

# Westminster At Worship

*A Celebration of Worship*

*The Good News is ... together, the impossible is possible*  
*Scout Sunday*

March 8, 2026

10:30 a.m.

Please silence your cell phones prior to entering the sanctuary.

*†Those who feel comfortable standing may do so.*



## DISCIPLES GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

**PRELUDE**

**SETH CUNNINGHAM**

**LIGHTING OF THE LENTEN CANDLES**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THE LENTEN CANDLES**

Let us pray:

**God of abundance,  
we bring you our doubts and our limited vision.  
Teach us to trust what can happen when we act together.  
Remind us that your good news multiplies when shared.  
Amen.**

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION BY BOY SCOUT  
TROOP 150**

**†CALL TO WORSHIP**

If you need good news,  
**settle into this space.**  
**We have good news to share.**  
If you need a word of hope,  
**then trust us when we say,**  
**there is hope enough to go around.**

If you need a glimmer of joy,

**then you're in luck!**

**We have resilient joy abounding.**

If you need to feel God's presence in your midst,

**then know that this is God's house.**

This is the good news of the gospel.

**God is here. Love is real. Joy is on the move.**

**Let us worship our with-us God!**

**†HYMN**

*"Holy, Holy, Holy!"*

\*No. 136

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.  
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!*

*Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore thee,  
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,  
who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.*

*Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee,  
though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see,  
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,  
perfect in power, in love and purity.*

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.  
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!*

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, with you the impossible is possible.**

**5,000 can be fed.**

**The blind can see.**

**The hopeless can find hope.**

**With you the impossible is possible, but we are quick to forget that. We look at our hurting world and tell ourselves that nothing can be done.**

**We forget that you empowered the disciples to feed the crowd.**

**We forget that you are always with us.**

**Forgive our small-minded ways.**

**Forgive us for doubting that change could ever come.**

**But even more so, forgive us when we refuse to be a part of it.**

**With hope for a better tomorrow we pray ...**

*— Continue in Silent Confession —*

## KYRIE

*Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy on us.*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Family of faith, no matter how many mistakes the disciples made, Jesus still washed their feet. Jesus still fed them.

Jesus still called them beloved. The same is true for you and me, so hear and believe this good news:

**today is a new day, and once again, we belong to God.**

**We are forgiven. We are called. We are not alone.**

**What good, *good* news. Amen!**

## +RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE

WE ARE FORGIVEN

*We are forgiven. We are forgiven.*

*Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.*

*We are forgiven. We are forgiven.*

*Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.*

## **†SHARING GOD'S PEACE**

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

**And also with you.**

Take a moment to share signs of peace with your neighbors.

## **CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

*At this time, children (5<sup>th</sup> grade and younger) are invited to a worship experience just for them. The leaders will meet them at the back of the church following the "Sharing of God's Peace" and will bring them back during the offertory.*

## **DISCIPLES LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD**

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

### **FIRST READING**

**Ephesians 3:20-21**

### **DRAMATIC READING**

**Mark 6:32-44**

### **SERMON**

*"The Good News is together, the impossible is possible"*

**Rev. Jamie Milton**

### **†HYMN**

*"Human Minds Just Can't Imagine"* ON BACK OF FLOWER INSERT

## **DISCIPLES RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD**

## **†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Tell me something good, Church. What good news do you believe?

**I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.**

**It sounds like welcome and feels like home.**

**It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy.**

**It sounds like love and feels like a seat at the table,  
so I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.**

**I have seen it alive in the world.**

**And even when my heart aches,**

**even when wars rage,**

**even when mercy feels out of reach,**

**I remember the one who welcomed the children  
and led with nonviolence.**

**I remember the one who cared for the vulnerable  
and inspired those around him.**

**I remember that the good news really is good news,  
for I have seen it alive in the world.**

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from  
evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,  
forever. Amen.**

## **INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

### **CHORAL OFFERING**

WPC CHANCEL CHOIR

*"If We Will Seek the Lord"*

*Music by Don Besig, Words by Nancy Price and Don Besig*

## †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.*

## †PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Bringer of peace, you shaped your people and gave them a home.  
In gratitude for your steadfast love — for calling us to feed in your  
pastures and rest safely in your fields — we bring our gifts before  
you this day. May they offer the love of our shepherd to those in  
your tender care. Amen.**

## DISCIPLES DEPART TO SERVE GOD

### †HYMN

*“We Shall Overcome”*

\*No. 512

*We shall overcome;  
we shall overcome;  
we shall overcome someday.*

*Refrain:*

*O, deep in my heart  
I do believe  
we shall overcome someday!*

*We'll walk hand in hand;  
we'll walk hand in hand;  
we'll walk hand in hand someday. (Refrain)*

*We shall live in peace;  
we shall live in peace;  
we shall live in peace someday. (Refrain)*

*We are not afraid;  
we are not afraid;  
we are not afraid today. (Refrain)*

*God will see us through;  
God will see us through;  
God will see us through today. (Refrain)*

### **†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

As you leave this place, when you meet anger,  
**we will speak with love.**

When you meet fear,  
**we will speak with hope.**

When you meet pain,  
**we will speak with gentleness.**

But no matter what,  
**we will speak this good news.**

For the good news of the gospel is love and justice for all.

It is joy that surprises, and nonviolence that transforms.

The good news of the gospel is alive in the world, so go forth speaking. For if you won't, then who will?

**Thanks be to God for this good, good news. Amen.**

### **†POSTLUDE**

**SETH CUNNINGHAM**



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## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MARCH 8, 2026

### **Volunteer Opportunity: Join Us at the Matthew 25 Café!**

Support the Salvation Army and Mission Partnerships –  
Lend a Hand, Make a Difference

Are you looking for a fun and inspiring way to give back to your community? The Salvation Army's Matthew 25 Café is seeking enthusiastic volunteers to support our mission of serving those in need. We invite you to sign up for a two-hour shift on the second Tuesday of each month.

Your time and effort will help create a warm and welcoming environment where everyone feels valued. Volunteering at the café is more than just serving food—it's about connecting with others, sharing kindness, and making a real impact. Whether you come alone or bring a friend, you'll find this experience to be both rewarding and uplifting.

No special skills are required, just a caring heart and a willingness to help.

Join our mission-driven team and be a part of something greater. If you're interested in signing up the sheet is located on the Volunteer Board in Wenona Lobby. Shifts are 9 to 11 a.m. for food prep and 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for serving. If you would like more information, please contact the church office or Darlene Kusterer. Together, we can make a difference, one meal and one smile at a time!

MINISTERS	All the People
PASTOR	Rev. Jamie Milton
PARISH ASSOCIATE	Rev. Linda Williams
LITURGIST	Boy Scout Troop 150, Anne Remington
DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY	Leah Sneller
NURSERY SUPERVISOR	Elaine Edwards
CHOIR DIRECTOR	Dawn Auger
HANDBELL DIRECTOR	Seth Cunningham
YOUTH BELLS AND CHIME CHOIR DIRECTOR	Judy Harrelson
ORGANIST	Seth Cunningham
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Martha Tapley
SECRETARY	Bill Petzold
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR	Pat Foster
FACILITIES MANAGER	Harold Miller

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MARCH 8, 2026

- The **FLOWERS FOR TODAY'S SERVICE** are provided by Barb English in loving memory of her husband.
- **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.
- **CONTACT INFORMATION UPDATES:** Heading to a warmer climate this winter? Have you moved recently? Do you have a new email address? Please call the church office to let us know of these changes so your statement and other church correspondence reaches you.
- **ADULT BIBLE STUDY:** We provide two opportunities for folks to participate – **Sunday mornings at 9 a.m.** in the Lounge or **Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. by Zoom.** Our Bible Study follows our Lenten theme: Tell Me Something Good.
- **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.
- **PER CAPITA for 2026 is \$35.00.** Per capita connects Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) congregations and mid councils with the work of the wider church. Per capita is how Presbyterians mutually and equitably share the costs of moving the church forward in the 21st century. The work of the PC(USA), and in particular the work of the General Assembly, is only possible because members of the church have said they are “all in” and committed to connection through per capita support. It is about joining together as a community and being one body, the body that is Christ’s church in the world.

- **YOUTH GROUP DINNERS:** Do you like to cook or bake meals? If yes, then we would love for you to **sign up to help with**



**Youth Dinners for Sunday night youth group meetings.** If not, there is still a way you can help with dinner. You can choose to provide dinner by providing pizza, chicken tenders, Mac &

Cheese or something along those lines. We usually have dinner from 5:30 to 6:00 p.m. You will get a count a couple of days in advance. Please scan the QR code, visit <https://tinyurl.com/bd7hv7u8> or see Leah Sneller to sign up.

- **WINTER BOOK GROUP:** **Beginning March 10**, we embark on our next book, ***First Phone Call from Heaven*** by Mitch Albom. If you would like to take part in the book group, contact Rev. Linda or the church office. Our book group meets Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. in the Lounge.

- **A TOWN HALL MEETING** is planned for after worship on Sunday, March 22. We'll be sharing the results of our Stewardship Campaign and offer updates and answers to any remaining questions from our 2025 conversations together. After that, we hope to spend more time listening. To help us provide the most accurate and thoughtful responses we encourage you to submit questions ahead of time. There will also be time for open conversation during the meeting.

- **CARING CONNECTIONS:** Come join us on the first Thursday of every month. Our Caring Connections Group is open to the Bay City community.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MARCH 8, 2026

• **WHAT IS A PRESBYTERIAN?** Join us for the next in a series of classes on **Being Presbyterian**. We'll gather for dinner at **5:30 p.m. Sunday, March 22**, and then we'll spend about an hour and a half looking at some Presbyterian beliefs and practices while exploring our individual faith together!

• **THE OUT-TO-LUNCH BUNCH** will continue its tour of local eateries with a stop at Lasko's Restaurant, 3966 Wilder Rd. In Bay City. We will meet up at **1 p.m. on Wednesday, March 18**. If you would like to attend, please RSVP with Dave Crook by calling (847) 624-5798 or emailing [crookds@earthlink.net](mailto:crookds@earthlink.net) by March 16 so we can provide an accurate count for our party.

• **HEARTS AND HANDS KNITTING** welcomes anyone who enjoys knitting to join them! Our group of knitters and crocheters needs help. Hearts and Hands of

Westminster has been getting together for 20+ years now creating winter items, lap robes, and things for babies. But our numbers have been reduced as we have lost members. If you knit or crochet, we would love to have you join us **Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Session Room**. If you don't knit or crochet and would like to learn, we would be happy to teach you! We have lots of yarn, extra needles, and hooks, and lots of patterns to share. If you aren't able to join us in person, but want to help, you can take yarn to create items at home. If you have friends who knit, crochet, or would like to learn, we welcome them to join us.

The items we make are shared with schools, Good Samaritan Rescue Mission, Salvation Army, hospitals, our Pantry clients, and Bay Area Women's Center. Please consider joining us as we use our hearts and our hands to share God's love.

### 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](http://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	Month to Date thru March 1,	
	2026	Year to Date
Pledges & Other Giving	\$ 8,406	\$ 114,142
One-time Gifts	\$ -	\$ -
Other Cash Received	\$ -	\$ 3,167
Total Income	\$ 8,406	\$ 117,309
Expenses	\$ -	\$ 62,418
Net Income/(Loss)	\$ 8,406	\$ 54,891

Budgeted expense total for 2026 is \$467,000.



## **Lenten Activities:**

**Wondering Wednesdays:** Throughout the Wednesdays of Lent (February 18-April 1) the sanctuary will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for an intentional time for prayer and reflection. We'll have some quiet music playing and some images for reflection on the screens.

**Mid-Lenten Potluck and Interactive Prayer Service:**  
Wednesday, March 11, 6:00 p.m.

**Palm/Passion Sunday:** March 29

**Maundy Thursday:** April 2, 7:00 p.m.

**Good Friday:** April 3, 7:00 p.m.

**Holy Saturday:** A Service of Waiting, Wonder, and Resurrection Hope (April 4, 4:00pm)

**Easter Sunday:** Services at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.;  
Breakfast served at 9:15 a.m.

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- **SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE BED**

**BUILD:** Westminster's next bed build with Sleep in Heavenly Peace is April 18. You can sign up using the QR code below.



Youth ages 12 and older are welcome (a parent or guardian signature is required for those under 18). On-site registration begins at 8:45 a.m. Please note the new location:

4055 S. Saginaw Rd.,

Midland. We hope you'll join us!

Questions? Contact Len Petroff.

- **RUMMAGE SALE:** Westminster's Presbyterian Women committee is planning a Spring Rummage Sale for Wednesday, April 15 through Friday, April 17. We will begin collecting rummage sale items and setting up on Sunday, April 12. More details will follow as the date approaches.

- **ONLINE CHURCH DIRECTORY:** If you would like to update your information on the MyUCD online church directory or add an email contact or phone number, please contact Bill in the church office and he can get those changes made for you. You may either call 989-686-1360 during office hours or email [office@wpcbc.org](mailto:office@wpcbc.org).

- **MID-LENTEN POTLUCK,** Wednesday, March 11 at 6 p.m. — a relaxed evening of food, prayer, music, and creative reflection for all ages. Everyone is welcome — bring a dish to share if you're able, bring yourself and invite a friend!

Westminster

## COMMUNITY PANTRY

**Pantry Stats:** In February, we served 594 people from 218 families with 6545 pounds of food. 47 families were first time visitors. 120 were last here in January or December. And 51 hadn't been here since November or earlier. Families came from 9 different Bay County cities, with the majority from Bay City and Essexville. We are glad people are finding our pantry when they need food. Thank you for helping us feed our hungry neighbors!

**Item of the Month:** The February item of the month is packaged rice and noodle side dishes, like Knorr sides, Rice-a-Roni and Suddenly Salad. Our guests will really enjoy having a wide variety of items to choose from. Please leave your donations

on the cart by the pantry door. Thank you! Scan the QR code to visit the pantry Facebook page:



### **Westminster Presbyterian Church**

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

email: [office@wpcbc.org](mailto:office@wpcbc.org)

website: [wpcbc.org](http://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.