

Westminster At Worship

A Celebration of Worship

Children's Sabbath

Sharing Our Gifts

"Give .. to God what belongs to God"

October 18, 2026

10:30 a.m.

Welcome to Westminster! We are glad you are here! Take some time to review the announcements to see "What's Up At Westminster!" If you have any questions, our greeters and ushers are happy to help.

- **GATHERING AND GAMES:** Please join us after worship today for fun and fellowship! We'll enjoy playing games and spending time together in the Fellowship Hall.
- **IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:** Please note the closest emergency exit to your seat. There are exits at all four corners of the sanctuary that will lead you safely out of the building.
- **ADVENT / EPIPHANY SEASONAL LAUNCH:** We will gather today at 4 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall to plan events and activities for the upcoming Advent and Epiphany Season. All are welcome to attend.

For Parents, Grandparents and Caregivers:

Children of all ages are always welcome in worship! However, if you or your child need a little extra care, we offer several options for you:

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 certified in infant/child CPR.

WORSHIP BAGS are located by the back entrance to the sanctuary. These bags for children are filled with quiet activities to keep children engaged while seated in the pew with their families.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (K-5th Grade) All elementary-aged students are welcome to join us for a time of Bible stories and fun activities just for them. Following the "Sharing God's Peace" in today's service, children are invited to meet their teachers at the back of the sanctuary where they will be led to their classroom. Teachers will bring children back to the sanctuary at the close of the service.

VISIT OUR PRAYGROUND located at the back of the sanctuary. This dedicated space contains activities for parents and children who need a little extra space to move but would still like to be a part of the worship service.

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS TO WORSHIP GOD

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.*



PRELUDE

SETH CUNNINGHAM

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WESTMINSTER AT WORK

CENTERING MOMENT

GATHERING PRAYER

WHAT IS CHILDREN'S SABBATH & CHILDREN'S DEFENSE FUND?

†CALL TO WORSHIP

May the nations quake and the peoples tremble.

**God sits enthroned in the heavens,
bringing justice and righteousness.**

May the mountains tremble and the seas roar.

God's glory is stronger than the foundation of the earth.

May the humble seek the living God.

**God's goodness and mercy sustain the faithful in times of
trial.**

Come, let us worship the Lord.

†HYMN

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

*No. 569

*God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.*

*Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.*

*Cure thy children's warring madness;
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.*

*Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore.
Let the gift of thy salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**What a debt we owe to you, O God.
You have given us all things in Christ
and yet we withhold from you
the honor and glory that are yours.
Instead, we pay tribute to empire,
plot to entrap the innocent,
mock your truth with empty praise,
and put your patience to the test.**

**Forgive us, O God, and by your grace
restore in us the image of your face;
through Christ Jesus our Lord,
we offer our prayers of confession...**

— A time of Silent Confession —

KYRIE

*Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice!
Let the sea roar with laughter, the fields shout in celebration,
and the forests sing with joy: in Jesus Christ we 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

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

WPC BELL CHOIR

*“Seek Ye First”
Written by Karen Lafferty and Johann Pachelbel;
Arranged by Douglas E. Wagner*

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION

QUESTIONS FOR THE PARENTS

QUESTIONS FOR THE CHILDREN

QUESTIONS FOR THE CONGREGATION

Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ,
promise to guide and nurture Eliza
by word and deed, with love and prayer,
encouraging her to know and follow Christ
and to be a faithful member of this church?

We do.

RENUNCIATIONS

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

APOSTLES' CREED

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE BAPTISM

THE WELCOME

Eliza has been received into the one holy catholic and apostolic church through baptism. Let us welcome the newly baptized.

With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ's church to share with us in his ministry, for we are all one in Christ.

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 before the end of the service.

THE COMMUNITY LISTENS TO THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PSALTER LESSON

Psalm 96:1-9

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Sing to the Lord, all the earth!

Sing to the Lord! Bless his name!

Share the news of his saving work every single day!

Declare God's glory among the nations;

declare his wondrous works among all people

because the Lord is great and so worthy of praise.

He is awesome beyond all other gods

because all the gods of the nations are just idols,

but it is the Lord who created heaven!

Greatness and grandeur are in front of him;

strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

Give to the Lord, all families of the nations—

give to the Lord glory and power!

Give to the Lord the glory due his name!

Bring gifts!

Enter his courtyards!

Bow down to the Lord in his holy splendor!

Tremble before him, all the earth!

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 22:15-22

SERMON

"Give to God What Belongs to God"

Rev. Jamie Milton

†HYMN

“God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

*No 572

*God, whose giving knows no ending,
from your rich and endless store,
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,
costly cross, grave's shattered door:
gifted by you, we turn to you,
offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever,
gracious donor of our days.*

*Skills and time are ours for pressing
toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and freedom,
races joined, the church made one.
Now direct our daily labor,
lest we strive for self alone.
Born with talents, make us servants
fit to answer at your throne.*

*Treasure, too, you have entrusted,
gain through powers your grace conferred:
ours to use for home and kindred,
and to spread the gospel word.
Open wide our hands in sharing,
as we heed Christ's ageless call,
healing, teaching, and reclaiming,
serving you by loving all.*

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO THE CALL OF GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Look for the yellow “Sharing My Gifts” card in your pew. Reflect on how you shared your time, talent, or treasure this week, then place it in the offering plate as a symbol of that gift. Have a financial gift to share? Feel free to place that in the plate as well.

MUSICAL OFFERING

WPC BELL CHOIR

*“We Gather Together (We Praise You, O God)”
KREMSER: A. Valerius, Nederlandtsch Gedenckclanck, 1626
Arranged by David Angerman*

†DOXOLOGY

TUNE: OLD HUNDREDTH

*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

We trust you, Lord God, to multiply the blessings these gifts represent, as we pour out your love and grace on those who long to hear your word to them, to see your power at work within them, to feel your comfort beside them, through the generous gifts of your Spirit. Amen.

THE COMMUNITY GOES TO SERVE GOD

†HYMN

“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”

*No. 748

*Lord, dismiss us with your blessing;
fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, your love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace.*

*O refresh us,
O refresh us,
traveling through this wilderness.*

*Thanks we give and adoration
for your gospel's joyful sound;
may the fruits of your salvation
in our hearts and lives abound.*

*Ever faithful,
ever faithful
to your truth may we be found.*

*Savior, when your love shall call us,
from our struggling pilgrim way,
let no fear of death appall us,
glad your summons to obey.*

*May we ever,
may we ever
reign with you in endless day.*

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Strengthened by the presence of God,
we go forth in hope.

Guided by the teachings of Christ,
we go forth to serve.

Led by the power of the Holy Spirit,
we go forth to love.

†POSTLUDE

SETH CUNNINGHAM



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Abingdon Worship Annual 2020. This week's liturgy by Mary J. Scifres.

MINISTERS

PASTOR

PARISH ASSOCIATE

LITURGIST

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

NURSERY SUPERVISOR

CHOIR DIRECTOR

ORGANIST

YOUTH BELLS AND CHIME CHOIR DIRECTOR

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

SECRETARY

FACILITIES MANAGER

All the People

Rev. Jamie Milton

Rev. Linda Williams

Mary Rose Davis

Leah Sneller

Elaine Edwards

Dawn Auger

Seth Cunningham

Judy Harrelson

Lisa Carelli

Martha Tapley

Bill Petzold

Harold Miller

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THIS WEEK

- **ADULT BIBLE STUDY:** We will be using *The Wired Word* bible study curriculum that connects current events and weekly news stories with Scripture. Our **Sunday morning class meets Sundays at 9 a.m.**, and our **Thursday evening online Zoom study meets online at 7 p.m.** Any questions, please see Rev. Linda or the church office.
- **FALL BOOK GROUP:** We will be reading and discussing Allen Levi's book, *Theo of Golden* on **Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. in the Lounge**. For more information, speak to Rev. Linda or call the church office. We will meet this week on **Tuesday, October 20**.
- **CHOIR REHEARSALS:** If you would like to add your voice, please contact Dawn Auger or Seth Cunningham. **Bell choir** rehearses Sunday mornings at 8:45 a.m. **Chancel Choir** rehearses Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. **Contemporary Choir** rehearses at 5:15 p.m. on Wednesdays. **Cantata rehearsals** have begun and continue this week at 7:15 p.m. on Wednesdays.
- **THE OUT-TO-LUNCH BUNCH** will gather at **1 p.m. Wednesday, October 21** at Krzysiak's House Restaurant, 1605 Michigan Ave. in Bay City. Please RSVP with Dave Crook by Monday, October 19 if you would like to join us.
- **FOOD OF FAITH:** It is Westminster's turn to provide dinner this **Thursday, October 22**. We will need **two volunteers to help prepare the meal** from 2 to 4 p.m. and **four volunteers to help serve** from 4 to 6 p.m. The meal begins at 5 p.m. Thursday evenings at Messiah Lutheran Church, 501 S. Catherine St. in Bay City at the western end of Veterans Memorial Bridge. Those with questions may contact Pam Johnston at 989-392-1958.

MONTHLY

- **HARVEST PARTY / CHILI COOK-OFF:** The annual Harvest Party and Chili Cook-off is planned for **next Sunday, October 25** following worship. If you're interested in bringing chili for the contest or just making a pot to share, please sign up on the bulletin board located in the Wenona Street Lobby or with a member of the Fellowship Committee. **Presbyterian Women will be hosting a bake sale in conjunction with the Harvest Party, and is seeking donations of baked goods. All proceeds from the bake sale will benefit the Westminster Community Pantry.**
- **LUNCH AND LEARN** is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 27**. Bring your own lunch and join us at noon in the Fellowship Hall as we enjoy our next guest speaker, Annette Jeske from The ARC of Bay County.

ONGOING

- **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.
- **FLOWERS FOR SERVICE:** If you would like to provide flowers for an upcoming service, please sign up on the sign-up sheet across the hall from the Sanctuary or call the church office. The church secretary will order the flowers from Keit's Flowers for you and make sure they are delivered the Thursday before the service.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY

- **SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP GATHERINGS:** Join us for Fellowship Time! Before worship (9:30 to 10:15 a.m.), stop by the Fellowship Hall for coffee and a sweet treat. After the service, we continue in the chapel with cookies, coffee, and lemonade — a relaxed chance to reconnect with old friends and meet new ones. Sign up on the volunteer board near the Wenona Street entrance or contact Joyce Hegenauer. Everything you need will be ready in the kitchen.
- **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, November 10.** If you have any questions, please contact Darlene Kusterer at 989-385-4062 or call the church office.
- **WESTMINSTER COMMUNITY PANTRY:** There are a number of ways that you can support our weekly food pantry. Volunteers help assist our clients in choosing food items, work together to unload shipments of food and help to organize donations received from the congregation and community. If you would like to volunteer, contact volunteer coordinator Karen Brown-Fackler. You may also support the pantry's efforts with a monetary donation, either by writing "food pantry" in the memo area of your check made payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church, or online through the donations page on the church website, wpcbc.org. Contact pantry chair Janet Smylie with questions.
- **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN** will be collecting coats, hats, socks, gloves and other **warm clothing for guests that come to the food pantry**. You may leave any donated items on the cart outside the pantry door.
- **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. A pilot team of Meal Preparers is serving 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.

LOOKING AHEAD

- **ALL SAINTS' REMEMBRANCE: Sunday, November 1** during worship.
- **CARING CONNECTIONS:** 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! **Our next meeting is planned for Thursday, November 12.**
- **LYDIA CIRCLE:** Lydia Circle uses the Presbyterian Women Bible Study curriculum, *Horizons*. The group meets on the third Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. **Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 19.** If you are interested in joining, please contact group leaders Elaine Edwards at 989-397-5642 or Barb Tolles at 989-963-9369.
- **DEBORAH CIRCLE:** We will be continuing our study of the television series "The Chosen" at **4 p.m. Thursday, November 19**, location TBD. If you are interested in joining Deborah Circle, please contact Karen Schoepach or call the church office.
- **HANGING OF THE GREENS: Sunday, November 22**, help us decorate the church during and after worship.
- **PACK THANKSGIVING BASKETS: Sunday, November 22**, volunteers are needed to help pack Thanksgiving Baskets for our community members after worship. More details to follow.
- **ADVENT DINNER:** is being planned for **Sunday, November 29.**

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	Oct 14, 2026	Year to Date
Pledges & Other Giving	6,977	368,440.22
One-time Gifts	0	0
Other Cash Received	40	4,673.18
Total Income	7,017	373,113.4
Expenses	20,031.21	347,464.37
Excess(Loss)	(13,014.21)	25,649.03

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



The October Item of the Month is chunky-style soup. We cannot get this very popular item from the Food

Bank, so please help us fill our shelves for "soup weather." All donations may be left on the cart outside the pantry door.

Thank you!

Meijer Simply Give Program Continues through the Holiday Season! Now through December 26, all Simply Give donations made at the Wilder Road store will be collected for our pantry. Simply Give donation cards are available at the church and in the checkout lines at the store. Just hand your Simply Give donation card to the cashier and tell them how much you want to give (in \$10 increments). They will scan your card and your donation will be added to your grocery total. And mark your calendars for Saturday, December 12, when Meijer will double-match all donations! At the end of the program, all donations will be totaled and given to our pantry in the form of gift cards that we can use to purchase food from them. Please share

Westminster **COMMUNITY PANTRY**

the news with all your family and friends! The gift cards we received from last year's campaign have been stocking our pantry for the last few

months. Questions? Talk to Janet Smylie or email pantry@wbcpc.org.

September Statistics: We shattered records this month, serving 790 people from 279 families with 10,204 pounds of food over 9 days. Thanks for all the ways you help us feed our hungry neighbors, showing God's grace to the people in our community.

Food Pantry Financials

As of September 22, 2026

Beginning Balance	\$10,405.30
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SEPTEMBER DONATIONS

Contributions	\$2,338.00
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Presbyterian Women	\$700
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Online Giving	\$101
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Less Expense August	\$4,875.23
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	\$8,669.07
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Meijer Simply Give Gift Cards	\$7,500
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GRANTS:

Gluten Free	\$12,771.80
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Infrastructure	\$5,962.98
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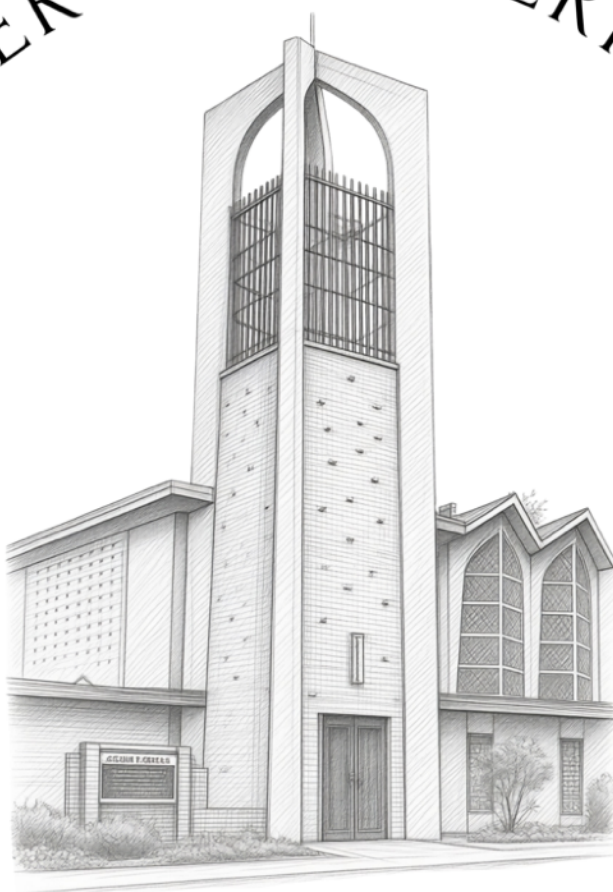
Youth Group News

• **YOUTH GROUP:** Our youth group is open to students in 5th through 12th grade. **Our next meeting will be October 25 from 5 to 7 p.m.** If you have any questions, contact Leah Sneller, Director of Youth Ministry at youthdirector@wbcbc.org or 989-686-1360, ext. 206.

• **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. We usually have dinner from 5:00 to 5:30 p.m. You will get a count a couple of days in advance. Please scan the QR code or see Leah Sneller to sign up.



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



wpcbc.org