

Westminster At Worship

A Celebration of Worship *Die and Rise*

January 23, 2022

10:30 a.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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Jamie

PRAYER - Jamie

God of the covenant, your compassion reaches beyond the mere making and keeping of promises. Teach us to listen to one another with your heart, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRELUDE

Wendy Tally

†CALL TO WORSHIP - Mary Rose Davis

God cares for us completely and calls for our total commitment.

Christ gave his life that we might live and calls us to give our lives to him. Through Christ we have died to sin; in Christ we are fully alive to God.

Please rise, as you are comfortable and let us join in the Call to Worship.

LEADER: Do you not know that all of us who are baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

PEOPLE: Therefore, we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

LEADER: Let us worship God.

OPENING HYMN

“Alleluia, Hearts to Heaven”
Trio Recording

CALL TO CONFESSION - **Mary Rose Davis**

Let us draw near to God with sincerity of heart and full assurance of faith, our guilty hearts washed clean, our bodies bathed with pure water.

Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

CONFESSION OF SIN — A LITANY - **Mary Rose, Pastor Linda, Pastor Jamie**

LINDA: Sovereign God, in baptism you called us to turn from sin and turn to Jesus Christ; but we stray from his ways and do not heed your call.

(brief silence)

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

JAMIE: In baptism you joined us to Christ in his death that we might be raised with Christ in new life; but we cherish old ways and fail to embrace the risen life of righteousness, justice, and love.

(brief silence)

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

MARY ROSE: In baptism you united us with all the baptized who confess your name; but we foster division in the church. We refuse to live as one people, and so fail to witness to your reconciling love before the world.

(brief silence)

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

LINDA: In baptism you call us to ministry in all realms of life; but we refuse the struggle to know your will. We do not nurture the ways of peace. We allow enmity and hatred to grow among us, pitting neighbor against neighbor, and nation against nation.

(brief silence)

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

JAMIE: Lord, remember the promises you made to us in our baptism, forgive our sinful ways and heal our brokenness. Set us free from all that enslaves us, and raise us to new life in Jesus Christ, that we may be your faithful servants, showing forth your healing love to the world, and the glory of your holy name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON - Linda

(Jamie pours water into the font.)

Hear the good news! In baptism you were buried with Christ. In baptism also you were raised to life with him, through faith in the power of God who raised Christ from the dead. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

†SHARING GOD'S PEACE - Linda

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. To this peace we were called as members of a single body. The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

FANNING THE FLAME - Brandi

Following this time up front with Ms. Brandi, children are invited to follow her to the Campfire Meeting. Parents can pick up their children following worship in the Children's Church room at the end of the Christian Education hallway.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION - Mary Rose Davis

Let us pray: Loving God, fountain of every blessing, open us to your life-giving word, and fill us with your Holy Spirit so that living water may flow through our hearts — a spring of hope for a thirsty world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Gospel Lessons - Mary Rose Davis

Mark 4:26-29

26 He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, **27** and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. **28** The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. **29** But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

John 12:24-26 - Mary Rose Davis

24 Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. **25** Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. **26** Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

Epistle Lesson - Jamie

Romans 6:3-11

3 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? **4** Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might

walk in newness of life. **5** For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. **6** We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. **7** For whoever has died is freed from sin. **8** But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. **9** We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. **10** The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. **11** So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

SERMON

“Die and Rise”
Rev. Jamie Milton

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from *“A Brief Statement of Faith”*)

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God’s commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted in our care. We deserve God’s condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.

Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a

father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

With believers of every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP - Per Capita Offering Video - *Mary Rose Davis*

Video will play first.

Today we celebrate the ways in which our gathering together makes Christ's church possible. One of these ways is through our generous support of the Presbyterian Church (USA) in the form of per capita gifts. These gifts are part of the call to be one body and they enable us to support the functions and missions of the church reaching the work of our congregation, our presbytery, our synod, our national church, and beyond. For each member on the rolls of Westminster, the church sends \$29, to the higher councils of the church, the presbytery, synod, and the General Assembly so that God's work can be done throughout the world. Today you are invited to give generously, connecting our offerings with those across the PC(USA) who have committed themselves to the work of this church. You may mark your offering for "per capita" and place it in the offering plate with your normal offering, mail your per capita offering into the church, drop it off in the office, or give through our online giving page.

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD - *Mary Rose Davis*

Christ knows every breath we take: each one is a gift from the Spirit. God watches over, protects, and provides for us. Let us present our offerings of thanksgiving for the goodness of the triune God.

OFFERTORY

"The Power of the Cross"
Trio Recording

†UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION - **Mary Rose Davis**

Please rise, as you feel comfortable, and let us join together in the Prayer of Dedication:

Holy One, incarnate One, dynamic One, God who is Trinity, we lift our voices in praise and thanksgiving for the life in Christ Jesus that we receive from you. You have shown that your mercy overcomes sin and evil and brings relief from oppression.

We thank you for your steadfast love that keeps covenant with your people. In Christ we know the depth of your care for all that you create. We invite the Holy Spirit to help us so that we can praise you eternally in the name of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BEING SENT WITH GOD'S WORD

HYMN OF DEDICATION

"Christ Arose"
Trio Recording

CHARGE & BENEDICTION - Jamie

At the font

May the waters of God's grace surround you and uphold you.

May your baptisms strengthen you for the work ahead.

And may the Spirit that descended upon Jesus at his baptism fall upon your shoulders as you seek to do God's will.

Amen.

POSTLUDE

Liturgical texts used with permission from:

Book of Common Worship (2018)

Feasting on the Word Worship Companion Year A, Volume 2. 2014

Benediction - Stephen M. Fearing, www.stephenmfearing.com



MINISTERS

PASTOR

PARISH ASSOCIATE

LITURGIST

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

NURSERY SUPERVISOR

CHOIR DIRECTOR

HANDBELL DIRECTOR

ORGANIST

TREASURER

CUSTODIAN

SECRETARY

CCLI License #2328090

All the People

Rev. Jamie Milton

Rev. Linda Williams

Mary Rose Davis

Brandi Higgins

Elaine Edwards

Dawn Auger

Brandi Higgins

Wendy Tally

Heather Heidtman

Harold Miller

Judy Harrelson

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR JANUARY 23, 2022

PRAYERS are extended to the family and friends of Howard Schmidt. Howie passed away on Friday, January 14, 2022. A funeral service took place at Westminster Presbyterian Church on Thursday, January 20, 2022.

PRAYERS are extended to the family and friends of Weston Pake. Wes passed away on Wednesday, January 19, 2022. A funeral service will take place at Squires Funeral Home on Saturday, January 29 at 2:00 p.m.

FLOWERS today are given by Karen Russell in memory of her mother, Jane Collver, on her birthday.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION will take place in the sanctuary on Sunday, February 13, 2022 immediately following the worship service. Annual reports will be available on Sunday, February 6.

SOUP LUNCHEON: On February 13 following the Annual Meeting of the Congregation, the Youth Group will host a soup luncheon and bake sale in Fellowship Hall. Donations will benefit the youth who will attend Triennium this summer. Please plan to stay for this fun and tasty luncheon! Volunteers are needed. If you would like to donate chili or soup, please contact Sandy Graves at sandra.graves@gmail.com.

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.

PER CAPITA: Per capita for 2022 is \$29.00.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS: Westminster celebrated Children's Sabbath this past October, and with the help of our generous congregation and an anonymous giver, the children and youth department have received a total of \$5,000 to purchase a community farm bundle through Presbyterian Gifts. This gift includes enough livestock, tools and training to support a larger farm that can serve an entire community. This bundle reflects families of chickens, multiple goats, piglets and cows, a pair of oxen with a plow and a collection of equipment — enough to help communities raise both healthy food and their standard of living.

Making this financial challenge more interesting, those donating were able to choose which silo — Pastor Jamie's, Pastor Linda's, or Brandi's — to place their donation. In the end, the donations were tied between the three. Plans are currently being made for them to "kiss a cow" sometime in this spring! Stay tuned for more details!

GOOD NEWS FROM THE DEACONS.

Thank you to WPC for generously giving to the Food Pantry. Despite monthly food distributions to local families, and the delivery of 70 Thanksgiving baskets in November, Food Pantry funds are, yet, *beyond* adequate for the year! However, the Deacon's other work and programs are always in need of funds. Westminster's Board of Deacons expenses also include: communion supplies, devotional booklets, Stephen Ministry, Fifty Year Members dinners, Bibles for funerals, special concerns, and more, to support WPC members and our community. These funds come from undesignated donations to the Deacons Fund. If you wish to give to the Deacons Fund this year, we will be thankful for a "*general donation to Deacons Fund.*" Thank you for your support to help the Lord's work through WPC and the Board of Deacons.

LYDIA CIRCLE will meet in-person on the third Thursday of the month at 1:00 p.m. in the Session room. The next meeting is February 17. We are using the *Horizons Bible Study, What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus.*

DEBORAH CIRCLE: Ladies, you are invited! The Deborah Circle will meet via Zoom on Tuesday, January 25 at 7:00 p.m. Contact Karen Schoeppach at 989-684-1322 or kaysue@chartermi.net for Zoom information.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: When we respond to Jesus' summons to "Follow me" and we choose to follow, we are committing to a lifelong apprenticeship journey — one in which we will continually be formed, reformed, and transformed. Discipleship is not a skill; it's a way of life. Bible Study classes are offered at two different times to accommodate various schedules. Join us on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in the Session Room or Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. The same study materials will be used at both gatherings, and are available for pick-up in the church office. See Rev. Linda or Pastor Jamie with any questions.

THE WIRED WORD, "*where current events and faith intersect,*" takes place on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom (note the time change). News is inevitable — whether good or bad, but what better way to extract hope from this input than to juxtapose scriptures as tools to persevere and navigate our daily walk in Christian faith. Our weekly Wired Word gatherings allow us to reflect on the week's happenings with others who may not share our same thoughts and opinions, but are equally dedicated to thinking about and talking about how current events intersect with our faith questions and convictions. Any questions, or to receive study material and Zoom information, contact Rev. Linda at 686-1360 or parishassoc@wpcbc.org.

This Week at Westminster

Today, Sunday, January 23, 2022

9:00 a.m.	First Light (Sunday School)
9:00 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
9:15 a.m.	Adult Handbell Practice
9:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
11:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time
4:30 p.m.	Junior Bell Practice
5:00 p.m.	Ignite (Youth Group)

Tuesday, January 25

9:00 a.m.	Bay ISD
10:00 a.m.	Hearts & Hands Knitting
10:00 a.m.	The Wired Word via Zoom
6:00 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop 150
7:00 p.m.	Deborah Circle via Zoom

Wednesday, January 26

7:00 p.m.	Adult Bible Study
-----------	-------------------

Thursday, January 27

8:30 a.m.	TOPS
9:00 a.m.	Bay ISD
5:00 p.m.	Food of Faith at Messiah Lutheran
5:00 p.m.	Combustion Council
6:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir

Next Sunday, January 30

9:00 a.m.	First Light (Sunday School)
9:00 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
9:15 a.m.	Adult Handbell Practice
9:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
11:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time
4:30 p.m.	Junior Bell Practice
5:00 p.m.	Ignite (Youth Group)

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.

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.

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK:

Westminster Presbyterian Church
- Bay City

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.

