

# Westminster At Worship

*16th Sunday after Pentecost*



September 20, 2020

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

### PRELUDE

### †CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather, as those called to worship God.

**People: We gather, as those called to follow Christ.**

Leader: We gather, as those empowered by Spirit.

**People: We gather, that we may be scattered in service  
and witness.**

Leader: Come, let us worship God.

**People: Let us worship God together.**

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

### **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Lord of life and blessing, we profess to follow you no matter what the cost, but too often we shy away when we sense that others may disagree with our convictions and / or hold our actions accountable to what we profess. Too often we maintain silence rather than speak the word of correction when we hear others being stereotyped. Too often we avoid the very people and situations you need us to confront so that your gospel may be lived. Too often we imprison others with snap judgments and deep-seated prejudices, and in the process imprison ourselves by those very same things. Forgive us.**

**Hear us now, O Lord, as we come to you in these moments of silent confession...**

**May your healing grace transform us to live in ways worthy of Christ and his call to discipleship.**

### **DECLARATION OF PARDON**

God's grace is abundant. God's love is never-ending. As children of God, let us with open hearts receive forgiveness and blessing. Friends hear and believe the good news of the Gospel,

**We are saved through grace through faith. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.**

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

### MUSIC

***"I Love to Tell the Story"***  
**Dawn, Ken, & Brandi**

## A SERVICE OF ORDINATION & INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

### PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

As we gather our minds and hearts together to listen to your word, we trust in the blessing of your Spirit that we might be open to your presence in us and around us and that we may grow closer to you and live out your Good News. Amen.

#### READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

##### OLD TESTAMENT READING

**PSALM 105: 1-6, 43-45 (NRSV)**

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples.

**People: Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.**

Leader: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

**People: Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually.**

Leader: Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he has uttered,

**People: O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.**

Leader: So he brought his people out with joy, his chosen ones with singing.

**People: He gave them the lands of the nations, and they took possession of the wealth of the peoples,**

Leader: That they might keep his statutes and observe his laws. Praise the Lord!

## **NEW TESTAMENT READING**

### **Matthew 20:1-16 (The Message)**

#### **A Story About Workers**

**20 1-2** “God’s kingdom is like an estate manager who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. They agreed on a wage of a dollar a day, and went to work.

**3-5** “Later, about nine o’clock, the manager saw some other men hanging around the town square unemployed. He told them to go to work in his vineyard and he would pay them a fair wage. They went.

**5-6** “He did the same thing at noon, and again at three o’clock. At five o’clock he went back and found still

others standing around. He said, 'Why are you standing around all day doing nothing?'

**7** "They said, 'Because no one hired us.'

"He told them to go to work in his vineyard.

**8** "When the day's work was over, the owner of the vineyard instructed his foreman, 'Call the workers in and pay them their wages. Start with the last hired and go on to the first.'

**9-12** "Those hired at five o'clock came up and were each given a dollar. When those who were hired first saw that, they assumed they would get far more. But they got the same, each of them one dollar. Taking the dollar, they groused angrily to the manager, 'These last workers put in only one easy hour, and you just made them equal to us, who slaved all day under a scorching sun.'

**13-15** "He replied to the one speaking for the rest, 'Friend, I haven't been unfair. We agreed on the wage of a dollar, didn't we? So take it and go. I decided to give to the one who came last the same as you. Can't I do what I want with my own money? Are you going to get stingy because I am generous?'

**16** "Here it is again, the Great Reversal: many of the first ending up last, and the last first."

**SERMON**

***"The Great Reversal"***  
**Rev. Dr. Ewen Holmes**

**†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**Apostles' Creed**

**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 at 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.**

**MUSIC      *“Praise the Lord! O Heavens, Adore Him”*  
Dawn, Ken, & Brandi**

**RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD**

**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**

God gives to us continually. In each breath, we receive God's spirit. Responding to God's generosity, let us give to God in thanksgiving.

## **†DOXOLOGY**

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.*

## **UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**We dedicate to you, generous God, our lives. Receive these offerings as a sign of our gratitude and commitment. Amen.**

## **MUSIC**

***"You Are My All in All"***  
**Dawn, Ken, & Brandi**

## **CHARGE**

## **BENEDICTION**

MINISTERS	All the People
TRANSITIONAL PASTOR	Rev. Dr. Ewen Holmes
PARISH ASSOCIATE	Rev. Linda Williams
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR	Nikelle Johnson
NURSERY SUPERVISOR	Elaine Edwards
CHOIR DIRECTOR	Dawn Auger
HAND BELL DIRECTOR	Peggy Hanson
ORGANIST	Wendy Tally
TREASURER	Heather Heidtman
CUSTODIAN	Harold Miller
SECURETARY	Judy Harrelson
CCLI License #2328090	

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 20, 2020**

**FLOWERS TODAY** are in honor of Ross Brown's 96th birthday this week, with love from his children.

**THE CELEBRATION OF LIFE** for Carol Castrodale will take place on Saturday, September 26 at 11:00 a.m. in Westminster's sanctuary. Visitation will be held from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. with the family. Space may be limited, and church COVID-19 guidelines will be observed.

**CHURCH OFFICERS:** The following are being ordained and/or installed today: Being ordained and installed for the office of **Elder:** Brandi Higgins. Being ordained and installed for the office of **Deacon:** Sally Calvo.



**BOOK CLUB:** The Book Club will meet Tuesday, September 22 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom. We will discuss “the five people you meet in heaven” by Mitch Albom. Contact Nikelle at [cedirector@wpcbc.org](mailto:cedirector@wpcbc.org) for Zoom information.

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION:** The Bible study on the Book of James will meet via Zoom on Thursdays beginning at 7:00 p.m. Any questions regarding the class or for Zoom information, contact Rev. Linda at 989-686-1360 or email at [parishassoc@wpcbc.org](mailto:parishassoc@wpcbc.org).

**FELLOWSHIP TIME:** On Sunday, September 27 there will be an opportunity to gather on the north lawn after worship. We have all been craving fellowship (as we saw on September 13 for the Ice Cream Social). We will be serving coffee, cider, and donuts. There will be distanced seating and a tent in case of rain. Come to 10:30 a.m. worship and stay for fellowship, or just come at around 11:30 a.m. to the north lawn (Vermont Street). Future outdoor fellowship will be held on October 4, 11, and 18.

**PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE (PNC):** Check out a PNC video update on the front page of Westminster’s website, [wpcbc.org](http://wpcbc.org). This video was also posted to Facebook (Westminster Presbyterian Church - Bay City) on Wednesday, September 9.

**JOIN US AND LIVE STREAM ON FACEBOOK:** Westminster Presbyterian Church - Bay City.

**LIVE STREAM ON YOUTUBE:** Westminster Presbyterian Church Live Stream.

## *This Week at Westminster*

### **Today, Sunday, September 20, 2020**

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

### **Tuesday, September 22, 2020**

11:00 p.m. Staff Meeting

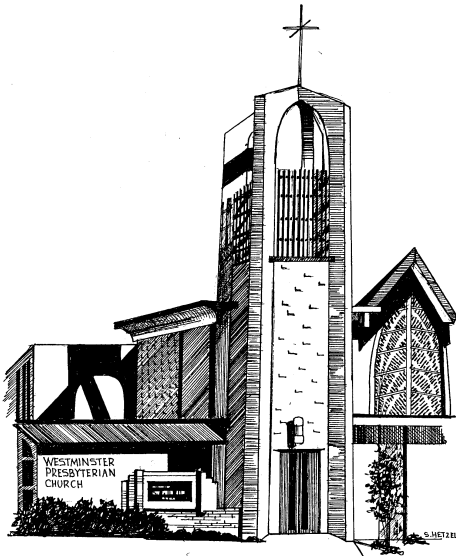
6:00 p.m. Book Club (via Zoom)

### **Saturday, September 26, 2020**

11:00 a.m. Celebration of Life Service for Carol Castrodale  
(Visitation with family 10:00 a.m.)

### **Next Sunday, September 27, 2020**

10:30 a.m. Worship Service



### **Westminster Presbyterian Church**

103 E. Midland Street

Bay City, MI 48706

989-686-1360

email: [office@wpcbc.org](mailto:office@wpcbc.org)

website: [wpcbc.org](http://wpcbc.org)

### **Office Hours**

#### **Monday - Thursday**

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

lunch 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

#### **Friday**

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

