheons this fall. We'll start with registration and a punchbowl at 11:30 a.m., followed by lunch at noon. After lunch, we'll have a rousing game of bingo with prizes. There is no charge for this event. Please call the church office at 616-717-5529 or sign up online at <https://bit.ly/3JObjm>.

KICK-OFF SUNDAY BRUNCH: September 11, 11:15 a.m. Join us after worship for an all-church brunch to celebrate the start of fall and the program year! We'll introduce some staff at the brunch, you can sign up for children's programming, and middle and high school youth will begin youth group and choirs.

Dégagé Vouchers: September 11, 11:15 a.m. Dégagé vouchers will be available for purchase for \$2 each in the Gathering Place after worship next week. Members and friends of Westminster have offered these vouchers to folks asking for money; these vouchers can be used for services at Dégagé Ministries, including meals, storage space, haircuts, clothing, and more.

THIRD OF LIFE EVENT AT CENTRAL REFORMED CHURCH: September 12, 7:00 p.m., Central Reformed Church Author Jeff Haanen will share his insights on how the Christian faith gives us a fuller picture of work, rest, and fruitful service during retirement and throughout our lifetimes. The event is free and open to everyone!

THE YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY EVENINGS AT FOUNDERS: September 14, 7:00 p.m. A new group that is open to anyone and everyone old enough to buy a beer! We invite you to join us on the second Wednesdays of the month from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for fellowship with new and old friends. Come alone or bring someone with! We are excited to connect with you. No RSVP needed, but feel free to reach out to katj@wpcgr.org with any questions you have.

WESTMINSTER WINDS: We are excited to have the return of the Westminster Winds, under the direction of John Martin. Anyone who plays any instrument, wind or string, is invited to participate! Sign up at <https://bit.ly/3Au9kEK>

ELISABETH CIRCLE: September 20, 1:00 p.m., Parlor The Elisabeth Circle will meet to discuss *Wholehearted Faith* by Rachel Held Evans. We will cover the Forward, Introduction, Prologue, and Chapter 1. Elisabeth Circle always welcomes visitors and new members. Contact Lois Waldecker at (616)784-0900 with any questions.

WPA FALL BUS TRIP: October 12 We'll be traveling to Ludington to visit the new Mason County Research Center and the Port of Ludington Maritime Center, both of which have exhibits designed by our guest speaker, Valerie Van Heest, who is a shipwreck expert. Also included is a stop at the Ludington House of Flavors before heading back to Grand Rapids. All for the registration fee of \$10! Fliers with information on the trip and registration form are available at <https://bit.ly/3OneLuT>. Registration deadline for this trip is September 12, 2022.

RUN FOR CAMP 5K: October 15 The 2022 Run for Camp 5K is back 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>.

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. SEPTEMBER 4

- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service at Camp..... Camp Henry
- 10:00 a.m. Worship ServiceSanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour Gathering Place
- 12:00 p.m. Game On Board Game Group..... Conference Room

MON. SEPTEMBER 5

All Day Church Office Closed

TUES. SEPTEMBER 6

- 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting..... Hybrid, Chapel

WED. SEPTEMBER 7

- 6:30 a.m. Youth Prayer Breakfast Wolfangs
- 1:30 p.m. Exploring Faith Book Group Parlor
- 6:30 p.m. WM Gay Men's Chorus Choir Room

THURS. SEPTEMBER 8

- 10:30 a.m. Food Pantry Front Lobby
- 11:30 a.m. WPA Registration and Punch Bowl... Dining Room
- 12:00 p.m. WPA Luncheon..... Dining Room
- 5:00 p.m. Tech Team Meeting Online
- 6:45 p.m. Choir Coffee Hour Gathering Place
- 7:00 p.m. MGD Committee Offsite
- 7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal Choir Room

SUN. SEPTEMBER 11

- 9:15 a.m. 6-12 Grade Parent Info Meeting..... Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal Choir Room
- 10:00 a.m. Worship ServiceSanctuary
- 11:15 a.m. Kick-Off Brunch Dining Room
- 11:15 a.m. Youth Group and Youth Choir Various Locations
- 11:20 a.m. Westminster Winds..... Choir Room
- 1:30 p.m. Confirmation Classes Conference Room

Announcements

FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED: CANNED FRUIT, MEAT, AND SOUP: The Food Pantry is asking for donations of canned meat, soup, and fruit. 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: For more information, please visit the "Employment Opportunities" page on our website (under the "Get Involved" tab) or contact our Facilities Manager, Brad Hamblton, at bradh@wpcgr.org or 616-717-5536.

TOGETHER WEST MICHIGAN TRAINING OPPORTUNITY: If you're curious about broad-based organizing or want to learn how to be a leader in different issue areas, we invite you to the Broad-Based Organizing Training Friday, September 9, 6:00-8:30 p.m., and Saturday, September 10, from 9:00-4:00 p.m. at Park Congregational Church. For more information, contact Susan Jennings at susanj@wpcgr.org.