

Westminster At Worship

A Celebration of Worship *Practice Spiritual Disciplines: Pray*

March 13, 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 *"Holy, Holy, Holy"*
Chime Choir

THE LENTEN CANDLES *"The Greatest Love"*

†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 pray, we are changed by being with God.

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

"What A Friend We Have in Jesus"

#473

CONVERSE

*What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer! O what
peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear, all
because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!*

*Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer!*

*Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge — take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in
prayer! In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a
solace there.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One, although we come to church on Sundays, we too often live the rest of the week as though you don't exist. We act as though we created ourselves, with no connection to you, with no hope of wholeness.

Open us to your constant presence, Holy One. Teach us to pray, and restore our sight, that we may commune with you each day in the light of eternity.

— A Time of Silent Confession —

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Believe this good news, in Jesus Christ, you 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

**Hebrew Lesson
Philippians 1:3-11**

**Gospel Lesson
Matthew 6:1-15**

SERMON

"The Practice of Prayer"
Rev. Jamie Milton

As you think about practicing the spiritual discipline of prayer, here are some things you might try:

- Pray silently with a friend or small group for ten to twenty minutes
- Write prayers in a journal and watch for answers
- Pray one of the apostle Paul's prayers for yourself or someone else
- Pray a psalm
- Focus your prayers for a period of time on "help" and "thank you"
- Observe the role of prayer in other spiritual practices and disciplines you engage in

MUSICAL MEDITATION

"The Lord's Prayer"
Dawn Auger and Judy Harrelson

MALOTTE

†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 Cross Was His Own"
Chancel Choir

BROUGHTON

†DOXOLOGY

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

†UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy One, we give you thanks for your steadfast love and faithfulness. Bless these offerings and transform them into gifts of hospitality for those who need them most. Amen.

BEING SENT WITH GOD'S WORD

†HYMN

#349

"Seek Ye First"

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 ye shall find, knock, and the door shall be opened unto you; Allelu, alleluia!

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Wendy Tally



Liturgical texts used with permission from:

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Westminster Presbyterian Church

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Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Friday
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

MINISTERS
PASTOR
PARISH ASSOCIATE
CCLI License #2328090

All the People
Rev. Jamie Milton
Rev. Linda Williams

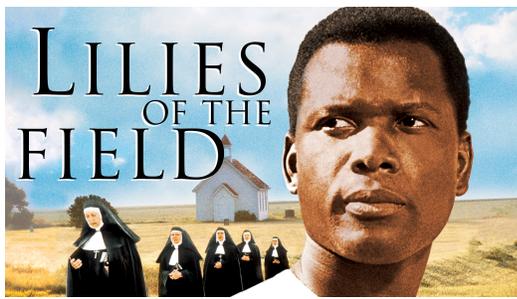
ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MARCH 13, 2022

FLOWERS today are given by Karen Mitchell with prayers to the people of Ukraine. Total proceeds from the purchase of these flowers will go to support Ukraine.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL is scheduled for Monday, June 13 through Friday, June 17 from 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. If you are interested in volunteering, please sign up at <https://vbspro.events/p/events/wpcbc>. Thank you!

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 16 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.

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 “Lilies 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!

LYDIA CIRCLE will meet in-person on the third Thursday of the month at 1:00 p.m. in the Session room. The next meeting is March 17. We are using the *Horizons Bible Study, What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew’s Genealogy of Jesus*.

DEBORAH CIRCLE: Ladies, you are invited! The Deborah Circle will meet via Zoom on Tuesday, March 29 at 7:00 p.m. Contact Karen Schoepach 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

This Week at Westminster

Today, Sunday, March 13, 2022

- 9:00 a.m. First Light (Sunday School)
- 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
- 9:15 a.m. Adult Handbell Practice
- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 4:30 p.m. Junior Bell Practice
- 5:00 p.m. Ignite (Youth Group)

Monday, March 14

- 6:00 p.m. Finance Meeting

Tuesday, March 15

- 9:00 a.m. Bay ISD
- 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Hands Knitting
- 10:00 a.m. The Wired Word via Zoom
- 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 6:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 150
- 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting

Wednesday, March 16

- 9:00 a.m. Online Service of Morning Prayer
- 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study

Thursday, March 17

- 8:30 a.m. TOPS
- 9:00 a.m. Bay ISD
- 1:00 p.m. Lydia Circle
- 5:00 p.m. Food of Faith at Messiah Lutheran
- 5:00 p.m. Combustion Council
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Next Sunday, March 20

- 9:00 a.m. First Light (Sunday School)
- 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
- 9:15 a.m. Adult Handbell Practice
- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 4:30 p.m. Junior Bell Practice
- 5:00 p.m. Ignite (Youth Group)

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.

