

Westminster At Worship

*A Celebration of Worship
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Confirmation Sunday*

May 11, 2025

10:30 a.m.

Please silence your cell phones prior to entering the sanctuary.
†Those who feel comfortable standing may do so.



GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE

SETH CUNNINGHAM

BRINGING OF THE LIGHT

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

INTROIT

YOUTH BELLS

"Christ the Lord is Risen Today" arr. by Jason W. Krug

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Please rise, in body or in spirit, as you are most comfortable, and join in the call to worship.

The Shepherd of comfort gathers us in.

We come, seeking welcome and love.

We stay, finding rest and renewal.

In our songs and praise, in our prayer and reflection,
may we discover these wonderful gifts from God.

†HYMN

“From All that Dwell Below the Skies”

LAST UNS ERFREUEN

*From all that dwell below the skies
let the Creator's praise arise:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Let the Redeemer's name be sung
through every land, in every tongue.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*In every land begin the song;
to every land the strains belong:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
In cheerful sound all voices raise
and fill the world with joyful praise.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Eternal are thy mercies, Lord;
eternal truth attends thy word:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore,
till suns shall rise and set no more.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us pray:

God of love and grace, we yearn for a world where love
and grace guide our steps and bless our days.
We dream of families and communities
led by love and guided by grace.
Yet, division, danger, and death
interrupt our dreams and dampen our hopes for our lives.
Comfort us in our sorrow.
Heal us in our troubles.
Protect us in this dangerous world.
Unify us with your love and grace,
that we might offer your abundant love
and amazing grace, everywhere we go.

— *Continue in Silent Confession* —

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Amen.

In God's love, we are held.

In Christ's grace, we are forgiven.

In the Spirit's power, we are strengthened.

Give thanks for these marvelous gifts.

We give thanks to God! Alleluia. Amen.

†RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE

*Easter people, raise your voices,
sounds of heaven in earth should ring.
Christ has brought us heaven's choices;
heavenly music let it ring.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Easter people, let us sing.*

†SHARING GOD'S PEACE

May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us share signs of this peace with one another.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

UNISON PSALTER READING

Psalm 23

Please join me in reading our Psalm for the day.

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

**He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul.**

**He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.**

Even though I walk through the darkest valley,

**I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.**

**You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.**

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.**

**Second Reading
Acts 9:32-43**

SERMON

"A Surprising Imitation"

Rev. Jamie Milton

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD WITH THANKSGIVING

REAFFIRMATION OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

PRESENTATION

PROFESSION OF FAITH

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Those who feel comfortable standing may do so as we join in our affirmation of faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, God's 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.

You may be seated.

PRAYER

WELCOME

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Please join me in welcoming these youth:

We, as members of Westminster Presbyterian Church, gladly welcome these youth to be partners with us in the hope, the labors, and the joys of this congregation.

We promise to walk with you in Christian Love and sympathy, and to promote, as best as we can, your part in the Christian life.

We, as members of the church universal, bid you welcome and renew our own covenant with Christ and his Church; And may God continually draw us closer to the Christ each and every day.

+HYMN

"I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry"

WATERLIFE

*"I was there to hear your borning cry;
I'll be there when you are old.*

*I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold.*

*I was there when you were but a child
with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell."*

*"When you heard the wonder of the Word,
I was there to cheer you on.*

*You were raised to praise the living Lord
to whom you now belong.*

*If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun."*

*"In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
with just one more surprise."*

*"I was there to hear your borning cry;
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold."*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

CHORAL OFFERING

YOUTH BELLS

"Diversion (Glorious Dawn)" written by Jason W. Krug

~ 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

Please join with me in the prayer of dedication:

Loving Shepherd, we thank you for your tender care.

Everything we have comes the goodness of your love.

Receive the gifts we return to you now,

that sheep in other flocks may come to know you

**and discover that you are the one who lays down your life for
the flock. Amen.**

†HYMN

“Thine is the Glory”

JUDAS MACCABEUS

*Thine is the glory,
risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment
rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes
where thy body lay.*

Refrain:

*Thine is the glory,
risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won.*

*Lo! Jesus meets us,
risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us,
scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness
hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth;
death hath lost its sting. (Refrain)*

*No more we doubt thee,
glorious Prince of life!
Life is naught without thee;
aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors
through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan
to thy home above. (Refrain)*

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Blessed by God,
may we bless the world in the week ahead.
Loved by Christ,
may we love others, in all we say and do.
Empowered by the Spirit,
may we follow faithfully where God leads.

PRELUDE

SETH CUNNINGHAM



Liturgical texts used with permission from:

Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 1 © 2012 Westminster John Knox Press.

Mary J. Scifres. Abingdon Worship Annual 2025

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2025 CONFIRMANDS:

Jonas, Brevin and Dylan! Please help us celebrate after today's service with cake in the chapel.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MAY 11, 2025

• Children are always welcome in the sanctuary. **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.

• The **FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY** for today's service are provided by Chris and Kathy Elzinga in memory of their mothers, Jeanne Elzinga and Shirley Arneson and in honor of all the mothers who are part of our congregation.

• The **BOOK STUDY group** will continue to meet at 1:30 p.m. Tuesdays in the lounge.

• **ADULT BIBLE STUDY** classes are offered at two different times to accommodate various schedules. Join us

Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in the Session Room or **Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.** via Zoom. The same study materials will be used at both gatherings.

• We will host a **VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON** after service next **Sunday, May 18!** Please join us after service for a taco bar as we say THANK YOU to our volunteers!

• **PER CAPITA FOR 2025** is \$30.69. This is per active, confirmed member.

• If you have a name you would like added to **WINGS OF PRAYERS**, contact Patti Wesenick, 989-737-6844.

• **Sunday, May 18, is the LAST DAY FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES** for the summer. Youth Group will not meet today on Mother's Day.

MINISTERS

PASTOR

PARISH ASSOCIATE

LITURGISTS

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

NURSERY SUPERVISOR

CHOIR DIRECTOR

HANDBELL DIRECTOR

YOUTH BELLS AND CHIME CHOIR DIRECTOR

ORGANIST

PIANIST

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

SECRETARY

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR

FACILITIES MANAGER

All the People

Rev. Jamie Milton

Rev. Linda Williams

Confirmation Class

Leah Sneller

Elaine Edwards

Dawn Auger

Seth Cunningham

Judy Harrelson

Seth Cunningham

Rachel Webb

Martha Tapley

Bill Petzold

Pat Foster

Harold Miller

- We are happy to host **BAY SHORE CAMP'S ON THE ROAD DAY CAMP** for the second year. The camp theme this year is "Jesus IS." The camp is scheduled for Monday, August 4, through Thursday, August 7. The curriculum is designed for children entering Kindergarten through fifth grade. Registration is open! Scan the QR code to visit the registration page online.



- Volunteers are needed for our **THIRD ANNUAL END-OF-SCHOOL BLOCK PARTY!** This year, we'll welcome our community's school children and their families on Sunday, June 1st as we celebrate the end of another school year. Sign up on the volunteer board outside the sanctuary in the Wenona Lobby.
- Keep up with **Westminster on Facebook** at Westminster Presbyterian Church - Bay City (facebook.com/wpcbc)

Westminster
COMMUNITY PANTRY

WESTMINSTER COMMUNITY PANTRY

- **ITEM OF THE MONTH FOR May** is dish detergent and glass cleaner. Please drop off at the Pantry. If the pantry is not open, please leave on the cart outside the door.
- The Pantry set a **new monthly record**, serving 217 households with 653 people. A total of 6887 pounds of food was given to our guests. Almost half of April's guests were new.
- Through **United Way's Day of Caring**, the Pantry received new shelving which was donated and installed by United Way. A team of Micki Morrisette, Diana Stump, Janet Smylie, Janet Beattie and Genevieve Beattie reorganized the Pantry to better serve our guests. Stop in and see the new look in the Pantry.
- Mark your calendar for **Sunday, June 8!** You are joyfully invited to the Pantry's first birthday party! Stay after church to help us celebrate in the fellowship hall with cake and ice cream.
- **Scan the QR code** to visit the Westminster Community Pantry Facebook page.

Westminster Presbyterian Church

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989-686-1360
email: office@wpcbc.org
website: wpcbc.org

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

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!

- We kicked off our informal **LUNCH & LAUGH** series this past fall, and we will be wrapping up the series for this spring on **Tuesday, May 27th** in Fellowship Hall. We will meet at noon to lunch and play games. A variety of games will be available, but certainly this will include the game Bunco. Our own Faith Sneller will be our MC and Bunco Director, which makes this a truly intergenerational event. Any questions, please call the church office or Rev. Linda.

- On May 4 and May 11, **your PW Board will be distributing a letter** with an update on what we've been doing and what we have planned. Included in the letter will be an opportunity for you to submit your ideas on what the PW priorities should be for 2025.
- If you know **someone who is graduating** from high school, college, or university, please call the church office and let us know! We will honor grads on **June 8th** during the worship service.

