

MORNING WORSHIP
Building Buildings?

GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

In Preparation for Worship

"Above all, trust in the slow work of God.
We are quite naturally impatient in
everything to reach the end without delay.
We should like to skip the intermediate stages.
We are impatient of being on the way to
something unknown, something new."

—Teilhard de Chardin

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

"Someone's Praying, Lord"

setting J. A. Behnke

++Call to Worship

Elder Deb Kammer

One: In the narrow confines of our imagination,
All: You are the One that lifts our vision to the horizon.
One: In the shadows that cover us,
All: You are the One who shines light on our world.
One: In the confusion that surrounds us,
All: You are the chart and compass to find our way.
One: O Word of God Incarnate, we praise you!
All: We praise you—our vision, light, and guide!
One: Let us praise our God.

++Hymn 309

"Come, Great God of All the Ages"

Abbot's Leigh

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we too often settle for what is simply not You. We let society answer our questions. We confuse success with faithfulness. We reserve our hard work for the things that will get us ahead in this world. We wander and do not even notice. We neglect the path of love, generosity, and grace that you have set before us. Holy God, forgive us. In your mercy, hear our prayer...

Silent Confession

Kyrie - Unison

"Lord, Have Mercy"

Lee J. Afdahl

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 693 "Though I May Speak"

Gift of Love

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control;
our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
by this we worship, and are freed.

++Passing the Peace of Christ

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

All: And also with you.

Ministry of Music "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

Michael Schaefer, Accordion

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

2 Samuel 7:1-14a

Old Testament p. 281

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Building Buildings?"

Rev. Jen Porter

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

++Hymn 106

"Prepare the Way, O Zion"

Bereden väg för Herran

++Affirmation of Faith

We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another. Unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain.

This unity can be established only in freedom and not under constraint. The variety of spiritual gifts, opportunities, backgrounds, convictions, as well as the various languages and cultures, are by virtue of the reconciliation in Christ, opportunities for mutual service and enrichment within the one visible people of God.

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

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

Offertory

"La Valse"

Les Negresses Vertus

Michael Schaefer, Accordion

++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 have made us, redeemed us, and called us to your service. As we dedicate our offerings to you today, we also dedicate our lives to your vision for human life. Be our wisdom, be our guide, be our first thought, our only thought. Rule our hearts that we may go where you lead us, and walk by your steadfast love. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

++Hymn 317

"In Christ There Is No East or West"

McKee

Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary

"Someone's Singing, Lord"

setting J. A. Behnke

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

July 28

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
An Ethic of Abundance

Rev. Lynette Sparks
John 6:1-21
Ron Krebs, Organ

August 4

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Give Us a Sign

Rev. Lynette Sparks
John 6:24-35
Robert Ragoonanan, Minister of Music
Kathleen Pool, Soprano

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher Rev. Jen Porter, Associate Pastor
Liturgists Deb Kammer, Elder for Older Adults
..... Nancy Greidanus, Minister with Children and their Families
Musicians.....Janlee Richter, Organ
..... Michael Schaefer, Accordion
Ushers.....Mary Dirkse, Lou VanderHave, Bill Baguley
..... Todd Helle, Heather Lermont-Pape, Bob & Betty Jo Norby
AV TeamDan Cisler, Ian Dengerink-Van Til, Karsten Kotchenruther



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!

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.



Domenico Loia, Florence, Italy

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: *Saving Delicia* by Laura Gehl

Next Week: *BIG* by Vashti Harrison

Kari's favorite parts of summer are eating juicy fruit from the delicia tree and listening to stories from Old Otis. But now the last remaining delicia is in danger. What if this beloved tree dies out? Is there anything one girl can do? With inspiration, information, and a pocketful of seeds, Kari sets out to craft a surprise for Otis—and for the future. This tender story celebrates the connections between generations, emphasizing that small steps can have a big impact when one looks beyond the present.

Activity: Plant seeds in clear cups

EXTENDING THE WESTMINSTER WELCOME!

As we welcome guests and visitors each week, we encourage everyone to personally extend the "Westminster Welcome" to those you have not met. Yours may be the welcome that truly helps all feel included.

Building Buildings?

NINTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 21, 2024

10:00 A.M.



Actively Engaged in the World

This Week's Calendar

SUN. JULY 21

10:00 a.m. Worship Service Sanctuary

11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour.....Gathering Place

TUES. JULY 23

6:00 p.m. Memorial Trust MeetingConference Room

WED. JULY 24

5:00 p.m. Let's Hang Out! Downtown Market

7:00 p.m. Fine Arts Committee.....Library

THURS. JULY 25

10:30 a.m. Food Pantry Front Lobby

3:00 p.m. TWM Childcare Meeting.....Library

SAT. JULY 27

10:00 a.m. TWM Delegates Assembly Neland Ave. CRC

SUN. JULY 28

10:00 a.m. Worship Service Sanctuary

11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour.....Gathering Place

Announcements

WELCOME TO CRYSTAL: We are excited to welcome Crystal Hovey to our staff as a new administrative assistant! Crystal has 24 years of management/customer service experience and will provide administrative and financial support to Westminster. She has been married to her husband, Keith, for 21 years. She likes to paint and hike, especially local West Michigan trails. Join us in welcoming Crystal!

REGISTER NOW FOR 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. **The deadline to register is July 28!**

LET'S HANG OUT! If you'd like to spend time in fellowship with other folks from Westminster, join us for our new casual meetups this summer. Anyone is welcome to join us as we visit different places in the Grand Rapids area to explore the city and enjoy spending time with one another. Interested in joining? Let Deanna know you're coming at deannac@wpcgr.org! See below for currently planned outings:
July 24, 5:00 to 6:30 p.m., Grand Rapids Downtown Market
July 29, 2:00 to 3:00 p.m., Tippy Cow Ice Cream

TEA FOR TWO: Sign up for 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. Want to bring a friend or family member? No need to have them register separately; just include their name on the form. We cannot match anyone under the age of 18. However, if you are under 18 and would like to participate, you are welcome to attend with your parent or guardian. Visit our website to sign up.



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 or call (616) 717-5533 with questions.