

Westminster At Worship

A Celebration of Worship

Soul Food: Dirty Hands and Clean Hearts

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 1, 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

GATHERING MUSIC

RACHEL WEBB

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WESTMINSTER AT WORK

OPENING PRAYER

†CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Creator, you bless us with the heavenly lights—

PEOPLE: the moon that waxes and wanes,

LEADER: the planets that whirl around the sun,

PEOPLE: the galaxies that wink from afar.

LEADER: In the darkness you call out, "Let there be light,"

PEOPLE: and the universe is filled with heavenly light.

LEADER: You are our creator, too,

PEOPLE: the One who formed us and who forms us still.

LEADER: May your word of truth ring out today with your call to
new life!

PEOPLE: Amen.

†HYMN

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

CRUSADER’S HYMN

*Fairest Lord Jesus,
Ruler of all nature,
O thou of God to earth come down,
thee will I cherish,
thee will I honor,
thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.*

*Fair are the meadows,
fairer still the woodlands,
robed in the blooming garb of spring.
Jesus is fairer;
Jesus is purer,
who makes the woeful heart to sing.*

*Fair is the sunshine,
fairer still the moonlight,
and all the twinkling, starry host.
Jesus shines brighter;
Jesus shines purer,
than all the angels heaven can boast.*

*Beautiful Savior,
Ruler of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine!*

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ever-faithful God, you create each of us to be a presence of healing and love in our world.

You equip us to resist intentions and actions that hurt ourselves and others.

We confess that we live in the shadows of hypocrisy and self-righteousness.

We honor you with our lips, but we have not served you in our hearts.

We are satisfied with human traditions and norms and avoid your liberating truth.

Forgive us when we forget your desire for us.

Forgive us when we put aside your vision.

Remind us of the love and goodness that you have planted within us.

Draw our hearts close to you and bless us as we live in your ways.

— A Time of Silent Confession —

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

Rejoice in this good news: our sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

†RESPOND 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 our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

**Epistle Lesson
James 1:19-27**

**Gospel Lesson
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23**

SERMON

"Dirty Hands and Clean Hearts"
Rev. Jamie Milton

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, light from light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

You may be seated.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD WITH THANKSGIVING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Oh, the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus"
Jan Witucki, harp

ARR. TIBBETS

~ 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

**O God, receive these gifts for the work of your church.
With these gifts we dedicate ourselves to live in the truth of your word, and follow your commandments with sincere hearts; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

†HYMN

“Just As I Am, without One Plea”

WOODWORTH

*Just as I am, without one plea
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou biddest me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come; I come!*

*Just as I am, though tossed about
with many_a conflict, many_a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come; I come!*

*Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come; I come!*

*Just as I am, thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come; I come!*

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

LEADER: The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE: **And also with you.**

LEADER: Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE: **We lift them to the Lord.**

LEADER: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

The prayer continues...

The Sanctus

LEADER: We join together:

**PEOPLE: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the
Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

The prayer continues...

Words of Institution

LEADER: Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**PEOPLE: Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

The prayer continues...

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.**

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*You are invited to come forward to receive communion. Using
either station at the front of the church, you will receive a
piece of bread and a cup of juice. Please take communion
before returning to your seat.*

*If you wish to remain seated, someone will bring communion to
your seat. GLUTEN FREE option is available up front.*

SPECIAL MUSIC

*“Amazing Grace”
Jan Witucki, harp*

HARMONY

UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Bread of Life, we thank you for this mystery in which you have given yourself to us. You companion us in our journeys and feed our souls with your presence and your grace. Send us out, nourished and accompanied, in your name, to love all people, to bear one another’s burdens, to provide for healing, to proclaim your unity, and to bring peace to every place you send us. We pray, and we live, in the power and the presence of your loving Spirit. Amen.

BEING SENT WITH GOD’S WORD

†HYMN

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

FAITHFULNESS

*Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.*

Refrain:

*Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!*

*Morning by morning, new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!*

*Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (Refrain)*

*Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (Refrain)*

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

RACHEL WEBB



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Press

Abingdon Worship Annual 2024

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ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

PRAYERS of the congregation are extended to the family and friends of Jeanne Bradley. Jeanne passed away August 26, 2024.

The **FLOWERS** today are given in memory of Donald A. Morse in honor of his birthday, by his daughter, Alicen Rogers.

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.

WAYS TO SUPPORT WESTMINSTER'S

FOOD PANTRY: If you would like to sign up to **work our "You Choose" Food Pantry**, Wednesday evenings or Thursday mornings, 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 morning. 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 have another opportunity to volunteer next month, September 23rd from 1-4 p.m. Like last time, we'll meet here at the church at noon and carpool together.**

Just a reminder, the **CHURCH OFFICE** will be closed tomorrow, September 2nd for Labor Day.

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

The **CHANCEL AND CONTEMPORARY CHOIRS** resume rehearsals beginning **Wednesday, September 4th.** The Contemporary Choir will meet at 5:15 p.m. and the Chancel Choir will meet at 6:30 p.m. Please reach out to Dawn or Seth if you are interested in joining.

CHURCH SCHOOL KICKOFF/ICE CREAM

SOCIAL: Our program year begins Sunday, **September 8, 2024.** Sunday morning Bible Study, Sunday School, Adult Bells and the Children's Chime Choir and Sunday evening Youth activities all begin next Sunday! After worship, make plans to stay and have some ice cream in Fellowship Hall.

THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

begins Thursday, **September 12th at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.** We'll continue using the Follow Me Curriculum, with this series titled "Walk Humbly". More details are in the September Log. Books are available in the church office.

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.**

CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE: We hope you have been saving those gently used items and clothes! The Presbyterian Women will hold a Rummage and Bake Sale September 11-13th. You may bring items in beginning Sunday, September 8th (after the ice cream social, please) through Tuesday, September 10th. If you are able to donate baked goods, please bring them on Wednesday, September 11th. Check out the sign up sheet outside the sanctuary if you are able to help set up, work the sale, or help with clean up.

FELLOWSHIP time is such a wonderful way to get to know your church family. We have two opportunities: before Church, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall and after worship in the Chapel area. THANK YOU to our Fellowship and Outreach Committee for hosting every Sunday.

Westminster Presbyterian Church

103 E. Midland Street
Bay City, MI 48706
989-686-1360
email: office@wpcbc.org
website: wpcbc.org

Office Hours

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

PICKLEBALL: Come try out the fastest growing sport in the US! A group from Westminster is inviting anyone who is interested to play pickleball at Delta College on Friday evenings, weather permitting, from 5-7 p.m. No experience necessary or equipment needed. This is a great opportunity for fun and fellowship! The courts are located outside on the North end of the campus (the tennis courts). Spectators welcome!

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

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!

