

Westminster At Worship

*A Celebration of Worship
Speak Less, Listen More
50-Year Member Celebration*

September 29, 2024

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

PRELUDE

SETH CUNNINGHAM

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WESTMINSTER AT WORK

OPENING PRAYER

†CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Come walk with us.

PEOPLE: We will join the journey.

LEADER: Let us talk together.

PEOPLE: We will listen and speak.

LEADER: Christ goes with us.

PEOPLE: Jesus guides our steps.

†HYMN

"Abide with Me"

(verses 1-3, 5)

EVENTIDE

*Abide with me: fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
help of the helpless, O abide with me.*

*Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away;
change and decay in all around I see.
O thou who changest not, abide with me.*

*I need thy presence every passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.*

*Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

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.**

— Silence —

**Thank you, God, for hearing us, and for speaking to us.
Remind us of your love and forgiveness, and give us strength to
be faithful to you.
We pray in the name of Jesus.**

— *A Time of Silent Confession* —

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

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

†RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE

"Gloria Patri"

GREATOREX

*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

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

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

**Hebrew Lesson
Ecclesiastes 5:1-3**

**Epistle Reading
James 1:17-27**

SERMON

“Speak Less, Listen More”
Rev. Jamie Milton

†HYMN

“For You, My God, I Wait”

SPRINGTIME

*For you, my God, I wait
with hope born of the Word.
Like sleepless ones who long to dream
I wait and call my Lord.*

*Lord, hear my pleading voice,
and let me know you hear!
As sleepless ones feel rest approach,
I know my God is near.*

*If you should list my faults,
the sins of heart and hand,
like sleepless ones who groan at dawn
I know I could not stand!*

*For even from the deep
I know you hear my cries.
Like sleepless ones who dream at last,
I ease my weary eyes.*

*And once my soul is still,
in you I find my rest,
at peace as though a child upon
a gentle mother’s breast.*

*O God, you are my hope;
I know that you forgive.
Your love redeems me from the depths
so I may rise and live.*

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, God's 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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD WITH THANKSGIVING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

CHORAL OFFERING

"Beloved, Let Us Love One Another"
Chancel Choir

CHOPLIN

~ Please record your presence on the "Friendship Pad"

†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.*

†UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Living God, thank you for your gifts of life—colorful fall
flowers, bountiful fall harvests, singing creatures, and our
own lives, renewed in Christ.**

**Let your grace infuse the gifts we offer with life-giving power
for those in need.**

**In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

AFFIRMATION OF DISCIPLESHIP

Recognition of our 50 Year Members

BEING SENT WITH GOD'S WORD

†HYMN

"Seek Ye First"

LAFFERTY

*Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!*

*Ask, and it shall be given unto you;
seek, and you shall find;
knock, and the door shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!*

*You shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God.
Allelu, alleluia!*

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

LEADER: We have been called to love and serve in the world around us.

PEOPLE: We go out to do just that, to provide leadership as we serve our neighbors.

LEADER: As you go out into the world, carry with you God's love for the world.

PEOPLE: We pledge to share that love in our words, in our deeds, in how we serve our neighbors.

LEADER: Go secure in the knowledge that God, who models servant leadership in the life of Jesus Christ, is with you everywhere and every day.

PEOPLE: We trust in God. Amen.

POSTLUDE

SETH CUNNINGHAM



Liturgical texts used with permission from:

Follow Me: Speak Less, Listen More- Worship Helps. Growing Faith Resources 2024.

Benediction—Gord Waldie, www.worshipofferings.blogspot.com

Confession —Rev. Teri Peterson, www.liturgylink.net

Abingdon Worship Annual 2023.

Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1 © 2013

Westminster John Knox Press

Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 2 © 2015

Westminster John Knox Press

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Seth Cunningham

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Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 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 below.

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!



ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

HAPPY 88th BIRTHDAY to Leota Clark from your family and Westminster friends.

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.

CONGRATULATIONS to our newest 50-year members: Sally Calvo, Marilyn Lapham, Christine Thurman and Patti Wesenick.

50 YEAR MEMBER CELEBRATION: please make plans to stay after worship **TODAY** and honor our 50-Year Members. A catered lunch will be served from Latitude 43 Restaurant. Everyone is invited!

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK: Westminster Presbyterian Church-Bay City.

WAYS TO SUPPORT THE WESTMINSTER

COMMUNITY PANTRY: If you would like to sign up to work our **Westminster Community Pantry**, Wednesday evenings, 4-7 p.m. or Thursday mornings, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., please see the sign up sheets on the bulletin board outside the sanctuary.

Is your garden overflowing with fresh and delicious vegetables? The Food Pantry would love to share your abundance with our Pantry guests. Please drop off any produce on Tuesday or Wednesday mornings. Place it on the cart by the Food Pantry door. Thank you for sharing your plentiful bounty with those in need.

MONETARY donations are also appreciated. Every dollar donated to our Food Pantry buys up to 4 meals for our Pantry guests.

Another way to help is to work with one of our Food Pantry partners. For every hour a volunteer works at the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan, we earn credit to buy food for our own pantry. **We'll be volunteering October from 1:30-4:30 p.m. Like last time, we'll meet here at the church at 12:30 p.m. and carpool together.**

THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

continues each Thursday at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Next week, we'll wrap up the "Walk Humbly" series with the lesson "Speak Less, Listen More". And see the October Log for details on the Feasting on the Word series beginning Thursday, October 10th.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

continues next Sunday. We're studying the parables of Jesus, next week, we'll discuss the parable of "The Laborers in the Vineyard". Join us in the Conference Room at 9:00 a.m.

FALL BOOK STUDY: We're exploring the book "*Mostly What God Does: Reflections on Seeking and Finding His Love*" by Savannah Guthrie. Guthrie's conclusion is "mostly what God does is love you." If we could believe this, really believe this, how different would we be? Let's take some time and explore this! We'll continue to meet on Tuesdays in October at 1:30 p.m. in the lounge.

NEXT SUNDAY: during worship we'll celebrate World Communion Sunday and collect the Peace and Global Witness Offering. 25% of your gift will stay with Westminster and work to fund peacemaking efforts in our area. The remaining 75% will go on to the greater church. Look for the envelope in your offering envelope box or on the table in the Narthex. Thank you!

PET BLESSING: Join us at **4:00 p.m.** next Sunday afternoon, **October 6th** as we bless the beloved furry, scaley and feathery members of our family, with our Blessing of the Pets service. Please remember to cage or leash your animals (for their safety). If you're not able to bring your pet, bring a picture. This is a wonderful service, make plans to attend!

TV AND SOUNDBOARD: We're looking for individuals who can run the soundboard and help in the TV room on Sunday mornings. If you are interested in helping, please call the church office. Thank you!

PER CAPITA 2024 Per capita for 2024 is \$29.50. Remember that Per Capita goes to fund the greater church including our Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly, which in turn, provides great support to Westminster. **Look for the blue envelopes in the pew backs or in your box of envelopes.**

PICKLEBALL: The Westminster Pickleball group is still going strong at Delta College on Friday evenings, weather permitting, from 5-7 p.m. All are welcome! Spectators too! No experience necessary or equipment needed. The courts are located outside on the North end of the campus (the tennis courts). As our summer weather begins to slip away, the group will be moving indoors. More details to follow.

BULLETIN BOARDS: Check out the Church bulletin board just outside the sanctuary for upcoming church events and happenings, **plus sign-up sheets for volunteer opportunities for:**

- **You Choose Food Pantry**
- **Food Bank of Eastern Michigan**
- **Food of Faith**
- **Matthew 25 Cafe**
- **Harvest Party/Chili Cook-off**
- **Fellowship Time Host**

In addition, the Community bulletin board in Fellowship Hall has information on health screenings, grief groups and other events in the area.

RIDES TO CHURCH NEEDED: we have a few church members that need rides to church. If you are able to help, please call the church office. Thank you!

YOUTH GROUP DINNERS: Our Youth Group meets from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. on Sunday nights this time includes a meal together. If you are able to prepare and serve a meal or donate money towards dinner, please scan the QR code to sign up. Or call the church office.



HARVEST PARTY/CHILI COOK OFF: Gather with your church family and friends at our annual Harvest Party and Chili Cook-off on Sunday, October 27, 2024 after worship! We'll have games for the children and the young at heart, a photo station and a selection of easy chilis, grilled cheese sandwiches, and delicious desserts! If you're interested in entering in the chili contest, please register on the bulletin board in the Wenona Lobby or reach out to Sandy Graves sandra.graves@gmail.com.

And if you are able to volunteer or donate other items, please scan the QR or email Sandy. THANK YOU!

