

Westminster At Worship

A Celebration of Worship

Practice Spiritual Disciplines: Listen to God

March 20, 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

WESTMINSTER AT WORK

OPENING PRAYER

PRELUDE

"The Lord's Prayer"

MALOTTE

Handbell Choir

THE LENTEN CANDLES *"Light of the World"*

INTROIT

"Bells of Praise"

Little Ringers

†CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Draw near to God,

PEOPLE: and God (*raise both arms to the sky*)

will draw near to us. (*bring hands toward heart, crossing them over your heart*)

LEADER: When we listen to God, we recognize God's voice in many ways.

PEOPLE: Let us (*extend arms forward, palms facing upward*)

keep company (*bend elbows and bring together hands in prayer*)

with Jesus. (*sign “Jesus” using right middle finger touching the middle of left palm, repeat with left middle finger touching the middle of right palm*)

HYMN

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”
Handbell Choir

LARSON

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, you are always speaking, giving us instructions, directing our attention, and telling us your love. We confess that sometimes we are not very good listeners. We aren’t sure what is your voice, and what is ours, and what is just noise. We are easily distracted. We like our own ways.

But even when we are too busy, you still call. We admit that we find you difficult to hear, and we ask for your help. Open our minds and hearts. Tune our ears to your voice. Help us to listen to what you have to say, and then help us to follow wherever you lead.

— *A Time of Silent Confession* —

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

In the name of Jesus, we are forgiven and free.
Thanks be to God.

†SHARING GOD’S PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

FANNING THE FLAME

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Gospel Lesson

Mark 1:35-39

Hebrew Lesson

1 Kings 19:1-18

SERMON

"Listen to God"

Rev. Jamie Milton

Some ways to listen to God:

- Sit in silence in an outdoor space for a few minutes listening to nature and to God
- Read the Bible with the expectation that God will speak to you
- Write your thoughts very rapidly in a journal, asking God to speak to you through them
- Observe the way God speaks to you through friends, small groups, and worship services
- Ask someone to pray for you that you will hear God's voice more easily
- Ask Christian friends how they hear God speak to them

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From "A Brief Statement of Faith"

In life and in death, we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the

brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

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

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

"The Lord's Prayer"
Handbell Choir

LARSON

†UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, we thank you for your call and claim upon our lives. Because there is so much more we can become, and so much more we can do, we pray that we listen to your voice; that our practice of generosity will be enlarged; and that our joy in believing will encourage others as we share with them the good news of Jesus Christ; in whose name we pray. Amen.

BEING SENT WITH GOD'S WORD

HYMN

"Here I Am, Lord"

SCHUTTE

Handbell Choir

The congregation is welcome to sing along with the handbell choir.
Brandi will turn and direct the congregation when it is time.

*I the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people's cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?
Go to Refrain*

*I the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them, they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my Word to them.
Whom shall I send?
Go to Refrain*

*I the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them, my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide, til their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?
Go to Refrain*

Refrain

*Here I am Lord. Is it I Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.
At end: I will hold your people in my heart.*

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE



Liturgical texts used with permission from:

Call to Worship — Follow Me Curriculum - *Practice Spiritual Disciplines* Young Children and Multiage Children Leader Guides

Prayer of Confession — Teri Peterson (www.liturgylink.com)

Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year A, Volume 2 (Westminster John Knox Press, 2014)

MINISTERS

PASTOR

PARISH ASSOCIATE

LITURGIST

CCLI License #2328090

All the People

Rev. Jamie Milton

Rev. Linda Williams

Jan Witucki

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MARCH 20, 2022

FLOWERS today are given by Judy Randall in loving memory of John Randall.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL is scheduled for Monday, June 13 – Friday, June 17 from 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. If you are interested in registering your child(ren) or volunteering, please sign up at <https://vbspro.events/p/events/wpcbc>.

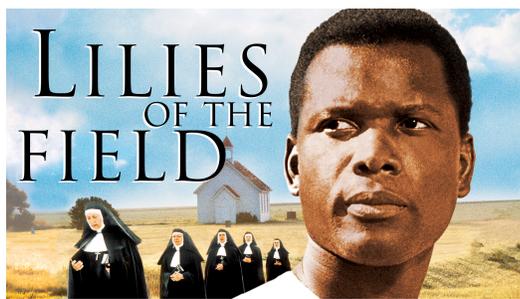
WEEKLY SERVICE OF MORNING

PRAYER: This Lent we will practice “spiritual disciplines” that strengthen our walk with Jesus and with one another. To help cultivate our spiritual discipline of *prayer*, Pastor Jamie will hold a weekly service of morning prayer online during Lent. The next service will take place on Wednesday, March 23 at 9:00 a.m. The service will be streamed on the church’s

Facebook and YouTube pages. This brief (8-12 minute) service will help us start our Wednesdays together in prayer for one another, for our communities, and for the world. Online participants will be able to share their prayer concerns utilizing the comment box on Facebook.

RUMMAGE SALE: The Presbyterian Women of Westminster will organize a rummage sale for the first week of May! It will open Wednesday, May 4 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. for members only. On Thursday, May 5, it will be open to the public from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and Friday, May 6 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. You may drop off items for the rummage sale beginning Sunday, May 1 after the worship service through Tuesday, May 3.

LUNCH & LEARN: Being a life-long learner is the goal of many. If you Google the topic, you can find numerous definitions, articles, suggestions, and benefits. We all know that learning doesn't end once you graduate from high school, college, graduate school, or even graduate into retirement. On Tuesday, March 22 at 1:00 p.m., we will gather in Fellowship Hall to "LEARN." Hopefully by the end of April when we meet, we will again all feel comfortable meeting in Fellowship Hall over a bag lunch. But until then, we will continue LEARNING. Our speaker for this month's gathering will be Sarosh Anwar, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Islamic Center of Saginaw. Part of their mission statement as a faith community is: "Our aim is to promote peace amongst our interfaith community;" not any different in mission and vision than how we hope to "live in community" as Westminster Presbyterian Christians. What a wonderful opportunity we will have to listen, learn, and engage in meaningful discussion.



JOIN US FOR A MOVIE: Join us for an intergenerational movie event on Thursday, March 31 at 1:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. We will watch "Lillies of the Field," a 1963 American comedy drama about a warm, sensitive handy man (Sidney Poitier) who, while stranded in an Arizona desert town, builds a

chapel for a lively group of nuns (including Lilia Skala). The title comes from the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 6:27-33 and its parallel scripture from Luke 12:27-31). In 2020, the film was selected for preservation in the United States National Film Registry by the Library of Congress as being "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant". Popcorn and refreshments will be served!

EMAIL CHURCH COMMUNICATIONS:

This year we hope to expand the ways in which we connect with the church family. The office would like to create an updated email address list so that we can communicate timely and efficiently with those who prefer this means of communication. Once cultivated, our email list would be used for a brief weekly message that will contain the current prayer list, any upcoming event information, and/or changes to the church calendar. Once a month, the Westminster Log will be emailed as well. Thank you to all of those who have contacted the church office with updated email addresses. We will email the monthly Log beginning in April. Those who wish to continue to receive a printed copy mailed to your home each month, will continue to do so. Please contact the church office your preferred method of receiving the Log. Email us at office@wpcbc.org or call us at 989-686-1360. In addition, if you are currently receiving a paper copy of your quarterly contribution statement and would like to receive it electronically, please let us know!

DEBORAH CIRCLE: Ladies, you are invited! The Deborah Circle will meet via Zoom on Tuesday, March 29 at 7:00 p.m. Contact Karen Schoeppach at 989-684-1322 or kaysue@chartermi.net for Zoom information.

THE WIRED WORD, *“Where current events and faith intersect,”* takes place on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom. 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.

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 conference 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.

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

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

THE CHURCH CALENDAR is on the back side of the poinsettia order form this week.

**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.

