

MORNING WORSHIP
Courageous Witness

GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

In Preparation for Worship

“God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.”

—Reinhold Niebuhr

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

“Scarborough Fair”

English folk song

Eric Tanner, Violin & Stacey Tanner, Cello

arr. Fabio Britto

++Call to Worship (based on Psalm 116)

Elder Ellen Shupe

The Lord hears us when we cry out.

Praise the Lord!

The Lord showers us with blessings.

Praise the Lord!

Let us lift up the name of the Lord for all to hear.

Praise the Lord!

Let us sing of God's endless grace and compassion.

Let us worship God!

++Hymn 19

"God of Great and God of Small"

God of Great and Small

Prayer of Confession

God of our salvation, hear our prayer. You have given us power: power to heal, to bring hope, to comfort, to restore. But we ignore that power, choosing to live our own lives. At worst, we abuse that power, storing up riches for ourselves without an eye for the needs of others. Forgive us. Remind us of our call to proclaim your good news, and to welcome each other as we would welcome you.

Silent Confession

Kyrie

"Lord, Have Mercy"

Lee Afdahl

Assurance of God's Grace

Hear the good news! God's Spirit has been poured out upon all flesh, and we have been made one.

Through the grace of Jesus Christ, God draws us together and gives new life to all. Thanks be to God!

++Response Hymn 582

"Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

Glory to God

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

++Passing the Peace of Christ

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Ministry of Music

"Gavotte, Op. 39"

Reinhold Glière (1875-1956)

Eric Tanner, Violin & Stacey Tanner, Cello

Blessings with Younger Disciples

Nancy Greidanus

Children three years through those finished with 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

Matthew 9:35-10:23

New Testament p. 9

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Courageous Witness"

Rev. Lynette Sparks

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

++Reception of New Members

Elder Sam Walma

The Meaning of Membership

Questions to the New Members

Questions to the Congregation

Charge

Focus on Mission—Camp Henry

Judy Larson

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

"Meditation from Thaïs"

Jules Massenet (1842-1912)

Eric Tanner, Violin & Stacey Tanner, Cello

++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.

Generous God, how can we thank you for all that you have given us? We give back with hope that it will bless the world as you have blessed us. In the name of Jesus, our brother and our Lord, Amen.

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

++Hymn 719

"Come, Labor On"

Ora Labora

++Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary

"Tocatta in F major, Bux WV 157"

Dietrich Buxtehude

(1637-1707)

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

Sunday, June 21

The Church in the World

Rev. Lynette Sparks

Matthew 10:24-39

Sidney Yin, Piano & Robert Ragoonanan

Sunday, June 28

Rev. Kyle Kooyers

Robert Ragoonanan

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

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

LiturgistsSusan Jennings, Minister for Pastoral Care & Mission

..... Ellen Shupe, Elder for Adult Faith Formation

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

.....Sam Walma, Elder for Membership Growth & Development

.....Judy Larson, Camp Henry Board

Music.....Janlee Richter, Music Ministry Associate

..... Eric Tanner, Violin

..... Stacey Tanner, Cello

AV Team Ian Dengerink-Van Til, Joe Putt

.....Nate Masterson, Rachel Kamstra

Ushers..... Doug & Joanie Dowling, Keith Combs, Kari & Chris Fuller

.....Ann & Jim Jarvis, Rich Zimmerman, Sharon VanderWilp



Summer Books for Children's Worship

Summer Worship Center for children ages three through those finished with third 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. The Summer Books Center will begin on June 14 and continue through September 13. Look for the book titles and activities each week.

Next Week: *The Seeking Tree* by Jodi Dee

This Week: *Tar Beach* by Faith Ringgold

Acclaimed artist Faith Ringgold seamlessly weaves fiction, autobiography, and African American history into a magical story that resonates with the universal wish for freedom. Cassie Louise Lightfoot has a dream: to be free to go wherever she wants for the rest of her life. One night, up on "tar beach," the rooftop of her family's Harlem apartment building, her dreams come true. The stars lift her up, and she flies over the city, claiming the buildings and the city as her own.

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 recommend you sit in front of the balcony for the best sound quality.

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

CHILDREN

Parents of three-year-olds through fifth grade, 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 those finished with third 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

The middle & high school youth groups gather in the summer! To see our upcoming events and sign up for our newsletter, visit westminstergr.org/youth-ministries/



Harvest in Provence, Vincent van Gogh

Courageous Witness

**THIRD SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

JUNE 14, 2026

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. JUNE 14

- 9:00 a.m. Session Meeting..... Chapel
- 10:00 a.m. Worship ServiceSanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour Gathering Place
- 11:00 a.m. Member Directory Photos Library

MON. JUNE 15

- 9:30 a.m. Open Door MinistryFront Lobby

TUES. JUNE 16

- 9:30 a.m. Open Door MinistryFront Lobby
- 5:30 p.m. Nominating Committee Library

WED. JUNE 17

- 9:30 a.m. Open Door MinistryFront Lobby
- 10:30 a.m. Book GroupParlor
- 6:30 p.m. Women's Fellowship Group Conference Room
- 6:30 p.m. Worship Committee Meeting Offsite

THURS. JUNE 18

- 10:30 a.m. Food PantryFront Lobby

SUN. JUNE 21

- 10:00 a.m. Worship ServiceSanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour Gathering Place

Announcements

WESTMINSTER CAMP: September 3-6, Camp Henry Enjoy some late summer days at exciting and beautiful Camp Henry by joining your church family at Camp 2026. Absolutely everyone is welcome, and there are activities and opportunities for fellowship for all ages and walks of life! The deadline to register to join is July 19; visit the website to sign up!

MEMBER DIRECTORY PHOTOS: Stop by the Library after worship today if you're interested in having a new photo taken for the church directory!

REV. LYNETTE SABBATICAL: Rev. Lynette Sparks will be on part two of her sabbatical from June 24 - August 16, 2026. During that time, we will welcome a number of guest preachers. Any other pastoral or staff-related questions that Lynette would normally handle should be directed to Rev. Jen Porter.

WESTMINSTER AT PRIDE: Westminster will be at the Grand Rapids Pride Festival: Together We Glow on Saturday, June 20 at noon! Stop by and see us! Our booth is located on Lyon Street, between Ottawa and Ionia. We look forward to this opportunity each year to show our support and care for our LGBTQ+ community.

FOOD PANTRY BAGS: The Food Pantry is looking for donations of plastic bags that we can use for our weekly food distributions. In addition, we are accepting donations of fabric or cloth reusable bags as we give these out to neighbors who can regularly use them. These can be dropped off near the front desk in the Gathering Place. Thank you for your ongoing support!

BIBLE DONATIONS: The Open Door Ministry is seeking donations of gently used Bibles. We have been regularly giving out Bibles to people who request them at Open Door and having a variety of sizes of Bible would help us respond to those requests. Donations can be left at the donation box near the front desk. Thank you for your ongoing support of this ministry!

BAPTISM: Baptism is a joyous occasion for God's people! If you are interested in baptism at Westminster, we offer a seminar to talk about what this important sacrament means to all of us. Contact Nancy Greidanus (nancyg@wpcgr.org) for more information and to let her know if you are interested in scheduling a seminar! Our next baptism date will be August 30.



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.