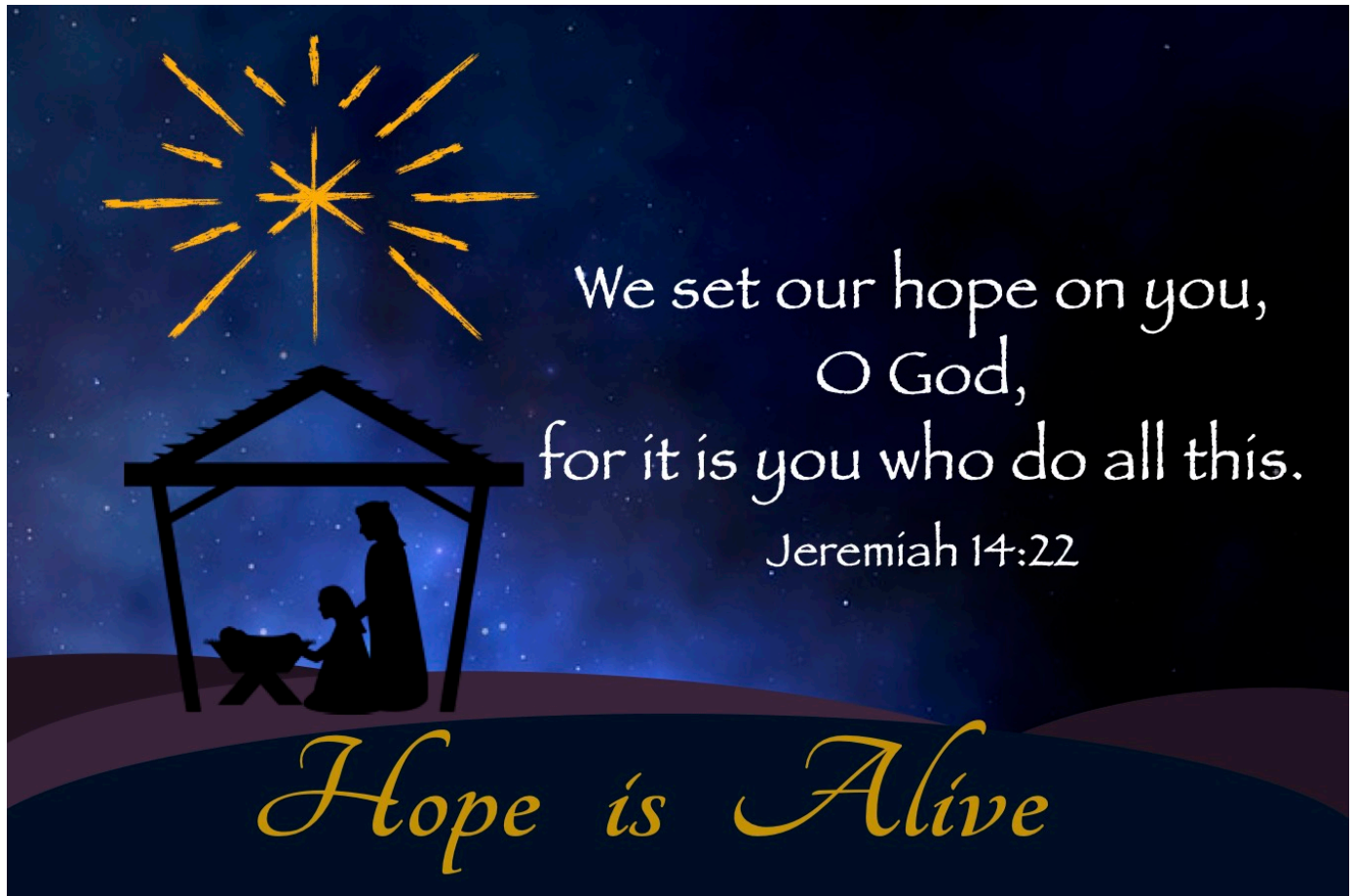


Westminster Presbyterian Church



Christmas Eve Worship

1:00 & 7:00 p.m.

Westminster At Worship

A Celebration of Worship

*Live Hope
Christmas Eve*

December 24, 2021

1:00 & 7:00 p.m.

Please silence your cell phones prior to entering the sanctuary.

†Those who are able to stand may do so.



GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

CAROL SING - Weather permitting, join us outdoors around the advent wreath twenty minutes before the service.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Wendy Tally

†CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Tonight we gather with joyful hearts to receive God's greatest gift.

PEOPLE: Joy to the world, the Lord has come!

LEADER: Tonight, we hear again the good news that was given for all people.

PEOPLE: Joy to the world, the Lord has come!

LEADER: Tonight, we join in steadfast wonder at God's amazing love.

PEOPLE: Joy to the world, the Lord has come!

LEADER: Tonight, we welcome the Savior whose birth has forever changed our lives.

PEOPLE: Joy to the world, the Lord has come!

OPENING HYMN

ANTIOCH

"Joy to the World!"
Chancel Choir Recording

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

LEADER: Where do we hear of hope?

PEOPLE: We hear hope in the promises of scripture.

LEADER: Where do we see hope?

PEOPLE: In light that shines in darkness.

LEADER: How can we share hope?

PEOPLE: When we are weary and tired, we lean on the hope others provide.

LEADER: How do we proclaim hope?

PEOPLE: In lament and sights too deep for words. In jubilant exclamation. With the Spirit of the Lord upon us, bringing good news to all.

LEADER: How do we live hope?

PEOPLE: By embracing Christ's presence among us, and following the example of his life.

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us pray together:

Holy One, your grace has appeared among us; the light of your love has shined upon us. Yet, instead of rejoicing in your light, we dwell in despair, wearied from our many tasks, and burdened by the world's expectations.

Help us to be fully present to the miracle of this night, that we might see the beauty of your gift, find peace in your presence, and hear the song of the angels. Amen.

— *A Time of Silent Confession* —

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

This is God's gift to us this night: a gift of forgiveness, a gift of peace, a gift of a new beginning

Thanks be to God. Amen.

FANNING THE FLAME (1:00 p.m. service only)

*Any children present are invited to come forward to assist
Pastor Jamie in telling the Christmas Story.*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Luke 2:1-20

SERMON

"Live Hope"

Rev. Jamie Milton

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

WAGNER

"Star-Led and Wonder Bound"

Chancel Choir Recording

†UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Great God, accept these gifts we offer as we wait in hope for your coming again. Use all that we have and all that we are as you bring light in every darkness, ease heavy burdens, and turn our endless warring into your endless peace. In Christ's name, we ask it. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is good to give you thanks...

The Sanctus

Leader: And so we raise our voices with saints and angels
and all creation in joyful praise to you saying:

**People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of goodness and life,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna
in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in
the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

The Words of Institution

Leader: Holy and wondrous God... And so we proclaim
the mystery of faith:

**People: Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

**PEOPLE: 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 debts as we
forgive our debtors; and lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine
is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory
forever, Amen.**

SHARING IN THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BEING SENT WITH GOD’S WORD

HYMN OF DEDICATION

GLORIA

“Angels We Have Heard on High”
Chancel Choir Recording

LIGHTING OF CANDLES John 1:1-14

(As the Scripture is being read, two ushers will light the candles of those seated closest to the center aisle. You are then invited to share the light with your neighbor. Please dip your unlighted candle into the lighted candle of your neighbor.)

CAROL

STILLE NACHT

“Silent Night”
Chancel Choir Recording

CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION

POSTLUDE



Liturgical texts used with permission from:

Confession and Assurance adapted from Beth Merrill Neel,

www.holdfasttowhatisgood.com

Book of Common Worship (2018). WJK Press.

Communion Prayers adapted from Abingdon Worship Annual (2017).

Christmas Proclamation: *They have heard it on the hills*, from “Cloth for the Cradle.” Wild Goose.

MINISTERS
PASTOR
PARISH ASSOCIATE
LITURGISTS
DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY
NURSERY SUPERVISOR
CHOIR DIRECTOR
HAND BELL DIRECTOR
ORGANIST
TREASURER
CUSTODIAN
SECRETARY
CCLI License #2328090

All the People
Rev. Jamie Milton
Rev. Linda Williams
Barb & Tom Tolles / Diane & Bill Shelt
Brandi Higgins
Elaine Edwards
Dawn Auger
Peggy Hanson
Wendy Tally
Heather Heidtman
Harold Miller
Judy Harrelson

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 24, 2021

NURSERY CARE is available for infants and toddlers during the worship service. Our nursery is equipped with a paging system, and quality childcare is provided by Elaine Edwards who is infant and child CPR trained.

CONFIRMATION CLASS will begin in early 2022. Students in eighth grade and above who have not yet completed the confirmation process are invited to be a part of this important journey of faith. We will discuss many different aspects of what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ, an active member of this congregation, and a part of the larger Christian Church. Our classes will take place on Sunday evenings from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. An informational meeting will be held for interested students and parents following worship on January 9.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: There is no Adult Bible Study the weeks of December 26 and January 2. Sunday and Wednesday classes will resume the week of January 9.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL and Little Ringer practice will resume Sunday, January 9.

ADULT HANDBELL PRACTICE will resume Sunday, January 9.

PJS & PANCAKES: There are no Sunday School classes for children or adults on Sunday, December 26, but join us at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall for an intergenerational pancake breakfast. Come in your pajamas!

2022 FLOWER CHART: The 2022 Flower Chart has been posted on the easel next to the Wenona Street entrance. This is an opportunity for you to honor or memorialize an occasion of a special loved one. Please print your name on the Sunday date you would like. Marie Capp will get in touch with you for floral arrangements and what you wish to have printed in the bulletin.

OFFERING ENVELOPES: 2022 envelopes are available for pickup in the hallway outside the Chapel.

PER CAPITA: If you have not paid your 2021 per capita (\$28.76) you can still get that in this month. Per capita for 2022 is \$29.00. Please do not pay your 2022 per capita until January 1 or after.

CONTRIBUTIONS you would like credited for 2021 must reach Heather Heidtman (or be postmarked) by December 31, 2021. Anything received or postmarked after December 31, regardless of the date on the check or offering envelope, will be credited to 2022.

OUR STEPHEN MINISTRY PROGRAM is venturing into volunteering with Hospice. We would like to invite anyone in the congregation to join us. Your time commitment is up to you. The Hospice coordinator is great to work with, and will assign you with the job that best suits your interests and time. There will be a training session after Christmas for us all to do together. Please call Jan (989-686-1557) or Pam (989-225-8259) for more information or to be put on our volunteer list.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD: If you are looking for grief support groups, health clinics, or volunteer opportunities that take place within our community, please check out the community bulletin board located in Fellowship Hall.

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK: Westminster Presbyterian Church - Bay City

This Week at Westminster

Today, Friday December 24, 2021

- 12:40 p.m. Carols outside around the Advent wreath
(weather permitting)
- 1:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship Service
- 6:40 p.m. Carols outside around the Advent wreath
(weather permitting)
- 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship Service

Saturday, December 25

Merry Christmas!

Sunday, December 26

- 9:30 a.m. PJs & Pancakes
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time

Monday, December 27

Church Office Closed

Westminster Presbyterian Church

103 E. Midland Street
Bay City, MI 48706
989-686-1360

email: office@wpcbc.org

website: wpcbc.org

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friday
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

The Church Office will be closed:

Monday, December 27,
Friday, December 31,
Monday, January 3

Poinsettia Dedications



The names of those who contributed poinsettia plants for Christmas, their dedications, and color(s) of plants are listed below.

For those who ordered poinsettias, you may take them after the service or leave them in the sanctuary for others to enjoy.
Thank you!

DANETTE BREAU: In memory of her father, Daniel Horn (red)

LIZ DORE: In memory of Art Chambers and Bob Dore (red, marble)

BRIAN & SANDY GRAVES: In memory of Sandy's mother, Sheri Yandall and Sandy's grandfather, Edward "Eki" Yandall, Sr. (red, pink)

HARRELSON FAMILY: In memory of Dr. Lawrence Harrelson (marble)

JOHN & JOYCE HEGENAUER: In memory of Adolph & Ruth Letzgus, Jade Hegenauer, and Carol & Gladys Hegenauer (pink)

GLENN & SHARON HIGNITE: In loving memory of Tom Bacigalupo, Harry Gary, and Loyd Thomas (white)

DONNA HORN: In honor of Lillian & Vern Murphy (red)

PAM & JOHN JOHNSTON: In loving memory of Calvin & Shirley Johnston, Robert & Marie Currie, and in honor of Elizabeth Currie (pink)

MARILYN LAPHAM: In memory of Brian and Durward Lapham (marble)

MARK, BECKY, DOUG, MARY, BRIAN & KELLY: In celebration of Zane and Marian Larive (red)

TOM AND MARGARET MAJCHRZAK: In memory of Ross & Jessie McNab and Robert & Rita Majchrzak (2 red)

FRED & MARY ANN MEYER: In memory of Oliver & Gladys Allen and Fred & Audry Meyer (pink)

KAREN MITCHELL: In memory of Helen & Ralph Davidson (marble)

LEN & SHERYL PETROFF: In memory of Mary Rosine & Len Petroff, and Mary Ann Walker (red)

DEB & LARRY PRYCE: In memory of Jason Bleshenski (2 red)

JUDY RANDALL: In memory of John Randall (white)

PHIL & PENNY REAGH: In honor of Howard & Colleen Schmidt and Dale & Joyce Grigg (2 red)

JAMES ROWLEY: In memory of Elizabeth Rowley (marble)

RIC & KAREN RUSSELL: In memory of Al & Jane Collver and Cliff & June Russell (red)

GEORGE & BEVERLY SIVERTSON: In memory of our parents (red)

DALE SNELLER / KAREN KAYNER & FAMILY AND TOM & MARILYN KAYNER & FAMILY: In memory of Alfred & Dorothy Kayne, Allen & Judy Kayner, Ray & Pearl Miller, Beverly & Gordon Parks, Gordon Parks II, and Roy & Anna Sneller (2 red)

NANCY SWANTEK: In memory of Jerome Swantek - husband and father (red)

WEBSTER C. & WENDY WISSNER TALLY: In memory of Glen & Jean Wissner, B.J. Tally Sr., Harriet Tally Westover, Frank Westover, and Truman Tally (red)

JOHN & MARTHA TAPLEY: In memory of Lin, Helen, and Jim Tapley, and Bud, Dorthy, and David Bodwell (red)

CHRISTINE THURMAN: In memory of Nadine & Ernest Casper and Dean, Helen, and Carol Schroer (2 red)

JAN VAN NOSTRAND: In memory of Jessie McNab, Thomas Caney, Dick Van Nostrand & the Van Nostrand Family Vern, Marie & Bob (red)

AMY WEATHERWAX: In memory of Weatherwax, Periard & McKillop families (2 red)

Rev. Linda & Rev. Jim Williams: In memory of Nelson / Bergseng Family and Williams Family (marble)

LARRY & SUE WILSON: In honor of our family (red)