

MORNING WORSHIP
A New Beginning

GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

In Preparation for Worship

"Christian Faith for me is no longer a static location but a great spiritual journey.
And that changes everything." —Brian McLaren

Sharing the Life of Westminster

Susan Jennings

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

Opening Voluntary

"Pastorale"

Darius Milhaud (1892-1974)

++Call to Worship

Kat Hand

The gift of a new day,
Unlived, untried, ready to be opened.
The gift of a new day with surprising miracles;
With love to be given,
Kindness to be shared
And peace to be enjoyed.
The gift of a new day,
God's gift to us.
Let us receive it with joy
And live it with expectation.

++Hymn 317

"In Christ There Is No East or West"

Mc Kee

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, like a loving father and caring mother, you watch over us and beckon us to follow the right path. But we get stuck: stopped by our fear of trying something new, trapped by our fear of past failures, caught in a web of conflicting choices, halted by the clamor of many voices. We know the distress of worry and the blur of tears. Free us, O God, to follow with joyful steps, to hear clearly your direction, to be bold in our loving, courageous in our caring, and brave in our speaking. Lord, hear our prayer....

Silent Confession

Kyrie

"Lord, Have Mercy"

Kyrie Eleison

Assurance of God's Grace (2 Corinthians 5:17-18)

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 this is from God, with whom we are reconciled through Christ. Thanks be to God!

++ Stand in body or in spirit

Bold text is spoken by the congregation

++Response Hymn 591

"Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!"

Halle, Halle

Sing through two times
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

++Passing the Peace of Christ

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

Ministry of Music

"Eight Bible Vignettes" Robert Nathaniel Dett (1882-1943)
II. Desert Interlude

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

Exodus 16:1-15
Colossians 3:12-17

Old Testament p. 62
New Testament p. 201

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"A New Beginning"

Rev. Riley Jensen

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

++Hymn 301

"Let Us Build a House"

Two Oaks

Affirmation of Faith (from A New Creed, United Church of Canada)

Rev. Jen Porter

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. 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.

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

"Offertoire"

Théodore Dubois (1837-1934)

++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.

We give you thanks and praise, O God, for your outpouring of generosity. May these gifts be used as a witness to your love, peace, and justice at work in the world. Amen.

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

++Hymn 246

"Christ is Alive!"

Truro

++Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary

"Tocatta in C Major"

Carlos Seixas (1704-42)

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.

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AHEAD IN WORSHIP

August 3

I Will Say to My Soul, 'Soul...'

Rev. Jen Porter

Luke 12:13-21

Diane Helle, Violin & Janlee Richter

August 10

Rev. Kyle Nolan

Robert Ragoonanan

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher Rev. Riley Jensen, Pastor Emeritus

Liturgists Susan Jennings, Minister for Pastoral Care & Mission

..... Kat Hand, Minister with Youth

..... Nancy Greidanus, Minister with Children & Families

..... Rev. Jen Porter, Associate Pastor

Musicians..... Robert Ragoonanan, Minister of Music

Ushers..... Mary Dirkse, Lou VanderHave, Bill Baguley

..... Todd Helle, Heather Lermont-Pape, Bob & Betty Jo Norby

AV Team Karsten Kotchenruther, Marcos Calderon, Ricky Rivard

Summer Books for Children's Worship

This week: *Ruby's Tools for Making Friends* by Stott

Next week: *Small Things Mended* by Robinson

It's Ruby the fox's first day at a new school. She's a little nervous, but luckily, she has her tools to help: a tape measure to count her breaths if she feels overwhelmed, pliers to remind her to be flexible, and safety goggles to see things in a new way.

When Ruby finds out her class is having an egg drop competition, she wants to share her ideas, but she feels shy surrounded by all her talkative classmates. Can she use her tools to find the confidence to speak up, and maybe even make some new friends?

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.

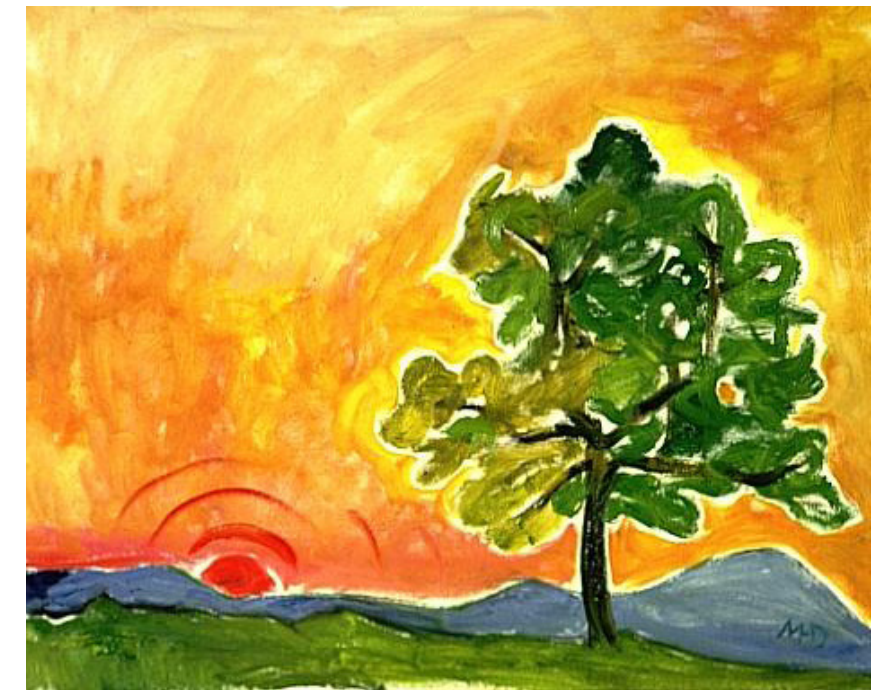
We have accessible, all-gender, companion bathrooms available off of the Dining Room.

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.



Margret Hofheinz-Döring / Galerie Brigitte Mauch Göppingen

A New Beginning

SEASON OF THE SPIRIT

JULY 27, 2025

10:00 A.M.



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. Convicted by this passage, the Presbyterian Church (USA) decided to act boldly and compassionately to see our neighbors through Jesus' eyes and 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.

This Week's Calendar

SUN. JULY 27

10:00 a.m. Worship Service Sanctuary

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

MON. JULY 28

9:30 a.m. Open Door Ministry Front Lobby

12:00 p.m. Justice CommitteeLibrary

TUES. JULY 29

9:30 a.m. Open Door Ministry Front Lobby

WED. JULY 30

9:30 a.m. Open Door Ministry Front Lobby

THURS. JULY 31

10:30 a.m. Food Pantry Front Lobby

SUN. AUGUST 3

10:00 a.m. Worship Service Sanctuary

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

Announcements

REGISTER FOR WESTMINSTER CAMP 2025! August 28–August 31, Camp Henry

Last call to register for Westminster Camp! Enjoy some late summer days at exciting and beautiful Camp Henry by joining your church family at Camp 2025. Absolutely everyone is welcome. Visit the website now to sign up while space is available!

TOGETHER WEST MICHIGAN FUNDRAISING: July 27 Together West Michigan has had a lot of success since we kicked off here at Westminster in 2022. We've been growing in numbers of organizations, visibility, and influence, and we have big plans for 2026! As part of our ongoing fundraising campaign, we will be in the Gathering Place after the service. Come by to learn more about the work we are doing and the impact your donation can make!

GOOD SOIL BOOK STUDY: Mondays in August, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Join us for an end-of-the-summer experiential book study based on Jeff Chu's book, *Good Soil*. This book study will include reading the book with others in the Westminster community, a visit to GVSU's sustainability farm and a summer salad potluck evening with the author, Jeff Chu. Visit the website to sign up.

SUPPORT OUR IMMIGRANT & REFUGEE NEIGHBORS: August 3 Together West Michigan seeks to support the wellbeing of refugees and immigrants. After the service on August 3, you are invited to join a conversation to learn more about the immigration system and the stories of people directly affected. We'll learn ways to take action to be allies to our immigrant neighbors.

TRILLIUM QUARTET RECITAL: August 17, 11:00 a.m. Join the Trillium Quartet in a short recital August 17 following worship, performing Beethoven's String Quartet in F Major, Op. 59 No. 1. Enjoy this casual concert following worship along with our usual coffee and cookies!

PLASTIC BAGS: The food pantry is in need of more clean, plastic grocery bags.

CONTRIBUTION TO PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE FUND: On behalf of the congregation, the Mission Partnership Committee has contributed \$10,000 to the PC USA Disaster Assistance fund in support of the flooding in TX. We are grateful for the ability to offer assistance in times of great need. If you would like to make an individual contribution, you can do so at pcusa.org/disaster-assistance/active-responses/national-disaster/texas-hill-country-flooding.



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.