

MORNING WORSHIP
The Way of Service

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

"Love really makes all the difference. Love changed the world when Jesus came. Love gave us hope when Jesus died on the cross for our sins. Love will make you say to God and to others, "Just tell me what you need and I'll do it." —from Unselfie

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

"Be Thou My Vision"

Dale Wood (1934-2003)

++Call to Worship

Rev. Jen Porter

We are called to love the Lord our God **with all our heart and soul.**
We are called to love the Lord our God **with all our mind and strength.**
We are called to love the Lord our God **and love our neighbor as ourselves.**
Come, let us worship and love our God.

++Hymn 203

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

Chereponi

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, even though Jesus tells us to love you and our neighbors, we confess that love is hard for us. We are too selfish, too pessimistic, too hollow, too hardened, or just too tired to give ourselves to love's demands. Cleanse our hearts, that we might find the strength to do what love requires and the grace to receive what love has to give...

Silent Confession

Kyrie

"Lord, Have Mercy"

Lee Afdahl

Assurance of God's Grace

Our defenses crumble in the presence of God's holiness. Our hearts are softened in the presence of Christ's mercy. The Spirit guides us as we navigate the known and the unknown. Trust the good news of the gospel: nothing in life or death, nor any power, can separate us from us the love of God.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

++Response Hymn "Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow"

Ebenezer

**Through the night of doubt and sorrow
onward goes the pilgrim band,
singing songs of expectation,
marching to the promised land.
Clear before us through the darkness
gleams and burns the guiding light;
pilgrim clasps the hand of pilgrim,
stepping fearless through the night.**

++Passing the Peace of Christ

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

THE WORD

Scripture

Luke 10:25-37

New Testament p. 71

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Children's Musical

"Unselfie"

Script and Music by Gina Boe, Sue C. Smith, and Brian Hitt
Script adapted by Bernice Houseward and Robert Ragoonanan

"Unselfie"

You can snap it, you can chat it, you can post it on your wall.
You can text it, you can tweet it, you can share with one and all
to let the whole world see your face, but we're learnin' to live in a brand new way.

Refrain: Unselfish in a selfie world, ev'ryone you see saying "Look at me!"
Unselfish in a selfie world, if you haven't heard, there's a cooler word: Unselfie!

It's a different way of thinking, putting other people first,
showing kindness and forgiveness, even when they're at their worst.
It's all about the golden rule: Do to others like you'd have them do to you. (Refrain)
When the first is last and the greatest is least, that's what it means to be... (Refrain)

"Share Yourself, Not Your Selfie"

Each day I pray I wanna be more like my Jesus. I wanna be like Him.
If you pray that too, here's what you can do:

Refrain: Share yourself and not your selfie. Someone else needs some helping.
Jesus said to give your life away.

Look around you, somebody needs what you can offer.
You are bound to find something you can give.
You'll make someone's day when you live this way. (Refrain)

"Sing to the King"

Sing to the King who is coming to reign, glory to Jesus, the Lamb that was slain.
Life and salvation his justice shall bring, and joy to the nations when Jesus is King.

Refrain: Come, let us sing a song, a song declaring we belong to Jesus. He's all we need.
Lift up a heart of praise. Sing now with voices raised to Jesus. Sing to the King!

For his returning, we watch and we pray. We will be ready the dawn of the day.
We'll join in singing with all the redeemed 'cause we are God's children and Jesus is King!
(Refrain)

Share yourself and not your selfie. Someone else needs some helping.
Jesus said to give your life away. Share yourself and not your selfie.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Reception of New Members

Elder Sam Walma & Susan Jennings

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. 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 worshiping next to you. We invite you to fill out any of the pew cards and place them in the offering plate.

Offertory

"10 Pieces for Organ"

Théodore Dubois (1837-1924)

IV. Offertoire

++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

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.
God of grace, you have shown us how to put others before ourselves. We commit to following you in this way. May our offerings provide for others and be used to further Christ's ministry and mission. Amen.**

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

++Hymn 747

"The Lord Now Sends Us Forth"

Enviado

++Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary

"4 Norwegian Dances, Op. 35"

Edvard Grieg (1843-1907)

III. Allegro moderato alla Marcia

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.

Bulletin Image from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. Kyrie used by permission of composer. Music used by permission under ONE LICENSE, License #724668-A. All rights reserved. Unselfie © Copyright 2016 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing / EnCorps Songs (ASCAP) / Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Songs / Songs from Bobb Avenue (BMI) (Administered at CapitolCMGPublishing.com). All rights reserved. Used by permission.

AHEAD IN WORSHIP

March 23
Third Sunday in Lent
The Just Way
Rev. Lynette Sparks
Luke 13:1-9
Sanctuary Choir & Bell Choir

March 30
Fourth Sunday in Lent
Youth-Led Worship
Kirk Singers, Chapel Singers,
Carol Choir, & Cherub Choir

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

LiturgistsRev. Lynette Sparks, Senior Pastor
..... Rev. Jen Porter, Associate Pastor
..... Susan Jennings, Minister for Pastoral Care & Mission
.....Sam Walma, Elder for Membership Growth & Development

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

Unselfie Cast

CharleyMarian Wenzel
Molly..... Frances Heethuis
RonEd Engbers
Ginny Olivia Zallar
Billie JoRobin Gregg
Stage DirectorsBernice Houseward & Lily Fiore
Music Directors Robert Ragoonanan & Lindsey Hoekstra
Pianist.....Janlee Richter
Sets, Crew, & Props..... Ron Bouwense, Bruce Klein-Wassink,
..... Bob Lautenbach, Eric Richter, Ron Toering,
.....Travis Holwerda, Elise Gerville-Réache, Ted Koopmans
Sound..... Ian Dengerink-Van Til, Dan Cisler, Stella Sheckler



Lent 2025: On the Way

**Ahead in Adult Faith Formation:
Life 360: In Community & For Community**

Discerning our Spiritual Identity and Call

Throughout Lent, we examine our spiritual lives from many different perspectives. The more we discern our spiritual identity and call, the more we can live out our shared call together. Join us in the Chapel 15 minutes following worship.

March 16, Combining Backgrounds, Cultures, and Beliefs

Our families, congregations, and communities are complex combinations of at least two sets of backgrounds and beliefs. We will hear one experience of forming family and spiritual identity and will reflect on our own experiences of navigating through various perspectives in the midst of community. With Ellen Shupe, Francisco Calderon, and Rev. Jen.

March 23, Sharing Our Faith Intergenerationally

How can we convey our spiritual story intergenerationally to family and friends? In the lineage of Children in Worship, we welcome Rev. Olivia Stewart who will share about the importance of our stories, talk about the ways different generations relate to story, and offer us examples of how we can think through and convey our stories. Led with Karen Meyers.

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 & YOUNG ADULTS

For more information about youth or young adult ministry, please contact our Minister with Youth and Young Adults Kat Hand at kath@wpcgr.org.



Who is My Neighbor? Joel Schoon-Tanis

The Way of Service

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 16, 2025
10:00 A.M.

