

MORNING WORSHIP  
Between Mountain and Valley

GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

In preparation for "Offering Our Lives" later in the service, we invite you to fill out one of the cards in the pew rack, where you may request more information, find opportunities to connect, offer a word of praise or prayer, or give of your time and skills. You may place them in the offering plate. You are welcome to take cards home to fill out and bring them back.

In Preparation for Worship

"[God], transfigure our perception with the purest light that shines,  
And recast our life's intentions to the shape of your designs,  
Till we seek no other glory than what lies past Calvary's hill  
And our living and our dying and our rising by your will."

—Thomas Troeger

Sharing the Life of Westminster

Rev. Lynette Sparks

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

Opening Voluntary

"Aria"

Brian Solomons (b. 1948)

++Call to Worship based on Psalm 99

Karen Meyers

The earth has its kings, but God is ruler of all.

**Praise God above all; praise God, the giver of life!**

The mountains may tremble, the oceans may roar,

**but God's presence is more powerful than the earth itself.**

Come into God's presence,

**for God is among us now.**

++Hymn 193

"Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain"

Unser Herrscher

Prayer of Confession

**Almighty God, you see us as we are and know our inmost thoughts. You know the ways we've fallen short. You know the work we've left undone, the mercy we've left ungiven, the love we've left unshared, the peace we've left unmade. You know the arrogance, pride, and violence that we've chosen instead of your path of forgiveness and reconciliation. You know who we are. Forgive us, and transform us, that we might become who you imagine us to become, in your sight, and by your mercy...**

Silent Confession

Kyrie

"Lord, Have Mercy"

Swee Hong Lim



Lord, have mer - cy.



Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text  
MUSIC: Swee Hong Lim, 1990  
Music © 1990 Swee Hong Lim (admin. General Board of Global Ministries t/a CGBMusik)

Assurance of God's Grace

Hear the good news: Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. We know this love through Jesus Christ, and by this love, we know that we are forgiven!

**We can now live in peace. Thanks be to God!**

++ Stand in body or in spirit

Bold text is spoken by the congregation

++Response Hymn 755 "Alleluia! Laud and Blessing"

Weisse Flaggen

(stanza 1)

**Alleluia! Laud and blessing to our God, whose Word is sure;  
by whose grace we find redemption, in whose love we live secure.  
Righteousness and rich compassion shall attend us all our days;  
may God's promise to be faithful echo through our songs of praise!**

++Passing the Peace of Christ

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Ministry of Music

Five Hymns from "The Sacred Harp" Martha Shaffer (b. 1946)

IV. I Would See Jesus

I would see Jesus when the flow'rs of joy adorn my way.  
When sunshine and when hope surrounds my path from day to day.

When friends I cherish most are near, and hearts encircle mine,  
then, Father, would I turn from all to lean alone on thine.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give the living water,  
thirsty one, stoop down and drink and live!"

I came to Jesus and I drank of that lifegiving stream,  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light.  
Look unto me, thy morn shall rise, and all thy day be bright!"

I looked to Jesus and I found in Him my star, my sun;  
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav'ling days are done.

Sanctuary Choir

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 9:28-43

New Testament p. 69

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"Between Mountain and Valley"

Rev. Lynette Sparks

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

++Hymn 189

"O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair"

Deo Gracias

stanzas 1, 4, & 5

++Affirmation of Faith from A Brief Statement of Faith, PC(USA)

Rev. Jen Porter

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life,  
**who inspired the prophets and apostles,  
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,**  
engages us through the Word proclaimed,  
claims us in the waters of baptism,  
**feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls  
children of God everywhere to all ministries of the church.**

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without  
ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to  
unmask idolatries in Church and culture,  
**to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,  
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

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

"Praise His Holy Name!"

Keith Hampton (b. 1957)

Sing till the power of the Lord come down. Shout Hallelujah! Praise His Holy name!

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me;

I once was lost, but now I'm found, was blind, but now I see. Jesus, Jesus, how I love Thee!

Must Jesus bear the cross alone and all the world go free?

No, there's a cross for ev'ryone and there's a cross for me. Jesus, Jesus, how I love Thee!

Holy Jesus, Praise His Name! Hallelujah, Lord!

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!**

The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

We invite you to come forward to receive the communion elements and partake of them immediately as you receive them. Please take your used cups with you as you return to your seats and place them in the cupholders in the back of your pew. If you would like the elements brought to you, please raise your hand and a server will bring them to you. All bread is gluten-free. Children are welcome to participate in this sacrament.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**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

Communion Music "24 Pieces in Free Styles, Op. 31"  
XV. Arabesque

Louis Vierne  
(1870-1937)

Prayer of Response

**We give you thanks, Lord Jesus Christ, for the gifts of grace we have received from your hand. Go with us as we leave this place, so that your light and your life may shine brightly for all to see. Amen.**

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

++Hymn 190

"Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory"  
stanzas 1 & 3

Geneva

++Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary 15 Pieces for Organ on Liturgical Themes  
XV. Sortie (Postlude)

Albert Alain  
(1880-1971)

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 Matt Gaventa and the Presbyterian Outlook.  
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AHEAD IN WORSHIP

Wednesday, March 5, 7:00 p.m.

Ash Wednesday

Rev. Jen Porter

Sanctuary Choir & Cheri Reid, Mezzo-Soprano

March 9

First Sunday in Lent  
The Wilderness Way

Rev. Lynette Sparks

Luke 4:1-13

Sanctuary Choir

March 16

Second Sunday in Lent  
The Way of Service

Luke 10:25-37

Children's Musical

Ahead in Adult Faith Formation:

Life 360: In Community & For Community

Communal Stories of Discernment: March 2, Chapel following worship

In this final pre-Lent conversation, Ted Hartzell facilitates this story of discernment with Westminster's Together West Michigan core team. They will share how we decided to commit 1% of our annual budget to this organization and stories of impact to those who have been involved. How has this discernment shaped our identity, and how does it inform our call now?

Discerning our Spiritual Identity and Call: March 9, Chapel following worship

Rev. Jen will kick off our formation series through these six Sundays of Lent. Each week, from a different perspective, we will explore how our lives fit into and relate to our communal story. Our learning in these aspects will help us discern how to live into our spiritual call. This will be a communal practice for us "on the way."

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

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

Liturgists .....Rev. Jen Porter, Associate Pastor  
.....Karen Meyers  
..... Nancy Greidanus, Minister for Children & Families

Musicians.....Robert Ragoonanan, Minister of Music  
..... Janlee Richter, Music Ministry Associate  
..... Sanctuary Choir

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

Acolytes.....Etta & Viola Wenzel

AV Team .....Brad Sparks, Ian Dengerink-Van Til, Marcos Calderon

Welcome to Westminster

MEMBERSHIP

If you have questions about the life of the church or becoming a member, please email Crystal Hovey at crystalh@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.



Transfiguration, Theophanes the Greek and workshop

Between Mountain and Valley

TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

MARCH 2, 2025  
10:00 A.M.



616-456-1456 / westminstergr.org / Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.