

Westminster At Worship

A Celebration of Worship *Second Sunday of Easter* *Building Blocks: Becoming a Believer*

April 12, 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



DISCIPLES GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

SETH CUNNINGHAM

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Praise the Lord! I thank the Lord with all my heart
in the company of those who do right.

**The works of the Lord are magnificent;
they are treasured by all who desire them.**

God's deeds are majestic and glorious.

God's righteousness stands forever.

God is famous for wondrous works.

The Lord is full of mercy and compassion.

God's handiwork is honesty and justice;

all God's rules are trustworthy—

**they are established always and forever:
they are fulfilled with truth and right doing.**

Fear of the Lord is where wisdom begins;

sure knowledge is for all who keep God's laws.

God's praise lasts forever!

*Called as partners in Christ’s service,
called to ministries of grace,
we respond with deep commitment
fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing,
side by side and friend with friend,
equal partners in our caring
to fulfill God’s chosen end.*

*Christ’s example, Christ’s inspiring,
Christ’s clear call to work and worth,
let us follow, never faltering,
reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer,
all God’s people, young and old,
blending human skills together
gracious gifts from God unfold.*

*Thus new patterns for Christ’s mission,
in a small or global sense,
help us bear each other’s burdens,
breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision,
words of challenge, said with care,
bring new power and strength for action,
make us colleagues, free and fair.*

*So God grant us for tomorrow
ways to order human life
that surround each person's sorrow
with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living,
our compassion to increase,
messengers of faith, thus giving
hope and confidence and peace.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess
our failure to be what you created us to be.
You alone know how often we have sinned
in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting
your love. By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light
and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.**

— Continue in Silent Confession —

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.
The old life has gone; a new life has begun.
Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

Alleluia! Thanks be to God.

†RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE

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

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

At this time, children (5th grade and younger) are invited to a worship experience just for them. The leaders will meet them at the back of the church following the "Sharing of God's Peace" and will bring them back during the offertory.

DISCIPLES LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

EPISTLE LESSON

1 Peter 1:3-9

GOSPEL LESSON

John 20:19-31

SERMON

"Becoming a Believer"

Rev. Jamie Milton

†HYMN

"Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna"

*No. 293

*Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna!
Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder:
all creation is amazed.
In the desert all-surrounding,
see, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding
bring a taste of love unknown.*

*Christ is risen! Raise your spirits
from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning.
See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection,
not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion.
Joy and peace shall never end.*

*Christ is risen! Earth and heaven
nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation
where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus:
"Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
God the First and Last is with us.
Sing Hosanna everyone!*

†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 then 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 resurrections of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

CHORAL OFFERING

MEN'S CHOIR

"Were You There?"

Words and Music Traditional; Arranged by Mary McDonald

†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

**Jesus our Protector and Savior,
we thank you for every gift you have given us
that brings us delight and joy in this life.
We thank you for every gift that comes to us
in times of despair to lift us up
and tend to our sorrows.
May these gifts reach out to our world,
that others may know your joy, your caring,
your deep understanding of despair—
and your Life that-defeats death. Amen.**

DISCIPLES DEPART TO SERVE GOD

†HYMN

“Alleluia! Laud and Blessing”

WEISSE FLAGGEN

*Alleluia! Laud and blessing
to our God, whose Word is sure;
by whose grace we find redemption,
in whose love we live secure.
Righteousness and rich compassion
shall attend us all our days;
may God’s promise to be faithful
echo through our songs of praise!*

*Alleluia! God sustains us;
matchless are the gifts we share:
light in darkness, hope in conflict,
answers to our deepest prayer.
Ours to give as we are given:
arms to lift when others fall;
images of God’s great goodness,
faithful servants to God’s call.*

*Alleluia! Holy Parent,
all your children now reclaim;
may our lives reflect your justice,
heirs to your most sacred name.
Fill our hearts with understanding,
brace our weakness by your might;
awesome honor, born in wisdom;
your great glory, our delight!*

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

†POSTLUDE



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ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR APRIL 12, 2026

• **THE FLOWERS** for today's service are provided by Jack Gustafson in loving memory of his wife Susan and in celebration of Darlene Kusterer's birthday.

• **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.

• **RUMMAGE SALE SETUP BEGINS TODAY!** 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 TODAY! **PLEASE BRING BAKE SALE ITEMS TUESDAY, APRIL 14 OR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15.**

There will be opportunities to help set up on April 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!

• **YOUTH GROUP DINNERS:** Do you like to cook or bake meals? If yes, then we would love for you to **sign up to help with Youth Dinners for Sunday night youth group meetings.** If not, there is still a way you can help with dinner. You can choose to provide dinner by providing pizza,

chicken tenders, Mac & Cheese or something along those lines. We usually have dinner from 5:30 to 6:00 p.m. You will get a count a couple of days in advance.

Please scan the QR

code, visit <https://tinyurl.com/bd7hv7u8> or see Leah Sneller to sign up.



MINISTERS
PASTOR
PARISH ASSOCIATE
LITURGIST
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
Len Petroff
Leah Sneller
Elaine Edwards
Dawn Auger
Seth Cunningham
Judy Harrelson
Seth Cunningham
Martha Tapley
Bill Petzold
Pat Foster
Harold Miller

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR APRIL 12, 2026

- **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.



- **THE OUT-TO-LUNCH BUNCH** will gather next at Meats & Moore, 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 or 847-624-5798

- **ADULT BIBLE STUDY:** "Westminster in Worship – Building Blocks: Stories of the Early Church" highlights foundational commitments of Christian faith during the Great Fifty Days between Easter and Pentecost. Both in worship and Bible study we will explore themes such as believing without seeing, recognizing Christ's presence, living in community, and asking faithful questions, using the weekly lectionary passages to guide our study and reflection. Join us for **Sunday morning Bible study at 9:00** or **Thursday evening Zoom study at 7 p.m.** We will follow these same scripture passages and themes each week, allowing participants in either group to journey together through this shared exploration of early church experiences and core practices of faith.

Westminster COMMUNITY PANTRY

Pantry Stats: March was a typical month in the pantry. We served 560 people from 198 households with 6,855 pounds of food. Thank you for all the ways this congregation helps us feed the hungry in our community!

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.

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
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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR APRIL 12, 2026

• **OUR BOOK GROUP** is excited to continue our 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 Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. in the Lounge.** 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.

• **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.

• **BEING PRESBYTERIAN:** Have you ever wondered about the significance of the Sacraments in our Reformed tradition? Join us for the next session of our Being Presbyterian class, where we'll explore Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Together, we'll reflect on how these sacred acts embody God's grace and nurture our faith community. Come learn, ask questions, share experiences, and deepen your appreciation for how the Sacraments enrich our worship and fellowship. All are welcome—bring your curiosity and a friend! We will meet **Sunday, April 19** for dinner at 5:30 p.m.

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	Month to Date	
	thru April 5, 2026	Year to Date
Pledges & Other Giving	\$ 7,144	\$ 199,210
One-time Gifts	\$ -	\$ -
Other Cash Received	\$ 460	\$ 3,154
Total Income	\$ 7,604	\$ 202,364
Expenses	\$ 3,451	\$ 111,284
Net Income/(Loss)	\$ 4,153	\$ 91,080

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



ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR APRIL 12, 2026

• **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.

• **MOTHER'S DAY BABY SHOWER:** The annual Mother's Day Baby Shower will take place on **May 10**. Please help us to make it a success by **bringing in your donations on Sundays April 19, April 26, May 3 and May 10**. The items will be distributed between Salvation Army, Rescue Ministries and the Bay Area Women's Center. Suggested items include: diapers, pacifiers, bibs, blankets, onesies, bath items and towels, socks and clothing, bottles and dishes and toys.

• **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.

• **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!

• **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.

• **UKELELE GROUP INTEREST:** Hey, Westminster!!! Have you ever wanted to play an instrument? Dawn and Seth are thinking about starting a beginner's ukulele group. Let one of us know if you are interested in joining! Call Dawn at 989-327-0412 or Seth at 810-288-7710

• **LYDIA CIRCLE:** Our April meeting date falls during the Spring Rummage and Bake Sale, so we will not meet in April as many of our members enjoy helping out with the rummage sale. Our next gathering is scheduled for May 21.

Save the Dates for May

May 17- Rev. Isaac Chung will be with us for worship! Following worship will be our annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon.

May 31- End-of-School Block Party

