

MORNING WORSHIP

Beggars and Choosers

GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

In Preparation for Worship

"This is the scandal of the Gospel, the Incarnation of a woman-born God.... God became human to touch and be touched by the broken, bleeding, dead and dying and to be broken, bleed and die. And in so doing transformed that brokenness into a sacrament, body and blood, bread and wine, the shadow of death, grave-robbing resurrection." -Rev. Dr. Wil Gafney

Sharing the Life of Westminster

Rev. Jen Porter

As we prepare for worship, we are invited to be attentive to God's presence in our midst.

Opening Voluntary

"Andante"

César Franck (1822-90)

++Call to Worship

Rev. Jeff Chu

One: Praise God, all creation!

All: Praise God from the heavens; praise God in the heights!

One: Praise God, sun and moon; praise God, all you shining stars!

All: Praise God, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

One: Let them praise God's holy name, for God commanded and they were created.

++Hymn 805

"Come Sing to God"

Ellacombe

Prayer of Confession

Susan Jennings

Dear God, what have we done? What a mess we humans have made of things. What griefs we have caused through our sin! And what have we not done? We have hurt others through our neglect, and we have harmed through our thoughtlessness. We confess that we have not lived as you have called us to live—as your people, as people of courage, as people of love. Stir us out of our complacency. Trouble our hearts in the ways they need to be troubled. Remind us how to be peacemakers and hopemongers—and even just loving neighbors and good friends...

Silent Confession

Kyrie - Unison

"Lord, Have Mercy"

Lee J. Afdahl

Musical notation for the Kyrie Unison. It consists of two staves of music in G major and 4/4 time. The first staff starts with a fermata over the first measure, followed by notes for 'Lord, have mer - cy up - on us,'. The second staff continues with notes for 'Christ, have mer - cy up - on us, Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.'

Assurance of God's Grace

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: God has forgiven and reconciled us through Jesus Christ. Thanks be to God.

++Response Hymn 717 "For the Life That You Have Given" Pleading Savior

For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known, with these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own: here we offer, Lord, our praises; heart and mind and strength we bring; give us grace to love and serve you, living what we pray and sing.

++Passing the Peace of Christ

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

All: And also with you.

Ministry of Music

"O Rest in the Lord" Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)  
Cheri Reid, Soprano

Blessings with Younger Disciples

Nancy Greidanus

Children three years through third 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 30 Old Testament p. 505  
Mark 5:21-43 New Testament p. 39

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Beggars and Choosers"

Rev. Jeff Chu

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

++Hymn 817

"We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight"

Dunlap's Creek

++Affirmation of Faith ("Our Song of Hope," Reformed Church in America)

We sing to our Lord a new song;  
We sing in our world a sure hope:  
Our God loves this world,  
God called it into being,  
God renews it through Jesus Christ,  
God governs it by the Spirit.  
God is the world's true hope.

Come, Lord Jesus:

We are open to your Spirit.

We await your full presence.

Our world finds rest in you alone. Amen.

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.

Focus on Music

Elizabeth Topliffe

Offering Our Lives

Please take a moment to sign and pass the red friendship pad located in the pew, and take note of those worshiping next to you. We invite you to fill out any of the pew cards and place them in the offering plate.

Offertory

"Gentle Voice"  
Cheri Reid, Soprano

Lee Dengler (b. 1977)

++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.

Holy God, you promise that justice will roll down like water and righteousness like a mighty stream. Deepen our trust in your vision and bind our purposes to yours, that we may neither keep silent nor rest. We recommit ourselves this day to follow where you lead. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

++Hymn 329

"God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength"

Winchester Old

Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary

"Choral Song"

Samuel S. Wesley (1810-76)

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.

Worship liturgies adapted from Call to Worship Journal and re:Worship.  
"Gentle Voice" used by permission under ONE LICENSE, License #724668-A.  
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AHEAD IN WORSHIP

July 7

**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost  
Live into Hope**

Rev. Lynette Sparks  
1 Peter 1:3-9

Sarah Faasse & Carrie Ledet, Vocal Duet

July 14

**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost  
Shoots and Ladders**

Rev. Chrissy Westbury

Lake Michigan Presbytery, Associate Presbyter  
Matthew 13:24-30, Genesis 28:10-22  
Stacey Tanner, Cello

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher.....Rev. Jeff Chu, Guest Preacher

Liturgists .....Susan Jennings, Minister for Pastoral Care & Mission  
..... Rev. Jen Porter, Associate Pastor  
.....Nancy Greidanus, Minister with Children and their Families  
..... Elizabeth Topliffe, Music Minister Search Committee

Musicians..... Janlee Richter, Piano & Organ  
..... Cheri Reid, Soprano

Ushers..... Doug & Joanie Dowling, Keith Combs, Kari & Chris Fuller  
.....Ann & Jim Jarvis, Rich Zimmerman, Sharon VanderWilp

AV Team .....Ian Dengerink-Van Til, Rachel Kamstra, Deanna Clark

ABOUT THE GUEST PREACHER

Today we welcome Rev. Jeff Chu back to our pulpit. Jeff has lived in Grand Rapids since 2020 after graduation from Princeton Theological Seminary. Along with writing and teaching, he serves a number of congregations remotely exploring faith and story. He often lifts up our connection to land, faith, and food. Jeff was ordained this April as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the RCA.

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!

**ACCESSIBILITY**

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.

We have accessible, all-gender, companion bathrooms available off of the Dining Room.

**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 Hand at [kath@wpcgr.org](mailto:kath@wpcgr.org).

616-456-1456 / [westminstergr.org](http://westminstergr.org) / Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



Beggars and Choosers

SIXTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 30, 2024

10:00 A.M.



Actively Engaged in the World

Summer Books for Children's Worship

**Summer Worship Center for children ages 3 - those finished with 3rd grade**

During the summer months, we vary our curriculum to provide a time for children to apply biblical concepts to daily life situations by reading excellent children's illustrated books. Children will think and talk about how we should treat God's creation, each other, people who have lives that are unfamiliar to us; and what we can do to share God's love and beauty with others. We conclude our time together by lighting the Christ Candle and praying.

**This Week:** *The Good for Nothing Tree* by Levine and Sasso

**Next Week:** *Once Upon a Book* by Grace Lin and Kate Messner

Inspired by the parable of the Barren Fig Tree, *The Good for Nothing Tree* reminds us that the sweetest figs, like many other things, are worth waiting for. Not every tree—and not every child—grows at the same pace. Yet patience, care, and love can change everything, making what may appear "good for nothing" very good. A note about the parable's New Testament origins and a recipe are included.

**Activity:** Make and eat fig balls.

# Announcements

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**INTRODUCING OUR NEW MINISTER OF MUSIC:** The Music Minister Search Committee and the Personnel Committee are pleased to announce the appointment of Westminster's next Minister of Music, Robert S. Ragoonanan. He will join the staff beginning August 1, 2024. In his role, Robert will serve as the primary director and provide leadership for all musical activities of the church, including directing the Sanctuary Choir, Kirk Singers, and Chapel Singers, as well as sharing keyboard responsibilities with Staff Accompanist Janlee Richter. In addition to his musical skills, the Search Committee was especially impressed with Robert's sense of music as an expression of faith, his collaborative spirit, and his vision for inclusion and diversity in the music ministry. We look forward to welcoming Robert to the Westminster community!

**WELCOME TO TRAVIS!** Join us in welcoming our new Lead Facilities Technician, Travis Holwerda! Travis is a native Grand Rapidsian, a graduate of Grand Valley State University, and a father of four. He comes to us from the world of property management and general contracting with a keen sense for upkeep of historic structures. An avid traveler and adventurer, his former life before marriage and children was spent in the wilds of America from Alaska to Belize. Drawing from his time spent as a whitewater guide, a wilderness EMT, and the better part of a decade of back country problem solving and historic project management, there is no task too daunting, too large, or too small.

**VOLUNTEER AT DÉGAGÉ:** Dégagé Ministries is looking for kitchen volunteers to help serve warm, nutritious meals to their guests. Tasks will include putting previously prepared food in the oven, taking it out, and helping to serve meals. Heating instructions will be provided. Help is needed for the following kitchen shifts: Monday, Tuesday, and Friday lunches (11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.) and all Friday dinners (3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.) If you are interested in volunteering for a specific shift, please contact the volunteer coordinator at [volunteercoordinator@meltrotter.org](mailto:volunteercoordinator@meltrotter.org) and they will get you signed up. You will be an integral part of keeping the kitchen running and moving to serve the guests! Westminster also has a group that volunteers in the kitchen every other month on the second Sunday. If you'd like to be a part of the WPC group, contact Heather or Margaret at [degagedinners@wpcgr.org](mailto:degagedinners@wpcgr.org).

**PS(USA) GENERAL ASSEMBLY: June 25 - July 4** Rev. Lynette Sparks is serving as one of four commissioners from the Presbytery of Lake Michigan to the PC(USA)'s bi-annual General Assembly. She is serving on the Christian Formation Committee, which meets online from June 25-27, and then will travel to Salt Lake City for plenary sessions. Please keep the General Assembly in your prayers as they discern how God is calling the church in this season.

**S.H.O.E.S. SUMMER PROJECT:** Today is the last day to donate to the In the Image S.H.O.E.S. Program. Elementary students who may not be able to afford shoes may sign up at In the Image to receive a pair of new athletic shoes for school. You can donate by visiting [intheimage.org/shoes](http://intheimage.org/shoes).

**TEA FOR TWO:** Make a new friend at Westminster—virtually or in person. We will match you with someone who shares your meet-up preference and share their phone number or email address with you. Reach out and make a plan to get together digitally or in person. Visit our website to sign up.

**WESTMINSTER CAMP 2024: August 29-September 1** Enjoy some late summer days at the exciting and beautiful Camp Henry by joining your church family at Westminster Camp 2024. Visit our website to register.



**DONATIONS:** Donations can be made by scanning the QR code, through our secure online giving site, or by check sent to the church office. Email [angiek@wpcgr.org](mailto:angiek@wpcgr.org) or call (616) 717-5533 with questions.

# This Week's Calendar

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## SUN. JUNE 30

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

## THURS. JULY 4

All Day Church Office Closed

## FRI. JULY 5

All Day Church Office Closed

## SUN. JULY 7

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

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## From Kat & Sara—Youth Update

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The youth group built community in so many different ways this month. Highlights of our high school trip included learning about and doing justice work in Grand Rapids, and enjoying the beauty of Lake Louise Christian Community, which is affiliated with the United Methodist Church. Our middle school students backpacked fearlessly through intense rain on South Manitou Island this past weekend. Even with the weather we still hiked, swam, and kept our sense of humor! We are blessed with amazing leaders and volunteers. Please join us in thanking Pete Grayson, Brian Kamstra, Paul Faasse, Keith Lawrence, Ted Duncan, Matt Russell, Maria Schoon, Dave Engbers and Meredith Baker for joining the trips. A huge thank you as well to Amy and Dave Engbers for hosting the middle schoolers for a night, and to all the other WPC staff and members who jumped in to help with Engaging Grand Rapids earlier this month. All of this would not have been possible without the Holy Spirit's presence among us and our wider downtown community. What an unforgettable summer for WPCYG!