

# Westminster At Worship

## *A Celebration of Worship Practice Spiritual Disciplines: Fast Sacrament of Communion*

March 6, 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 - Prayer and Practice Stations

#### OPENING PRAYER

#### PRELUDE

Wendy Tally

#### THE LENTEN CANDLES

#### †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 fast, we free up space to ponder God's goodness.

**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*)

†OPENING HYMN

#419

*“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”*

OLIVET

vs. 1,3,4

*My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine!  
Now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away; O let me  
from this day be wholly thine!*

*While life's dark maze I tread, and grief's around me spread,  
be thou my guide; bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's  
tears away, nor let me ever stray from thee aside.*

*When ends life's transient dream, when death's cold, sullen  
stream shall o'er me roll; blest Savior, then, in love, fear and  
distrust remove; O bear me safe above, a ransomed soul!*

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, we confess that we have been a rebellious people. We have broken your covenant, and we have tolerated injustice in our land. We have not shared our food with the hungry, we have not sheltered the homeless, and we have not aided the destitute.**

**We quarrel and fight among ourselves, and we use religion to cover our deceit. We have become a mockery of our heritage; the world looks at us and asks, Where is their God?**

**Forgive us, O God. Subdue our rebellious hearts and restore in us the light of salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

**Amen.**

— *A Time of Silent Confession* —

## **DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

In the name of Jesus Christ, know that you are forgiven and rejoice.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **†SHARING GOD'S PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

## **PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD**

### **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

### **READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES**

#### **Gospel Lesson**

**Matthew 4:1-4; 6:16-18**

#### **Hebrew Lesson**

**Isaiah 58:1-12**

### **SERMON**

*"From What Shall We Fast?"*

Rev. Jamie Milton

Spiritual Discipline: Fast

Here are some practices you might try:

- Fasting from a food item you are fond of (if you have no history of eating disorders)
- Fasting from a form of media you spend a lot of time on
- Fasting from shopping or eating out
- Experimenting with a new form of prayer when you fast
- Finding a partner to fast with: plan together and compare notes
- Fasting with a small group or family group

### **OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD**

## OFFERTORY

ALTHOUSE

*“My Savior and My God”  
Chancel Choir*

## †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 God, with these gifts we thank you for the imperishable treasure of eternal life and dedicate the work of our hands to the ministry of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

## †AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

Let us pray together:

**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.

### THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

#### INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

#### 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.**

Leader: It is a right, good, and a joyful thing...

#### The Sanctus

Leader: And so, with your creatures on earth and all the heavenly chorus, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**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 Words of Institution

Leader: ...in remembrance of your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**People: Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

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.**

## **SHARING IN THE BREAD AND CUP**

### **UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**God of compassion, through your Son Jesus Christ you reconciled your people to yourself. Following his example of prayer and fasting, may we obey you with willing hearts and serve one another in holy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **BEING SENT WITH GOD'S WORD**

#### **†HYMN OF DEDICATION**

#699

*"Let Us Break Bread Together"*

LET US BREAK BREAD

*Let us break bread together on our knees;  
let us break bread together on our knees.*

*Let us drink wine together on our knees;  
let us drink wine together on our knees.*

*Let us praise God together on our knees;  
let us praise God together on our knees.*

**Refrain:** *When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.*

## CHARGE & BENEDICTION



## POSTLUDE

Wendy Tally

Liturgical texts used with permission from:

Call to Worship — *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year B, Volume 1*  
(Westminster John Knox Press, 2014)

“The Lenten Candles” by Paul Dyck. Produced by special arrangement with the  
Contemporary Drama Service, Colorado Springs, Colorado

MINISTERS

PASTOR

PARISH ASSOCIATE

LITURGIST

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

NURSERY SUPERVISOR

CHOIR DIRECTOR

HANDBELL DIRECTOR

ORGANIST

TREASURER

CUSTODIAN

SECRETARY

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All the People

Rev. Jamie Milton

Rev. Linda Williams

Melissa Woodward

Brandi Higgins

Elaine Edwards

Dawn Auger

Brandi Higgins

Wendy Tally

Heather Heidtman

Harold Miller

Judy Harrelson

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MARCH 6, 2022

**FLOWERS** today are given by Joy Thompson in celebration of the upcoming spring season. Welcome spring!

**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.

**HOCKEY FOR THE HOMELESS:** Rescue Ministries of Mid-Michigan is partnering with the Saginaw Spirit on Saturday, March 12 to raise much needed funds for the Samaritan Youth Shelter during the annual "Hockey for the Homeless." Westminster is a Spirit of Hope Sponsor, and therefore, we have 12 upper deck Spirit hockey game tickets to give away. The tickets are free, but they will be distributed first come, first serve. If you are interested, please contact the church office this week at 989-686-1360.

**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 9 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.



**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 Schoeppach 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 thinking about and talking about how current events intersect with our faith questions and convictions. Any questions, or to receive study material and Zoom information, contact Rev. Linda at 686-1360 or [parishassoc@wpcbc.org](mailto:parishassoc@wpcbc.org)

**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.

## *This Week at Westminster*

### **Today, Sunday, March 6, 2022**

- 9:00 a.m. First Light (Sunday School)
- 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study in conference room
- 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 7**

- 7:00 p.m. Deacon Meeting

### **Tuesday, March 8**

- 9:00 a.m. Bay ISD
- 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Hands Knitting
- 10:00 a.m. The Wired Word via Zoom
- 1:00 p.m. Bay City Lions Club
- 6:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 150
- 6:30 p.m. Committee Meetings

### **Wednesday, March 9**

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

### **Thursday, March 10**

- 8:30 a.m. TOPS
- 9:00 a.m. Bay ISD
- 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 13**

- 9:00 a.m. First Light (Sunday School)
- 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study in conference room
- 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)

### **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.

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