

Westminster At Worship

A Celebration of Worship

All My Days: Pardon

“Forgive us ... as we forgive others”

August 9, 2026

10:30 a.m.

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.*



THE “WHEN”

(We Gather)

PRELUDE

SETH CUNNINGHAM

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THRESHOLD

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” No. 469

**Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place.
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.**

We arrive fully into this moment, Holy One.
We open to sense your presence among us.
We hear you say,

“Grace is always embracing you.”

We need you, Jesus, to help us.
We come to you as your first disciples did.
We hear you say,

“Grace is always embracing you.”

Spirit of Divine Love,
come to us with your healing waters.
We hear you say,
 “Grace is always embracing you.”

[sung]
Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place.
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.

†HYMN

“God, How Can We Forgive?”

LEONI

*God, how can we forgive
when bonds of love are torn?
How can we rise and start anew,
our trust reborn?
When human loving fails
and every hope is gone,
your love gives strength beyond our own
to face the dawn.*

*When we have missed the mark,
and tears of anguish flow,
how can you still release our guilt,
the debt we owe?
The ocean depth of grace
surpasses all our needs.
A priest who shares our human pain,
Christ intercedes.*

*Who dares to throw the stone
to damn another's sin,
when you, while knowing all our past,
forgive again?
No more we play the judge,
for by your grace we live.
As you, O God, forgive our sin,
may we forgive.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you.
We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy.
We have not loved you with a pure heart,
nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We have not done justice, loved kindness,
or walked humbly with you, our God.
Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness.
In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin.
Do not cast us away from your presence,
or take your Holy Spirit from us.
Restore to us the joy of your salvation
and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.**

— A time of Silent Confession —

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

THE “WHAT” (WE PROCLAIM)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Colossians 3:12-14

GOSPEL READING

Mark 11:25

SERMON

Pardon: “Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors”
Rev. Jamie Milton

THE “WHERE” (WE RESPOND)

PRAYER SONG

“All My Days” (legato version)

*You know my words before they’re said.
You know my need and I am fed.
You give me life. You know my ways,
my strength, my path, for all my days.
my strength, my path, for all my days.*

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF PARDON

Cross (or pendant): Have mercy on me, God, according to your faithful love.

Invitatory bead (first Large): Wipe away my wrongdoings according to your great compassion.

Resurrection bead (first Medium): Wash me completely clean of my guilt; purify me from my sin!

Cruciform bead (next Large): Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Bead 1: Open my heart.

Bead 2: Comfort my heart.

Bead 3: Give me the courage to look in the mirror of my heart.

Bead 4: Forgive me for _____.

Bead 5: Help me forgive _____.

Bead 6: Help me let go.

Bead 7: Give me freedom from my bitterness.

End Bead: I believe you can heal the hurt.

Resurrection bead (Medium): Lord of new life,

Invitatory bead (first Large): may I live in the light of your forgiveness.

Cross (or pendant): Have mercy on me, God, according to your faithful love.

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 in to temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen.

PRAYER SONG

“All My Days” (legato version)
You know my words before they’re said.
You know my need and I am fed.
You give me life. You know my ways,
my strength, my path, for all my days.
my strength, my path, for all my days.

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**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 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.**

†HYMN

“Restore in Us, O God”

*No. 381

*Restore in us, O God,
the splendor of your love;
renew your image in our hearts,
and all our sins remove.*

*O Spirit, wake in us
the wonder of your power;
from fruitless fear unfurl our lives
like springtime bud and flower.*

*Bring us, O Christ, to share
the fullness of your joy;
baptize us in the risen life
that death cannot destroy.*

*Three-personed God, fulfill
the promise of your grace,
that we, when all our searching ends,
may see you face to face.*

INVITATION TO OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

FAITH SNELLER AND DIANA BALL

“Forgiveness”

Written by Matthew West

†DOXOLOGY

TUNE: LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Like strands of beads, we offer gifts,
that one by one, your love will lift.
Alleluia, alleluia!
That all may have just what they need,
by this we're bless'd and truly freed.
Hear our prayers, God.
Be our guide, Lord.
Holy Spirit, come and fill us.
Alleluia!**

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Loving God: We give you thanks for Jesus Christ,
the Word made flesh.

Receive the gifts we offer in union with Christ's gift for us.
Clothe us with compassion, kindness, humility,
meekness, and patience, that we may be Christ for others.
In his name we pray. Amen.

THE "WHY"

(WE GO FORTH)

†HYMN

"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

*No. 384

*Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee.
Let the water and the blood
from thy wounded side which flowed
be of sin the double cure,
cleanse from guilt and make me pure.*

*Not the labors of my hands
can fulfill thy law's demands.
Could my zeal no respite know,
could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone.
Thou must save, and thou alone.*

*Nothing in my hand I bring;
simply to thy cross I cling;
naked, come to thee for dress,
helpless, look to thee for grace;
foul, I to the fountain fly;
wash me, Savior, or I die.*

*While I draw this fleeting breath,
when my eyelids close in death,
when I soar to worlds unknown,
see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee.*

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

†POSTLUDE

SETH CUNNINGHAM



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ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR AUGUST 9, 2026

- **The FLOWERS for today's service** are provided by Steve and Darlene Kusterer in celebration of the birth of their new granddaughter, Odette Elizabeth Kusterer, on Tuesday, August 4.

- **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.

- **PER CAPITA for 2026 is \$35.00.**

- **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.

- **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. For the past three years, Westminster has supported this outreach. 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. Your time makes a meaningful difference in our community. **Westminster's next opportunity to serve is Tuesday, August 11.** If you have any questions, please contact Darlene Kusterer at 989-385-4062 or call the church office.

- **BOOK/BIBLE STUDY SERIES:** This summer we invite you to join our book/Bible study series on ***Tending the Wild Garden: Growing in the Fruit of the Spirit*** by Eugenia Gamble. We will meet four weeks in August. You need not attend all weeks, just come as you are able to enjoy and be inspired. Our next meeting is **Wednesday, August 12 at 1:30 p.m.**

- **GATHERING AND GAMES:** Food. Laughter. Friendly Competition. Conversation. If you haven't joined us for one of our monthly gatherings, that's what you're missing! Join us on **August 16th** following worship for the next one.

- **"SUMMER DICE AND SMILES" Bunco group:** Join us on **August 18.** Bring a bag lunch at **noon, and Bunco will begin at 12:30 p.m.** Light refreshments served. Prizes will be awarded for **Most Bunco, Most Mini Buncos, Most Wins, and Most Losses.**

- **THE OUT-TO-LUNCH BUNCH** will gather at North Peak Brewing Company, 1100 N. Water St. at 1 p.m. on **Wednesday, August 26.** If you would like to attend, please RSVP with Dave Crook at 847-624-5798 or crookds@earthlink.net.

- **CARING CONNECTIONS:** Come join us on the first Thursday of every month. 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! **Please note that we will not be meeting in August because of scheduling issues. Our next meeting is planned for Thursday, September 10 because the 3rd is Memorial Day weekend.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR AUGUST 9, 2026

• **LOONS GAME:** Westminster's scheduled trip to the Loons game (initially on July 17th) was cancelled. But that means, we get another chance! We'll be going on GRIT night, **Friday, August 14th**, game time 7:05 p.m. For folks that already purchased tickets, your tickets have already been switched to the new date. If you purchased tickets and cannot attend that night but want to attend another game, let Pastor Jamie know. Those interested in the new date, can let Pastor Jamie or the office know, and they'll get you signed up!

• **SAVE THE DATE! Fall Kickoff and Neighboring Sunday, September 13**
Mark your calendars for this year's fall kickoff Sunday! Many of our programming and rehearsals start back after being on break for the summer and we'll have a talented Brass Ensemble present to help lead us in worship. This is an excellent opportunity to bring a friend or invite a neighbor to join us for the day! Following worship, we'll have an extended time of fellowship with plenty of food and fun. Wear your team colors, your GRIT & Grace shirt, or other WPC shirt and help us kick off a season of learning, serving, and growing together in faith and friendship.

• **CARING MEALS** Something new — and yet wonderfully familiar — is coming to Westminster! On behalf of the Board of Deacons, we are excited to introduce a renewed opportunity for our congregation to care for one another in meaningful, tangible ways. It's called Caring Meals. **The Caring Meal Program** is a ministry rooted in compassion, fellowship, and the grace of God. Its

purpose is simple but deeply impactful: to provide short-term meals to individuals and families within our church who are experiencing a recent life event or temporary hardship. Whether it's an illness, a new baby, a loss, or another challenging season, Caring Meals offers nourishment, comfort, and encouragement when it's needed most. By sharing meals, we share love — reflecting Christ's call to care for one another and reminding our church family that they are never alone. This Deacon-sponsored ministry is a heartfelt response to God's invitation to serve.

• **FOOD OF FAITH:** Westminster will have three opportunities to serve a hot meal to our community this fall! Our turns to volunteer are Thursdays — **September 3, October 22 and December 10.** 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. 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. Those with questions may contact Pam Johnston at 989-392-1958.

Westminster Presbyterian Church

103 E. Midland Street, Bay City, MI 48706; phone: 989-686-1360

email: office@wpcbc.org

website: wpcbc.org

The office is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Closed noon to 1 p.m. for lunch each day.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR AUGUST 9, 2026

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	Current Period August 4, 2026	Year to Date
Pledges & Other Giving	\$ 24,045	\$ 301,505
One-time Gifts		\$ -
Other Cash Received	\$ 40	\$ 6,372
Total Income	\$ 24,085	\$ 307,877
Expenses	\$ 57,590	\$ 273,681
Excess(Loss)	\$ (33,505)	\$ 34,196
Budgeted expense total for 2026 is \$467,000.		



Westminster

COMMUNITY PANTRY

July Statistics: The Pantry served 633 people from 244 families with 7,542 pounds of food. Our weekly averages included 126 people from 49 families with 1508 pounds of food. We also noted that 18% of families were new, 48% came in the last month, 24% came 2-4 months ago, and a whopping 10% hadn't come in 5 months or more.

The August Item of the Month is Cereal. Our guests are thrilled when we have a good selection of cereal to choose from. Help us refill our shelves! All donations

may be left on the cart outside the pantry door. Thank you!

We thank Maillette Family Chiropractic for sponsoring another food drive for us during the month of August. This is the third food drive they have hosted, and we appreciate their generosity (and that of their patients).

Our Free Little Library book cart has been a big hit, but that means the shelves are now pretty empty. We appreciate all book donations!

It's the time of year that we are getting donations of fresh produce from Hidden Harvest, parishioners and community members. Keep them coming!