

# Westminster At Worship

*A Celebration of Worship*

*The Good News is ... alive in the world!*

*Easter Sunday*

April 5, 2026

8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

Please silence your cell phones prior to entering the sanctuary.

†Those who feel comfortable standing may do so.

\* Denotes hymn number in pew hymnal. Some lyrics may be different than what is projected on the screens



## DISCIPLES GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

SETH CUNNINGHAM

WELCOME

INTROIT (10:30 A.M.)

WPC CHANCEL CHOIR

*“We’ve Got Good News to Tell”  
Words and Music by Don Besig*

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

†CALL TO WORSHIP

On Friday, we thought the good news had been silenced.

**On Friday, we thought the good news had taken its last  
breath.**

On Friday, we thought the good news had been buried.

**But today, we know the good news is alive and well.**

The good news is dancing!

**The good news is on the loose!**

The good news is out in the world, calling your name!

**Alleluia! Even death has lost its sting.**

Let us worship our good-news Christ.

†HYMN

*“Morning Has Broken”*

\*No. 35

*Morning has broken  
like the first morning;  
blackbird has spoken  
like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing!  
Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing  
fresh from the Word!*

*Sweet the rain's new fall  
sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dewfall  
on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness  
of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness  
where God's feet pass.*

*Mine is the sunlight!  
Mine is the morning,  
born of the one light  
Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation;  
praise every morning,  
God's re-creation  
of the new day!*

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Gracious God, we want to be Easter people.  
We want to shout your good news from the rooftop.  
We want to follow the disciples, who ran to look for you.  
We want to follow the angels, who said, "Be not afraid," but we  
are afraid.  
And we don't know where to look.  
And we are worried we'll say the wrong thing.  
So forgive us, for we are imperfect Easter people.  
We are best intentions and best laid plans.  
We are an out-of-tune chorus of "alleluias."  
We are on our way, but we are not there yet.  
Show us how to embody your good news in this world.  
Show us how to be your Easter people.**

**With hope for tomorrow, we pray...**

— *Continue in Silent Confession* —

## **WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

So join me in this good news declaration:

**Through Jesus Christ we are seen, saved, loved, and claimed.  
This is the good news of the gospel! Thanks be to God.  
Amen.**

## **†RESPONSE**

\*TUNE OF NO. 22 (ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY)

*Easter people, raise your voices,  
sounds of heaven in earth should ring.  
Christ has brought us heaven's choices;  
heavenly music let it ring.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Easter people, let us sing.*

## **†SHARING GOD'S PEACE**

Let us share the joy of our resurrection as we greet one another with love using these traditional words spoken by Easter Christians throughout the centuries: Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## **DISCIPLES LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD**

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

### **FIRST READING**

**Acts 10:34-43**

### **SECOND READING**

**Matthew 28:1-10**

## SERMON

*"The Good News is alive in the world!"*

**Rev. Jamie Milton**

## †HYMN

*"Jesus Christ is Risen Today"*

\*No. 288

*Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!  
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!  
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!*

*Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!  
unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!  
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!  
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!*

*But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!  
our salvation have procured. Alleluia!  
Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!  
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!*

*Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!  
praise eternal as God's love. Alleluia!  
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!*

## DISCIPLES RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

### †AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

In the dark before dawn,  
**we believe that God is alive.**

In the midst of our grief,  
**we believe the Spirit is at work.**

In the chaos of our broken world,  
**we believe that love is on the loose.**  
For no stone could keep God at bay,  
**and no violence could keep God's love from us.**  
So today we sing,  
***Alleluia!***  
For somewhere in between our belief and doubt,  
**hope lives.**  
Christ has died,  
**and Christ has also risen.**  
**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

### OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND LIVES

#### CALL FOR THE OFFERING

#### OFFERTORY (8:30 A.M.)

WPC CONTEMPORARY CHOIR

*"Holy Forever"*

*Words and Music by Phil Wickham, Chris Tomlin, Brian Johnson,  
Jenn Johnson and Jason Ingram; Arranged by Jay Rouse*

#### OFFERTORY (10:30 A.M.)

WPC CHANCEL CHOIR

*"Risen Indeed"*

*Words and Music by Joseph M. Martin*

*\*Today's Loose Offering will be used to support the ministry of the  
Westminster Deacons.*

#### †DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

## **†PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Almighty God, by your grace, accept the fruit of our labor and the offering of our lives in union with our risen Lord who lives and reigns with you forever. Amen.**

## **SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

### **INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

### **GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed.**

Lift up your hearts

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.**

### **COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

*All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Everyone is invited to receive communion, regardless of your faith tradition or membership status.*

*You are invited to come forward to receive the elements this morning. You will receive a piece of bread and a cup from one of the trays. Please take communion before returning to your seats. If you wish to remain seated, please let one of the servers know.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Loving Christ, thank you for the bread that nourishes our bodies.  
Thank you for the cup that quenches our thirst.  
Thank you for this community, which reminds us who we are.  
Thank you for this Table that brings us together.  
Thank you for the music that lifts our spirits.  
Thank you for the promise that at this Table, and every table, you  
will be there. May this holy meal nourish us to go out into the  
world speaking of your good, good news.  
With joy and hope we pray, amen.

## DISCIPLES DEPART TO SERVE GOD

†HYMN

*“Christ is Alive”*

\*No. 312

*Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.  
The cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring.  
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.*

*Christ is alive! No longer bound  
to distant years in Palestine,  
but saving, healing, here and now,  
and touching every place and time.*

*In every insult, rift, and war  
where color, scorn, or wealth divide,  
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,  
and lives, where even hope has died.*

*Christ is alive, and comes to bring  
good news to this and every age,  
till earth and sky and ocean ring  
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.*

## BENEDICTION

When we meet anger,  
    **we will speak with love.**  
When we meet fear,  
    **we will speak with hope.**  
When we meet pain,  
    **we will speak with gentleness.**  
But no matter what,  
    **we will speak this good news.**

For the good news of the gospel is love and justice for all.  
It is joy that surprises, and nonviolence that transforms.  
**The good news of the gospel is alive in the world, so we go forth speaking. Amen.**

*(8:30 a.m.) Please join us for breakfast after worship!*

*(10:30 a.m.) Hallelujah Chorus those how would like to join in singing are invited to come forward!*

**+POSTLUDE**

**SETH CUNNINGHAM**



### **Liturgical texts taken from:**

*Liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC| sanctifiedart.org.  
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR APRIL 5, 2026

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

• **CONTACT INFORMATION UPDATES:** Heading to a warmer climate this winter? Have you moved recently? Do you have a new email address? Please call the church office to let us know of these changes so your statement and other church correspondence reaches you.

• **ADULT BIBLE STUDY:** We provide two opportunities for folks to participate – **Sunday mornings at 9 a.m.** in the Lounge or **Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. by Zoom.**

• **WINGS OF PRAYER:** If you have someone you would like to add to our Wings of Prayer list, please contact Patti Wesenick at 989-737-6844.

• **PER CAPITA for 2026 is \$35.00.** Per capita connects Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) congregations and mid councils with the work of the wider church. Per capita is how Presbyterians mutually and equitably share the costs of moving the church forward in the 21st century. The work of the PC(USA), and in particular the work of the General Assembly, is only possible because members of the church have said they are “all in” and committed to connection through per capita support.

• **GATHERING AND GAMES:** on **April 19th**, we’ll gather again for fellowship and **GAMES!** We’ve always got some games to choose from, but if you’ve got one to share, bring it along! Whether you want to play a game with the crowd, or are just looking for an excuse to spend time with some friends and eat, we hope you’ll join us.

MINISTERS

PASTOR

PARISH ASSOCIATE

LITURGISTS

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

NURSERY SUPERVISOR

CHOIR DIRECTOR

HANDBELL DIRECTOR

YOUTH BELLS AND CHIME CHOIR DIRECTOR

ORGANIST

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

SECRETARY

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR

FACILITIES MANAGER

All the People

Rev. Jamie Milton

Rev. Linda Williams

Heather Heidtman (8:30 a.m.)

Marilyn Bechtel (10:30 a.m.)

Leah Sneller

Elaine Edwards

Dawn Auger

Seth Cunningham

Judy Harrelson

Seth Cunningham

Martha Tapley

Bill Petzold

Pat Foster

Harold Miller

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR APRIL 5, 2026

- **YOUTH GROUP** will not meet on Easter Sunday, April 5. A movie night is planned for April 19.

- **SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE BED**

**BUILD:** Westminster's next bed build with Sleep in Heavenly Peace is April 18. You



can sign up using the QR code below. Youth ages 12 and older are welcome (a parent or guardian signature is required for those under 18). On-site registration begins at 8:45

a.m. Please note the new location: 4055 S. Saginaw Rd., Midland. We hope you'll join us! Questions? Contact Len Petroff.

- **OUR BOOK GROUP** is excited to begin a new reading journey with *The Prayer Box* by Lisa Wingate, a tender and inspiring story about second chances, unexpected grace, and the quiet strength found in a life of faith. **Join us on Tuesday, April 7th at 1:30 p.m.** Whether you're a returning participant or joining for the first time, we welcome you to come enjoy warm fellowship, meaningful discussion, and the uplifting message this story offers. Bring your thoughts, reflections, and the moments that spoke to you. We look forward to sharing this journey together! Any questions, please call Rev. Linda. A few copies are still available in the church office.

- **THE OUT-TO-LUNCH BUNCH** will gather next at Meats & Mooore, 1411 S. Wenonah St., on Wednesday, April 15. They have a large eating area in the back of the deli. If you would like to attend, please contact Dave Crook at [crookds@earthlink.net](mailto:crookds@earthlink.net) or 847-624-5798

## Westminster COMMUNITY PANTRY

**Pantry Stats:** In February, we served 594 people from 218 families with 6545 pounds of food. 47 families were first time visitors. 120 were last here in January or December. And 51 hadn't been here since November or earlier. Families came from 9 different Bay County cities, with the majority from Bay City and Essexville. We are glad people are finding our pantry when they need food. Thank you for helping us feed our hungry neighbors!

**Item of the Month:** The April "Item of the Month" is packages of dry seasoning mixes like taco or ranch seasoning. This will be something new in the pantry that our guests will love. All donations may be left on the cart outside the pantry door. Thank you!

Scan the QR code to visit the pantry Facebook page:



### **Westminster Presbyterian Church**

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

email: [office@wpcbc.org](mailto:office@wpcbc.org)

website: [wpcbc.org](http://wpcbc.org)

The office is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Closed noon to 1 p.m. for lunch each day.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR APRIL 5, 2026

• **HEARTS AND HANDS KNITTING** If you knit or crochet, we would love to have you join us **Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Session Room.**

• **TEA SETS FOR SALE:** The Presbyterian Women's board is offering pieces of our two tea sets to the congregation in exchange for a free-will donation. We will be using the money to purchase new coffee carafes for the kitchen. Please visit our table at the Easter breakfast on April 5.

• **RUMMAGE AND BAKE SALE:** Westminster's Presbyterian Women committee is planning a **Spring Rummage Sale and Bake Sale for Wednesday, April 15 through Friday, April 17.** We will begin collecting rummage sale items and setting up on Sunday, April 12. **PLEASE BRING BAKE SALE ITEMS TUESDAY, APRIL 14 OR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15.** There will be opportunities to help set up on March 13 and 14, to bake items for the bake sale and

to help run the sale and bake sale.

**Volunteers also will be needed to help clean up on Friday, April 17, especially volunteers with trucks** that we can load full of the remaining items from the sale.

Donations of large boxes would also be greatly appreciated!

• **CARING CONNECTIONS:** Our grief group is open to the Bay City community. We will next meet at **1:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 9** in the Lounge. For more information, ask Rev. Linda or Mary Nicholson.

• **WOMEN'S CHOIR** will be singing **May 10.** If you would like to participate, please contact choir director Dawn Auger at 989-327-0412. We will practice after church on April 12 and April 19 for 15 minutes. We will also practice before Chancel Choir practices at 6:15 p.m. each Wednesday.

### Giving to Westminster

There are many ways to share your gifts with Westminster.

Cash and checks are welcome. Please use your offering envelopes or the envelopes found in pew backs and place your gift in the offering plate when it is passed. Visit our website [www.wpcbc.org](http://www.wpcbc.org) and click on the "Give Now" button at the top of the page. This will direct you to our Online Giving Portal or simply scan the QR Code. Contributions can also be sent through the mail to the attention of the Church Treasurer. We're grateful for your gifts, however you choose to give. **THANK YOU!**

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>Month to Date thru March 22,</b>	
	<b>2026</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>
Pledges & Other Giving	\$ 81,295	\$ 187,031
One-time Gifts	\$ -	\$ -
Other Cash Received	\$ 643	\$ 3,811
Total Income	\$ 81,938	\$ 190,842
Expenses	\$ 38,508	\$ 100,926
Net Income/(Loss)	\$ 43,430	\$ 89,916

Budgeted expense total for 2026 is \$467,000.

