

MORNING WORSHIP

Hearts Wide Open

GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

In Preparation for Worship

“As long as we are able to be extravagant we will be hugely and damply extravagant. Then we will drop foil by foil to the ground. This is our unalterable task, and we do it joyfully.”

lassitude, rue, vainglory, fear, anxiety, selfishness.”

Their fragrance all the while rising from their blind bodies, making me spin with joy.

—Mary Oliver

And they went on. “Listen, the heart-shackles are not, as you think, death, illness, pain, unrequited hope, not loneliness, but

“When the Roses Speak, I Pay Attention”

Sharing the Life of Westminster

Rev. Jen Porter

Opening Voluntary “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” Johann Walther (1684-1748)

++Call to Worship Elder Dennis Delano-Taylor

One: We gather today bringing all that we are,
All: hearts wide open to receive healing and hope.
One: We worship today seeking mystery and meaning,
All: hearts wide open to receive wisdom and grace.
One: We run to meet Jesus, eager to be known,
All: hearts wide open to God’s transforming love.
One: We welcome Christ into our homes and lives,
All: hearts wide open to the world.

++Hymn 275 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" Ein' feste Burg

Prayer of Confession

God of mercy, we confess that we fail to see your image in every neighbor. We put labels on one another, but you call us by our names. We want you to confirm our prejudices, but you shatter them. We want you to bless only us, but you keep touching the ones we don’t trust or understand. We grumble at you, not sure that we can follow your way. Forgive us and make us new. Open our hearts to your grace upon grace...

Silent Confession

Kyrie - Unison “Lord, Have Mercy” Lee J. Afdahl

Musical notation for the Kyrie unison, including 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

One: We call to mind your promises and therefore we find hope: the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases. God’s mercies are new every morning. Believe the good news.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made whole. Thanks be to God!

++Response Hymn 716 "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending" Beach Spring

God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store, nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door: gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise; thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

++Passing the Peace of Christ

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

Ministry of Music

“Worthy!”

Mark Burrows

Worthy! I will live a life worthy of the calling I have received!

I will be tireless, I will be fearless, being my best to serve those in need.

Watching and waiting, hearing and helping, heeding the call to go where God leads.

Filled with a passion, filled with a purpose, filled with the power of God’s love.

Worthy of the calling I have received. God calls us all!

Chapel Singers

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

Luke 19:1-10

New Testament p. 82

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Hearts Wide Open"

Rev. Lynette Sparks

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Sacrament of Baptism

Receiving the Sacrament of Baptism today is Josh Walma.

Reception of New Members

The Meaning of Membership
Questions to the New Members
Questions to the Congregation
Charge

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.

Focus on Stewardship

Elder Tom Macholan

Offering Our Lives and Dedication of Stewardship Giving Intentions

As the offering is received, we invite you to participate in our stewardship dedication in one or more of the following ways: place your 2023 giving intention in the offering plate or bring it to the front of the Sanctuary and place it in a basket; if you have already turned in your giving intention, or would like to symbolize your intent to offer of yourself to God in other ways, please come forward and offer your intent to God as you touch one of the baskets.

Offertory

“Go and Tell John”

Lloyd Pfautsch

Based on Matthew 11:4-6

Go and tell John what you see and hear, that the blind recover their sight.

Go and tell John what you see and hear, that the deaf are able to hear.

Go and tell John what you see and hear, that the sick regain their health.

Go and tell John what you see and hear, that the dead are raised to life.

Happy is the one who comes to me.

Happy is the one who believes in me for they shall see God.

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.

Lord God, how can we thank you for such wondrous love? You have covered us with blessing and sustained us with hope. Most of all you have given us your very self for the life of the whole world. Hearts wide open in gratitude, we bring our gifts for the sake of those you love, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

++Closing Hymn 726 "Will You Come and Follow Me"

Kelvingrove

++Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” arr. John Leavitt (b. 1956)

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.

**PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

Preacher ..... Rev. Lynette Sparks, Senior Pastor

Liturgists ..... Rev. Jen Porter, Associate Pastor  
 ..... Dennis Delano-Taylor, Elder for Membership  
 ..... Nancy Greidanus, Minister with Children and Their Families  
 ..... Tom Macholan, Elder for Camp Henry

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

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

Worship Center 1 ..... Lisa Smith  
 Worship Center 2 ..... Chris Dugan  
 Nurturing Center ..... Katie Prince

**AHEAD IN WORSHIP**

**November 6**  
**Sent Out in Peace**  
**Heritage Sunday**

Daylight Savings Time Ends; Turn Clocks BACK One Hour  
 Rev. Lynette Sparks  
 Luke 10:1-12  
 Music: Cherub Choir, Sanctuary Choir

**November 13**  
**Sent Out in Boldness**

Rev. Lynette Sparks  
 Luke 18:1-8  
 Music: Carol Choir, Kirk Singers, Sanctuary Choir

**UPCOMING IN ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

**Getting Our Acts Together: An Inductive Bible Study**  
**Sundays, 11:15 a.m., Chapel, October 30 - November 20**

The first century was a tough time to be the church. Those who followed Jesus and the disciples had to navigate a very tense political landscape, economic and budget concerns, groups of people loyal to polarizing leaders, in-group and out-group dynamics, an uptick in community violence, questions of how to be good neighbors with the wider community, and a growing concern that the church may not even make it to the next decade. If that sounds familiar, then you're in luck! From the visionary author that brought you the acclaimed Gospel of Luke comes a sequel that is sure to inspire and challenge. Join us as we explore the Book of Acts, listening for how the wisdom of the early church might speak to us today. Led by Rev. Kyle Kooyers.

**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!

**ASSISTANCE**

If you'd like a large-print bulletin, 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](mailto:katj@wpcgr.org).



Artwork by Delia Venema

**HEARTS WIDE OPEN**

**OCTOBER 30, 2022**  
**10:00 A.M.**



**WE ARE A**  
**MATTHEW 25 Church**

Matthew 25:31-46 calls all of us to actively engage in the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities. Convinced by this passage, the Presbyterian Church (USA) decided to act boldly and compassionately to see our neighbors through Jesus' eyes and serve those who are marginalized or in need, by building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism, and eradicating systemic poverty.

This initiative and vision unite churches across the PC(USA), energizing our common mission to serve and embody the radical love of Jesus.

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# Announcements

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**D&W FRESH MARKET FUNDRAISER FOR THE PANTRY:** Between now and November 6, store guests who visit the D& W Fresh Market have the opportunity to donate \$1, \$5, \$10 or round up their purchase at any checkout lane, with all proceeds going to Westminster Presbyterian Downtown Food Pantry. Thank you to the @SpartanNash Foundation and to everyone who donates during the campaign to end hunger.

**CHURCH SCHOOL WORKSHOPS UPDATE:** **October 30 – November 20** For our next unit, we will be working with the story of God in the life of Joseph. Our focus is God is always with us. Our memory verse is Romans 8:28, “We know that in all things God works for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.”

**WPA LUNCHEON:** **Wednesday, November 9, 11:30 a.m.** Join us for the next WPA event and learn what it means to be a Matthew 25 church from Rev. Chrissy Westbury, Associate Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Kalamazoo and members of her congregation. They will be sharing what being a Matthew 25 church has meant to them over the past year. We'll start with registration and a punchbowl at 11:30 a.m., followed by lunch and the presentation, Living Matthew 25, at noon. WPA is Westminster's fellowship ministry for older adults, who may or may not be retired. There is no charge for this event. Sign up online by November 2 at <https://bit.ly/3Dh7MQ7> or call the church office at 616-717-5529.

**YOUNG ADULT UPDATE:** **November 9, 7:00 p.m.** We're changing things up! This month, meet us at Brewery Vivant. Look for our sign! We'll see you there! Reach out to [katj@wpcgr.org](mailto:katj@wpcgr.org) with any questions.

**THE ELISABETH CIRCLE:** **November 15, 1:00 p.m., Parlor** The Elisabeth Circle will meet to discuss Chapter 4 and 5 of Wholehearted Faith by Rachel Held Evans. The Elisabeth Circle always welcomes visitors and new members. Contact person is Lois Waldecker at (616) 784- 0900.

**SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR ADVENT ALL-CHURCH EVENT!** **November 27** After the service on November 27, we will have Christmas treats, create Advent crafts, and receive Advent devotional books written by members of Westminster and other downtown churches. Join us as we prepare our hearts and lives for Christmas!

**FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED:** The Food Pantry is looking for new and gently used hats, mittens, gloves, and scarfs. They are also in need of canned meat, soup, and fruit, as well as plastic grocery bags. Items can be brought to the greeter's desk.

**CHILDCARE PROVIDERS NEEDED:** If you would be willing to serve as a childcare provider in our Sunday morning nursery or on a weekday morning once a month, please contact Nancy Greidanus at [nancyg@wpcgr.org](mailto:nancyg@wpcgr.org).

**Donations:** Stewardship encompasses our thoughts and actions – our hearts and minds. We are deeply grateful for your HEARTS that are OPEN WIDE to giving of your time, talent, and financial resources to continue God's mission in this place at this time. If you have yet to fill out your 2023 Giving Intention card, please take some time this week to consider what your commitment will be as you prioritize your giving. You can also go online at [www.wpcgr.org/support-our-ministry/](http://www.wpcgr.org/support-our-ministry/) or scan the QR code below.



# This Week's Calendar

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## SUN. OCTOBER 30

- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service .....Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour ..... Gathering Place
- 11:00 a.m. Member Directory Photos..... Library
- 11:00 a.m. Montreat Parent Meeting.....Parlor
- 11:00 a.m. Youth Group and Choirs..... Various Locations
- 11:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation ..... Chapel

## MON. OCTOBER 31

- 8:30 a.m. Sandwich Brigade ..... Dining Room
- 10:30 a.m. Quilting Group .....Multipurpose Room

## TUES. NOVEMBER 1

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

## WED. NOVEMBER 2

- 6:30 a.m. Youth Breakfast ..... Wolfgangs
- 11:30 a.m. TWM Childcare Research Meeting..... Library
- 6:30 p.m. WM Gay Men's Chorus ..... Choir Room
- 7:00 p.m. Fear Not Book Group..... Parlor

## THURS. NOVEMBER 3

- 10:30 a.m. Food Pantry.....Front Lobby
- 7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal ..... Choir Room

## FRI. NOVEMBER 4

- 11:00 a.m. Ken Tiews Memorial Service.....Sanctuary
- 6:30 p.m. High School Overnighter ..... Various Locations

## SUN. NOVEMBER 6

- 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal ..... Choir Room
- 9:45 a.m. Dine with Nine ..... Gathering Place
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service .....Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour ..... Gathering Place
- 11:00 a.m. Youth Group and Choirs..... Various Locations
- 11:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation ..... Chapel
- 11:15 a.m. Westminster Winds..... Choir Room
- 1:30 p.m. Confirmation Class ..... Youth Room
- 4:00 p.m. Game On Board Game Group..... Conference Room