

Westminster At Worship

Shouting & silence

Palm Sunday

April 13, 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

LIGHTING OF THE LENTEN CANDLES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

†CALL TO WORSHIP

On this day, Jesus marched
in between the city walls and the Temple,
in between joyful Hosannas and doubtful whispers,
in between oppressive poverty and greedy power,
in between rampant fear and hope unfurled.

On this day, Jesus marched in between what had been and what
could be.

So may we meet Christ in that liminal space.

May we lay down our coats in that messy middle.

Hosanna in the highest!

Hosanna in between!

+HYMN

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

Refrain:

*All glory, laud, and honor
to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring!*

*Thou art the King of Israel,
thou David’s royal Son,
who in the Lord’s name comest,
the King and blessed One. (Refrain)*

*The people of the Hebrews
with palms before thee went;
our praise and prayers and anthems
before thee we present. (Refrain)*

*To thee, before thy passion,
they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted,
our melody we raise. (Refrain)*

*Thou didst accept their praises;
accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest,
thou good and gracious King! (Refrain)*

THE CANDLES OF LENT

Let us pray.

Loving God, there are so many choices before us every day.

Choices offered by our friends, our families, our culture, our

own past. Some of them encourage the well-being of the earth, ourselves and our neighbors; others are destructive. Help us to distinguish between them. May we learn from the choices of Jesus and embody compassion, justice, and inclusion in all we say and do. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Great Creator, forgive me
when I speak before listening,
when I speak over my neighbor,
when I speak with barbed words.

Creator God, forgive me
when I listen to society,
when I listen to my friends,
when I listen to the news,
but I do not listen to you.

Creator God, forgive me
when I shout out, but do not shout your name,
when I listen, but do not listen for your voice.
Forgive me.

Create in me a heart like yours.
Amen.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:
We are seen. We are heard. We are loved. We are forgiven.

Not a day goes by that we ever walk alone. Hosanna in the highest! Amen.

†RESPONSE TO GOD’S GRACE

*O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world;
have mercy on us, Lamb of God, and grant us your peace.*

†SHARING GOD’S PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us share signs of peace with one another.

SPECIAL MUSIC

CHIME CHOIR

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

Gospel Reading

Luke 19:29-36

PALM SUNDAY DRAMA

“He Came on a Donkey” by the Revs. John Mingus, Charles Maclagan, and Peter O’Hara. Produced by special arrangement with Christian Publishers.

SCENE ONE

†HYMN

“Hosanna”

PEW HYMNAL NO. 266

*Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!
Lord we lift up your name with hearts full of praise;
Be exalted, oh Lord my God! Hosanna in the highest!*

*Glory, glory, glory to the King of Kings!
Glory, glory, glory to the King of Kings!
Lord we lift up your name with hearts full of praise;
Be exalted, oh Lord my God! Glory to the King of Kings!*

SCENE TWO

Gospel Lesson Luke 19:37-40

ANTHEM

MEN'S GROUP

"Ain't No Rock Gonna' Shout for Me"
By J. Paul Williams (based on Luke 19:38-40)

SCENE THREE

ANTHEM

CHANCEL CHOIR

"In the Name of the Lord"
*Words by Gloria Gaither, Phil McHugh and Sandi Patty, music by Sandi Patty, choral
setting by Mary McDonald*

SCENE FOUR

Gospel Reading Luke 19:45-48

SCENE FIVE

INVITATION TO OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

SETH CUNNINGHAM

~ Please record your presence on the "Friendship Pad"

PRAYER OF DEDICATION, PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Holy One, we give you thanks for the great deeds of salvation that you have done and continue to do. Bless these offerings of thanksgiving that they may further your kingdom in this world. As we continue to build that kingdom with you and our neighbors, we remember that you came to us as a human being who humbled himself like a slave.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

We pray for the nations that worship power and might; may they be ruled by humility and peace.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

We pray for the church and its leaders, that we may have the mind of Christ.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

We pray for the victims of human tragedies and disasters of nature.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

We pray for those who are in prison—the repentant, the unrepentant, and those falsely accused.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

We pray for those who are ill or infirm or are rejected because they are seen to be weak.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

We pray for those on our minds this day...

God of compassion, through Jesus Christ you have come to us and shared our common lot. Mold us into people who show your mercy and keep us obedient to him whose name is above all other names— Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray together:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

†HYMN

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

ELLACOMBE

*Hosanna, loud hosanna,
the little children sang;
through pillared court and temple
the joyful anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them,
close folded to his breast,
the children sang their praises,
the simplest and the best.*

*From Olivet they followed
'mid an exultant crowd,
the victor palm branch waving,
and chanting clear and loud;
the Lord of earth and heaven
rode on in lowly state,
nor scorned that little children
should on his bidding wait.*

*“Hosanna in the highest!”
That ancient song we sing,
for Christ is our Redeemer;
the Lord of heaven, our King.
O may we ever praise him
with heart and life and voice,
and in his blissful presence
eternally rejoice.*

SCENE SIX

CLOSING PRAYER

Jamie:

Lord Jesus Christ, ... over the broken glass of our world, the rumors meant to hurt, the prejudice meant to wound, the weapons meant to kill, ride on ... trampling our attempts at disaster into dust. Ride on,

RIDE ON IN MAJESTY

Linda:

... over the distance which separates us from you, and it is such a distance, measurable in half truths, in unkept promises, in second-best obedience, ride on ... until you touch and heal us, who feel for no one but ourselves. Ride on,

RIDE ON IN MAJESTY

Jamie:

... through the back streets and the sin bins and the [forgotten] corners of the city, where human life festers and love runs cold, ride on ... bringing hope and dignity where most send scorn and silence. Ride on,

RIDE ON IN MAJESTY.

Linda:

For you, O Christ, do care and must show us how.
On our own, our ambitions rival your summons and thus
threaten good faith and neglect God's people.

Jamie:

In your company and at your side, we might yet help to bandage
and heal the wounds of the world. Ride on,

**RIDE ON IN MAJESTY AND TAKE US WITH YOU
INTO THIS HOLY WEEK, AND BEYOND. AMEN.**

POSTLUDE

SETH CUNNINGHAM



*Thank you to Mason Call, Tim Rutzen, Sabine Sivy, our
musicians, and our children and youth for participating in this
morning's Palm Sunday Service.*

Liturgical texts used with permission from:

Liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

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

"He Came on a Donkey" by the Revs. John Mingus, Charles Maclagan, and Peter O'Hara. Produced by special arrangement with Christian Publishers. Produced by special arrangement with Christian Publishers.

"Ride on, ride on" from Stages on the Way. Iona Community- The Wild Goose Worship Group. 2000.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR APRIL 13, 2025

• **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.

• **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. Please visit our Adult Bible Study page on our website at www.wpcbc.org or see Rev. Linda or Pastor Jamie with any questions.

• **YOUTH GROUP DINNERS:** Our Youth Group meets from 5 to 7 p.m. on Sunday nights. This time includes a meal together. If you are able to prepare and serve a meal (foods that young people like, such as Mac and cheese, chicken tenders, make-your-own sandwiches, etc.) or donate money towards dinner, please scan the QR code to sign up. Or call the church office.



• Do you or someone you know have two hours to spare each month to live out our **MATTHEW 25** commitment? **We need volunteers to cover the Westminster shift at Salvation Army's Matthew 25 Café.** On the second Tuesday of each month, Mission Partnership has committed to helping their staff and other outside volunteers prepare and serve a daily average of 150 hot meals for community members in need. There are two shifts. 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. for preparation and cooking; 11:00 to 1:00 p.m. for serving and light clean-up. We could use a minimum of **4 people on the first shift** and **2 people on the second shift.**

No experience is necessary. Sign-up is located on the board in Wenona Lobby. Whether you're a member or a friend of Westminster, we could use your help in fulfilling this mission.

• Our **BOOK STUDY** meeting for last week was canceled, so we will begin our new book, ***Grace (Eventually): Thoughts on Faith*** by Anne Lamott, this **Tuesday, April 15 at 1:30 p.m. in the lounge.** Lamott, author of the bestsellers *Traveling Mercies* and *Plan B* delivers a poignant, funny, and bittersweet primer of faith, as we come to discover what it means to be fully alive. Copies of the book are available in the church office.

• **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.

• The **WESTMINSTER COMMUNITY PANTRY** has been serving guests for **10 months.** With the help of many volunteers — who have spent hours stocking and restocking — **we have helped 1,478 families and distributed 48,740 pounds of food!** Thank you to our Westminster family and friends for helping accomplish this.

The **PANTRY'S ITEM OF THE MONTH FOR APRIL** is cookies.

The **total received from our fundraiser with H₂O's** is \$775. This includes donations received from people who couldn't be there for the event. The **Food Bank of Eastern Michigan's March on Hunger** during March and April will match this amount with an additional \$77.50.



Scan the QR code to visit the Westminster Community Pantry Facebook page.

• **LUNCH AND LEARN:** Kristen Freeman from Bay County Library was going to be our speaker in February but had to cancel. Thankfully she is available in April to be our speaker and share information about resources available through the county library system. Come join us on **Tuesday, April 22nd at noon** in Fellowship Hall – an opportunity to gather with friends and learn a little bit more about our community. Any questions, please call the office or Rev. Linda.

• **EASTER VIGIL and EGG HUNT next Saturday, April 19.** In the quiet of Holy Saturday, we join to prepare our hearts, and our sanctuary, for the joy of Easter morning! This family friendly service is full of congregational participation as we rehearse the stories of our faith and decorate the sanctuary for our Easter celebration. Following the service, we'll have an Easter egg hunt for our children 5th grade and younger.

• **JOIN US ON FACEBOOK:** Westminster Presbyterian Church-Bay City

• **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 for:**

- **Westminster Community Pantry**
- **Food of Faith**
- **Matthew 25 Cafe**
- **Fellowship Time Host**

In addition, the Community bulletin board in Fellowship Hall has information on health screenings, grief groups and other events in the area.

• **TV AND SOUNDBOARD:** We're looking for individuals who can run the soundboard and help in the TV room on Sunday mornings. If you are interested in helping, please call the church office. Thank you!

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!



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.

Holy Week at Westminster

Palm / Passion Sunday

April 13, 10:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday

April 17, 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday

April 18, 7 p.m.

Easter Vigil and Egg Hunt

April 19, 4 p.m.

Easter Sunday

Worship services at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

Easter breakfast at 9:15 a.m.