

Westminster At Worship

A Celebration of Worship

Faces of Our Faith: Mary Magdalene

August 4, 2024

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

PRELUDE

SETH CUNNINGHAM

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

†CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: In the morning, O Lord, you hear our prayers.

PEOPLE: **In the light of this day we praise your name.**

LEADER: Through the abundance of your steadfast love, you have gathered us into your house.

PEOPLE: **In the holiness of your presence, we bow down to worship and adore you.**

ALL: **You make straight our paths, and we take refuge in you.**

†HYMN

“Today We Are All Called to Be Disciples”

KINGSFOLD

*Today we all are called to be
disciples of the Lord,
to help to set the captive free,
make plowshare out of sword,
to feed the hungry, quench their thirst,
make love and peace our fast,
to serve the poor and homeless first,
our ease and comfort last.*

*God made the world and at its birth
ordained our human race
to live as stewards of the earth,
responding to God's grace.
But we are vain and sadly proud;
we sow not peace but strife.
Our discord spreads a deadly cloud
that threatens all of life.*

*Pray justice may come rolling down
as in a mighty stream,
with righteousness in field and town
to cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore
an earth where conflicts cease,
a world that was created for
a harmony of peace.*

*May we in service to our God
act out the living word,
and walk the road the saints have trod
till all have seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we
give thanks in one accord
to God who calls us all to be
disciples of the Lord.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of justice and mercy, we confess that we disobey your will.
We show neither justice nor mercy to others.
Christ our Savior, love incarnate, we confess that we take your
love for granted. We do not give of ourselves, nor do we
rejoice in all the blessings we receive.
Holy Spirit, power, and breath, we confess that we block your
movement. We do not live holy lives of sacrificial love.
Gracious Trinity, forgive us and grant us your peace.
Help us to turn from our sins so that we may love you by
joyfully caring for others. Amen.**

— A Time of Silent Confession —

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

**In the power of the Christ's spirit, I say to you, your sins are
forgiven.
Thanks be to God.**

†RESPOND TO GOD’S GRACE

“Gloria Patri”

GREATOREX

*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.

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Gospel Lesson
Luke 8:1-3

Gospel Lesson
Luke 24:1-12

SERMON

“Women, the first to tell the Good News!”
Nikelle Johnson, Seminarian

†HYMN

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

KELVINGROVE

*“Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?”*

*“Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?”*

*“Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?”*

*“Will you love the ‘you’ you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you’ve found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?”*

*Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I’ll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I’ll move and live and grow in you and you in me.*

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

NICENE CREED

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.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD WITH THANKSGIVING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*"What A Friend"
Chancel Choir Men's Group*

ARR. SCHRADER

~ 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

We give you thanks, O God, for the great love that you have lavished upon us in Christ Jesus.

Teach us to share this love with others, bringing the good news of your holy realm to all the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

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: ... therefore with all creation we sing your praise:

**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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LEADER: ...great is 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.**

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

You are invited to come forward to receive communion. Using either station at the front of the church, you will receive a piece of bread and a cup of juice. Please take communion before returning to your seat.

If you wish to remain seated, someone will bring communion to your seat.

UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

LEADER: Bless the Lord, O my soul;

PEOPLE: and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

LEADER: Bless the Lord, O my soul;

PEOPLE: and forget not all God's benefits.

BEING SENT WITH GOD'S WORD

†HYMN

"Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

BEECHER

*Called as partners in Christ's service,
called to ministries of grace,
we respond with deep commitment
fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing,
side by side and friend with friend,
equal partners in our caring
to fulfill God's chosen end.*

*Christ's example, Christ's inspiring,
Christ's clear call to work and worth,
let us follow, never faltering,
reconciling folk on earth.*

*Men and women, richer, poorer,
all God's people, young and old,
blending human skills together
gracious gifts from God unfold.*

*Thus new patterns for Christ's mission,
in a small or global sense,
help us bear each other's burdens,
breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision,
words of challenge, said with care,
bring new power and strength for action,
make us colleagues, free and fair.*

*So God grant us for tomorrow
ways to order human life
that surround each person's sorrow
with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living,
our compassion to increase,
messengers of faith, thus giving
hope and confidence and peace.*

†CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

SETH CUNNINGHAM



Liturgical texts used with permission from:

*Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 2 : Trinity Sunday
Through Reign of Christ*, edited by
Kimberly Bracken Long, Westminster John Knox Press, 2012. ProQuest Ebook Central,
<http://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/upsce-ebooks/detail.action?>

Communion Liturgy is from the PC(USA) Book of Common Worship.

Prayer of Intercession is from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 2*.

MINISTERS
PASTOR
PARISH ASSOCIATE
GUEST SEMINARIAN
LITURGIST
DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES
NURSERY SUPERVISOR
CHOIR DIRECTOR
HANDBELL DIRECTOR
JR. BELLS AND CHIME CHOIR DIRECTOR
ORGANIST
PIANIST
FINANCIAL SECRETARY
TREASURER/SECRETARY
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All the People
Rev. Jamie Milton
Rev. Linda Williams
Nikelle Johnson
Karen Brown-Fackler
Leah Sneller
Elaine Edwards
Dawn Auger
Seth Cunningham
Judy Harrelson
Seth Cunningham
Rachel Webb
Martha Tapley
Heather Heidtman
Harold Miller

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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!



ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR AUGUST 4, 2024

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.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK: The church office will open from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday next week. Normal office hours will resume, Monday August 12.

PER CAPITA 2024 Per capita for 2024 is \$29.50. Remember that Per Capita goes to fund the greater church including our Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly, which in turn, provides great support to Westminster. **Look for the blue envelopes in the pew backs or in your box of envelopes.**

BULLETIN BOARDS: Check out the Church bulletin board just outside the sanctuary for upcoming church events and happenings, **plus sign-up sheets for volunteer opportunities!** In addition, the Community bulletin board in Fellowship Hall has information on health screenings, grief groups and other events in the area.

VBS DONATIONS: It's VBS WEEK! If you took a tag off the VBS donation wall, please remember to have your items back by tomorrow morning. **THANK YOU** to everyone who donated to VBS this year!

BASEBALL FANS! Westminster has a block of tickets for the **Saturday, August 10th** Faith and Family Night at the Great Loons. Join your church family and friends as the Loons take on the Lansing Lugnuts at 7:05 p.m. and stay for Fireworks after the game! Tickets are \$12.50 each. Please call or stop by the office to reserve your seats by **MONDAY 8/5.**

SUMMER MOVIE SERIES: We've been entertained the last 2 months with our summer movies, join us, **Tuesday, August 13th at 1:30 p.m.** as we are informed. We'll be viewing "A Place at the Table". This documentary focuses on hunger and food insecurity in a rural town in Colorado and how a local church organization worked to combat those issues, similar to what we are doing here at Westminster.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS! School is just around the corner! Join us **Sunday, August 18th.** During the worship service we'll bless backpacks, briefcases and bags as our children and youth begin another school year and the rest of us continue working. All are welcome to participate!

BOOK & BRUNCH: For this summer's Book and Brunch Series, we will continue our theme from last summer of hunger and food insecurity. We are reading Poverty, by America. We'll meet **Sunday, August 18th, in the Session Room after worship.** There are still plenty of books available and don't worry if you weren't able to come to the earlier sessions. All are welcome to join in the discussion.

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK: Westminster Presbyterian Church-Bay City.

The **AUGUST LOG** should have reached your inboxes and mailboxes. Check out all the events and activities for the month, and a look ahead at September as we make plans to kick off our program year.

FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS: If you would like to sign up to work our “You Choose” Food Pantry, Wednesday evenings or Thursday mornings, please see the sign up sheets on the bulletin board outside the sanctuary.

Another way to help is to work with one of our Food Pantry partners. For every hour a volunteer works at the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan, we earn credit to buy food for our own pantry. **We’ll be heading to the FBEM warehouse in Flint on Monday, August 26th from 1:30-4:30 p.m.** Contact the church office if you’re able to help that day and look for more opportunities in the coming months.

CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE: We hope you have been saving those gently used items and clothes! The Presbyterian Women will hold a Rummage and Bake Sale September 11-13th. You may bring items in beginning Sunday, September 8th (after the ice cream social, please) through Tuesday, September 10th. If you are able to donate baked goods, please bring them on Wednesday, September 11th.

PICKLEBALL: Come try out the fastest growing sport in the US! A group from Westminster is inviting anyone who is interested to play pickleball at Delta College on **Friday evenings**, weather permitting, from **5-7 p.m.** No experience necessary or equipment needed. This is a great opportunity for fun and fellowship! The courts are located outside on the North end of the campus (the tennis courts). Spectators welcome!