

Westminster At Worship

A Celebration of Worship

All My Days: Persistence

“For thine is the kingdom, and the glory, forever”

August 23, 2026

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.*



THE “WHEN”

(We Gather)

PRELUDE

SHARON COSTELLO

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THRESHOLD

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” No. 469

**Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place.
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.**

We arrive fully into this moment, Holy One.
We open to sense your presence among us.
We hear you say,
“I am holding this world.”

We need you, Jesus, to help us.
We come to you as your first disciples did.
We hear you say,
“I am holding this world.”

Spirit of Divine Love,
come to us with your healing waters.
We hear you say,
“I am holding this world.”

**Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place.
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.**

†HYMN

“This is the Day”

*No. 652

*This is the day, this is the day
That the Lord has made, that the Lord has made;
We will rejoice, we will rejoice
And be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Lord has made;
We will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day
That the Lord has made.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of our redemption,
we confess that we have not been faithful servants.
We have not served you with sincere hearts
nor trusted in your salvation.
We have forsaken you, the living God,
and have chosen to follow the lifeless idols
of worldly power and wealth.
Forgive us our sin, O God.**

**Lead us to heartfelt repentance
that we may honor you with our lips
and serve you with our lives;
through our Savior, Jesus Christ.**

— A time of Silent Confession —

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.

+RESPONSE TO GOD’S GRACE

GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.*

+SHARING GOD’S PEACE

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

THE “WHAT”
(WE PROCLAIM)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Ephesians 6:14-18

GOSPEL READING

Luke 22:66-71

SERMON

Persistence: Yours is the kingdom, and the glory, forever
Rev. Jamie Milton

*Come, thou almighty King,
help us thy name to sing;
help us to praise:
Father, all glorious,
o'er all victorious,
come, and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.*

*Come, thou incarnate Word,
merciful, mighty Lord,
our prayer attend.
Come, and thy people bless,
and give thy word success;
Spirit of holiness,
on us descend.*

*Come, holy Comforter,
thy sacred witness bear
in this glad hour.
Thou who almighty art,
now rule in every heart,
and ne'er from us depart,
Spirit of power.*

*To thee, great One in Three,
eternal praises be,
hence evermore!
Thy sovereign majesty
may we in glory see,
and to eternity
love and adore.*

THE “WHERE”
(WE RESPOND)

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYER SONG

“All My Days” (legato version)

*You know my words before they're said.
You know my need and I am fed.
You give me life. You know my ways,
my strength, my path, for all my days.
my strength, my path, for all my days.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

...let us pray for the needs of the world, saying,
Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

THE PRAYER OF JESUS

Cross (or pendant): Loving God,

Invitatory bead (first Large): You have called me into this time of prayer,

Resurrection bead (first Medium): to be with you.

Cruciform bead (next Large): Hear my prayer:

Bead 1: Our Abba, God, who art in heaven

Bead 2: hallowed be thy name.

Bead 3: Thy kingdom come, they will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Bead 4: Give us this day our daily bread.

Bead 5: And forgive us our trespasses (or debts), as we forgive those who trespass against us (or debtors).

Bead 6: Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Bead 7: For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever.

End Bead: Amen.

Resurrection bead (Medium): Christ is alive in me,

Invitatory bead (first Large): Thanks be to God.

Cross (or pendant): Amen.

PRAYER SONG

“All My Days” (legato version)
You know my words before they’re said.
You know my need and I am fed.
You give me life. You know my ways,
my strength, my path, for all my days.
my strength, my path, for all my days.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

HARPER LINDAHL-MILTON AND JANELLE BALLARD

“Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)”
Written by Matt Crocker, Joel Houston and Salomon Lighthelm

†DOXOLOGY

TUNE: LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Like strands of beads, we offer gifts,
that one by one, your love will lift.
Alleluia, alleluia!**
**That all may have just what they need,
by this we’re bless’d and truly freed.
Hear our prayers, God.
Be our guide, Lord.
Holy Spirit, come and fill us.
Alleluia!**

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Almighty God, we dedicate ourselves to serve you,
for you alone are our God.
Receive, O God, the gifts we offer,
and with these gifts accept the offering of our lives;
through Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

THE “WHY”
(WE GO FORTH)

†HYMN

“This is my Song”

FINLANDIA

*This is my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
but other hearts in other lands are beating
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.*

*My country’s skies are bluer than the ocean,
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine.
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
So hear my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for their land and for mine.*

*This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms:
thy kingdom come; on earth thy will be done.
Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him,
and hearts united learn to live as one.
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations:
myself I give thee; let thy will be done.*

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

†POSTLUDE

SHARON COSTELLO



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ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR AUGUST 23, 2026

- **The FLOWERS for today's service** are provided in celebration of Jack Smylie's 70th birthday by his wife, Janet.
- **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.
- **BOOK/BIBLE STUDY SERIES:** This summer we invite you to join our book/Bible study series on ***Tending the Wild Garden: Growing in the Fruit of the Spirit*** by Eugenia Gamble. We will meet four weeks in August. You need not attend all weeks, just come as you are able to enjoy and be inspired. Our next meeting is **Wednesday, August 26 at 1:30 p.m.**
- **THE OUT-TO-LUNCH BUNCH** will gather at North Peak Brewing Company, 1100 N. Water St. at 1 p.m. on

Wednesday, August 26. If you would like to attend, please RSVP with Dave Crook at 847-624-5798 or crookds@earthlink.net.

- **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.
- **BELL CHOIR:** Next Sunday, August 30, we will gather in the bell room for a music organization session at 9:30 a.m.

Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

email: office@wpcbc.org

website: 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.

MINISTERS

PASTOR

PARISH ASSOCIATE

LITURGIST

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

NURSERY SUPERVISOR

ACCOMPANIST

CHOIR DIRECTOR

HANDBELL DIRECTOR/ORGANIST

YOUTH BELLS AND CHIME CHOIR DIRECTOR

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

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SECRETARY

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Rev. Linda Williams

Jan Witucki

Leah Sneller

Elaine Edwards

Sharon Costello

Dawn Auger

Seth Cunningham

Judy Harrelson

Lisa Carelli

Martha Tapley

Bill Petzold

Harold Miller

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR AUGUST 23, 2026

- **SAVE THE DATE! Fall Kickoff and Neighboring Sunday, September 13**

Mark your calendars for this year's fall kickoff Sunday! Many of our programming and rehearsals start back after being on break for the summer and we'll have a talented Brass Ensemble present to help lead us in worship. This is an excellent opportunity to bring a friend or invite a neighbor to join us for the day! Following worship, we'll have an extended time of fellowship with plenty of food and fun. Football fans should have plenty of time to grab some food and still make it home before the NFL season kicks off (we'll even put on the Lions pregame show for you!) Wear your team colors, your GRIT & Grace shirt, or other WPC shirt and help us kick off a season of learning, serving, and growing together in faith and friendship.

- **CARING MEAL PROGRAM RETURNS TO WESTMINSTER:**

We're excited to share that a beloved ministry is returning to Westminster — the Caring Meal Program. Sponsored by the Board of Deacons, this ministry provides short-term meals to individuals and families experiencing a recent life event or temporary hardship. Through nourishing food and compassionate care, we hope to reflect Christ's love and support our church family during challenging times. A pilot team of Meal Preparers is serving during August and September as we fine-tune the process. Once the pilot wraps up, we'll invite the congregation to join us in making this meaningful ministry flourish.

- **CARING CONNECTIONS:** Come join us on the first Thursday of every month. Our Caring Connections Group is open to the Bay City community, so if you have a friend or neighbor who is dealing with grief, they are welcome to join! **Please note that we will not be meeting in August because of scheduling issues. Our next meeting is planned for Thursday, September 10 because the 3rd is Memorial Day weekend.**

- **MATTHEW 25 CAFÉ** at The Salvation Army (322 Adams Street) serves free meals six days a week to the Bay City community, feeding about 100 people daily. They need help with food prep and service. On the **second Tuesday of each month, 5–7 volunteers help cook and serve.** Summer months bring fewer volunteers, so extra help is needed. If you can spare two hours a month—either preparing food (9 to 11 a.m.) or serving and cleaning up (11 a.m. to 1 p.m.)—please sign up on the Wenona Lobby board or call the church office with your name, date, and time. **Westminster's next opportunity to serve is Tuesday, September 8.** If you have any questions, please contact Darlene Kusterer at 989-385-4062 or call the church office.

- **CHOIR REHEARSALS:** If you would like to add your voice to one of our choirs, please contact Dawn Auger or Seth Cunningham. **Bell choir** rehearses Sunday mornings at 8:45 a.m. beginning September 13, **Contemporary Choir** rehearses at 5:15 p.m. on Wednesdays beginning September 14. **Chancel Choir** rehearses Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. beginning September 9.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR AUGUST 23, 2026

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 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!

GENERAL FUND	Current Period	
	August 18, 2026	Year to Date
Pledges & Other Giving	\$ 20,856	\$ 322,360
One-time Gifts		\$ -
Other Cash Received	\$ -	\$ 10,304
Total Income	\$ 20,856	\$ 332,664
Expenses	\$ 4,593	\$ 248,199
Fire System Upgrade	\$ -	\$ 29,175
Excess(Loss)	\$ 16,263	\$ 55,290
Budgeted expense total for 2026 is \$467,000.		



Westminster

COMMUNITY PANTRY

July Statistics: The Pantry served 633 people from 244 families with 7,542 pounds of food. Our weekly averages included 126 people from 49 families with 1508 pounds of food. We also noted that 18% of families were new, 48% came in the last month, 24% came 2-4 months ago, and a whopping 10% hadn't come in 5 months or more.

The August Item of the Month is Cereal. Our guests are thrilled when we have a good selection of cereal to choose from. Help us refill our shelves! All donations

may be left on the cart outside the pantry door. Thank you!

We thank Maillette Family Chiropractic for sponsoring another food drive for us during the month of August. This is the third food drive they have hosted, and we appreciate their generosity (and that of their patients).

Our Free Little Library book cart has been a big hit, but that means the shelves are now pretty empty. We appreciate all book donations!

It's the time of year that we are getting donations of fresh produce from Hidden Harvest, parishioners and community members. Keep them coming!

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR AUGUST 23, 2026

- **THE FINAL SUMMER MOVIE SERIES**

feature, *Yentl*, will be shown this Tuesday, August 25 at 1:30 p.m. in the Session Room. The Session Room will be set up as a theater, and popcorn and refreshments will be served!

- **DEBORAH CIRCLE** will hold its first meeting on the new program year at **4 p.m. Thursday, September 17**, at the home of Darlene Kusterer, 5571 Hickory Lane, Bay City 48706. We will be continuing our study of the television series "The Chosen" with Season 5, Episode 2. If you are interested in joining

the Deborah Circle for this new year, please contact Karen Schoeppach or call the church office.

- **LYDIA CIRCLE** will hold its first Bible Study on **Thursday, September 17 at 1 p.m.** in the conference room. Lydia Circle uses the Presbyterian Women Bible Study curriculum, *New Horizons*. The group meets on the third Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. If you are interested in joining, please contact group leaders Elaine Edwards at 989-397-5642 or Barb Tolles at 989-963-9369.

**Outdoor worship,
Next Sunday, August 30
10:30 a.m.**

