

Westminster At Worship

A Celebration of Worship World Communion Sunday Sharing Our Gifts

“Producing the Fruits of the Kingdom”

October 4, 2026

10:30 a.m.

Welcome to Westminster! We are glad you are here! Take some time to review the announcements to see “What’s Up At Westminster!” If you have any questions, our greeters and ushers are happy to help.

- **THE FLOWERS FOR TODAY’S SERVICE** are provided in honor of my wife Elizabeth Talbot, by Dick Talbot.
- **SPECIAL OFFERING TODAY:** The 2026 **World Communion Offering** from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) plays an important role in defining what it means to be a connectional church. If you would like to contribute, **special offering envelopes are available in the back of the sanctuary.**
- **AFTER TODAY’S SERVICE:** Be sure to join us for Coffee and Cookies in the chapel at the back of the sanctuary!
- **IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:** Please note the closest emergency exit to your seat. There are exits at all four corners of the sanctuary that will lead you safely out of the building.

For Parents, Grandparents and Caregivers:

Children of all ages are always welcome in worship! However, if you or your child need a little extra care, we offer several options for you:

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 certified in infant/child CPR.

WORSHIP BAGS are located by the back entrance to the sanctuary. These bags for children are filled with quiet activities to keep children engaged while seated in the pew with their families.

CHILDREN’S CHURCH (K-5th Grade) All elementary-aged students are welcome to join us for a time of Bible stories and fun activities just for them. Following the “Sharing God’s Peace” in today’s service, children are invited to meet their teachers at the back of the sanctuary where they will be led to their classroom. Teachers will bring children back to the sanctuary at the close of the service.

VISIT OUR PRAYGROUND located at the back of the sanctuary. This dedicated space contains activities for parents and children who need a little extra space to move but would still like to be a part of the worship service.

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS TO WORSHIP GOD

Please silence your cell phones prior to entering the sanctuary.

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

* *Denotes hymn number in pew hymnal. Some lyrics may be different than what is projected on the screens.*



PRELUDE

SETH CUNNINGHAM

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING MOMENT

GATHERING PRAYER

†CALL TO WORSHIP

The heavens proclaim the glory of God!

We too proclaim what God has done in our lives.

Voices of praise shout to the ends of the earth.

May we join the chorus, as we sing of God's great and abiding love!

†HYMN

"I Come With Joy"

*No. 706

*I come with joy, a child of God,
forgiven, loved, and free,
the life of Jesus to recall,
in love laid down for me,
in love laid down for me.*

*I come with Christians far and near
to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
in Christ's communion bread,
in Christ's communion bread.*

*As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends.*

*The Spirit of the risen Christ,
unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known,
alive among us here,
alive among us here.*

*Together met, together bound
by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world
the love that makes us one,
the love that makes us one.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Loving God, you have planted us like a vineyard on a fertile hill.
You cleared away the stones, planted us with choice vines,
and kept watch over us by night and day.
But we have not yielded the good fruit
that you expected or desired.
We are overgrown with sin,
choked with violence and injustice.
Forgive us, we pray.
Uproot our evil, prune away our sin,
and shower upon us the gift of your grace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord....**

— A time of Silent Confession —

KYRIE

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

This is the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.

†RESPONSE TO GOD’S GRACE

GLORIA PATRI

*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!

CHILDREN’S CHURCH

At this time, children (5th 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 before the end of the service.

THE COMMUNITY LISTENS TO THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PSALTER READING

Psalm 80:14-19

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 21:33-46

SERMON

"Producing the Fruits of the Kingdom"

Rev. Jamie Milton

†HYMN

"For Everyone Born"

*No. 68

*For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overhead,*

Refrain:

*and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!*

*For woman and man, a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
for woman and man, a system that's fair, (Refrain)*

*For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
for young and for old, the right to belong, (Refrain)*

*For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free, (Refrain)*

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO THE CALL OF GOD

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Today's loose offering will be used to support the ministry of the Westminster Deacons.

CHORAL OFFERING

CHANCEL CHOIR

"In Wisdom You Made It All"
Words and Music by Marty Parks

†DOXOLOGY

TUNE: OLD HUNDREDTH

*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

Holy One, creator of all, we give you thanks for all you have entrusted to us. As good stewards, we now bring you these gifts and ask that you use them to help your children around the world. As we bring our gifts, we also offer our lives, praying that you will use us to bear good fruit for all people. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right and our greatest joy...
...and singing the hymn of the whole creation:
**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.
We praise you, most holy God...**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

The Prayer Continues ...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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.*

A GLUTEN FREE option is available on the table.

MUSICAL OFFERING

WPC BELL CHOIR

*"World Communion Handbells"
Arranged by Matt Johnson*

UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed are you, O Lord our God,
creator and ruler of the universe,
for you have satisfied our souls
with this feast of your grace.
Keep us faithful in your service
until your realm of glory comes;
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE COMMUNITY GOES TO SERVE GOD

†HYMN

“May the God of Hope Go With Us”

ARGENTINA

*May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.*

*Praying, let us work for peace;
singing, share our joy with all;
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.*

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SETH CUNNINGHAM



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Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: *Liturgies for Year A, Volume 2* © 2014 Westminster John Knox Press

Abingdon Worship Annual 2026. This week's liturgy by KarinEllis.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR OCTOBER 4, 2026

The October Item of the Month is chunky-style soup.

We cannot get this very popular item from the Food Bank, so please help us fill our shelves for "soup weather." All donations may be left on the cart outside the pantry door. Thank you!

Meijer Simply Give Program Returns:

Great news! We were once again selected as a recipient of the Meijer Simply Give program through the holiday season. **Now through December 26**, all Simply Give donations made at the Wilder Road store will be collected for our pantry. Simply Give donation cards are available at the church and in the checkout lines at the store. Just hand your Simply Give donation card to the cashier



and tell them how much you want to give (in \$10 increments). They will scan your card and your donation

will be added to your grocery total. You can also donate through online shopping on the Meijer app. And **mark your calendars for Saturday, December 12, when Meijer will double-match all donations!** At the end of the program, all donations will be totaled and given to our pantry in the form of gift cards that we can use to purchase food from them. Please share the news with all your family and friends! The gift cards we received from last year's campaign have been stocking our pantry for the last few months. Questions? Talk to Janet Smylie or Janet Beattie.

MINISTERS

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CHOIR DIRECTOR

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YOUTH BELLS AND CHIME CHOIR DIRECTOR

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Diane Piquet

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Martha Tapley

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Harold Miller

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THIS WEEK

- **ADULT BIBLE STUDY:** We will be using *The Wired Word* bible study curriculum that connects current events and weekly news stories with Scripture. Our **Sunday morning class meets Sundays at 9 a.m.**, and our **Thursday evening online Zoom study meets online at 7 p.m.** Any questions, please see Rev. Linda or the church office.
- **FALL BOOK GROUP:** We will be reading and discussing Bob Goff's book, *Love Does* on **Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. in the Lounge**. For more information, speak to Rev. Linda or call the church office. We will meet again on **Tuesday, October 6**.
- **FALLIN' FOR BUNCO:** Our next Bunco party is scheduled for 12 p.m. on **Wednesday, October 7**. Bring your own lunch and join us for some fun and fellowship! We eat at noon and begin playing Bunco at 12:30 p.m.
- **CHOIR REHEARSALS:** Cantata rehearsals begin this week at 7:15 p.m. on **Wednesday, October 7**. If you would like to add your voice, please contact Dawn Auger or Seth Cunningham. **Bell choir** rehearses Sunday mornings at 8:45 a.m. **Chancel Choir** rehearses Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. **Contemporary Choir** rehearses at 5:15 p.m. on Wednesdays.
- The annual **FALL RETREAT** at Bay Shore Camp is planned for **9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, October 10**. This year's theme, Sharing Our Gifts, ties directly into our fall worship focus on "Thy Kingdom Come" — exploring how we build God's kingdom here on earth through the gifts we've been given. Cost is \$15 to cover lunch. See Pastor Jamie or call the church office for information.
- Our next **TOWN HALL MEETING** is planned for **Sunday, October 11** following worship. Please submit and questions for the Session to Pastor Jamie at pastor@wpcbc.org

MONTHLY

- **LYDIA CIRCLE:** Lydia Circle uses the Presbyterian Women Bible Study curriculum, *Horizons*. The group meets on the third Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. **Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 15**. If you are interested in joining, please contact group leaders Elaine Edwards at 989-397-5642 or Barb Tolles at 989-963-9369.
- **DEBORAH CIRCLE:** We will be continuing our study of the television series "The Chosen" at **4 p.m. Thursday, October 15**, location TBD. If you are interested in joining Deborah Circle, please contact Karen Schoepach or call the church office.
- **CARING CONNECTIONS:** Come join us on the first Thursday of every month. Our Caring Connections Group is open to the Bay City community, so if you have a friend or neighbor who is dealing with grief, they are welcome to join! **Our next meeting is planned for Thursday, November 5**.

ONGOING

- **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.

LOOKING AHEAD

- **TRIVIA NIGHT:** Come test your knowledge at our FREE Trivia Night! Ages 10 and older may compete. Snack and refreshments will be provided, join us for fun questions, friendly competition with a few prizes on the line!
 **Saturday, October 17 from 6 to 8 p.m.** in the Westminster Fellowship Hall. Bring your team of 6 or come on your own and make friends!
Please register in advance by calling Bonnie Marsh at 989-460-7108 or by scanning the QR code.
- **GATHERING AND GAMES:** Join us after worship on **Sunday, October 18** for a time of fun and fellowship!
- **The ADVENT / EPIPHANY SEASONAL LAUNCH** is planned for **4 p.m. Sunday, October 18.**
- **HARVEST PARTY / CHILI COOK-OFF:** The annual Harvest Party and Chili Cook-off is planned for **Sunday, October 25** following worship. We'll have a selection of tasty chilis, grilled cheese sandwiches and delicious desserts! If you're interested in bringing chili for the contest or just making a pot to share, please sign up on the bulletin board located in the Wenona Street Lobby, with a member of the Fellowship Committee on Sundays October 11 and October 18 or by calling the church office. We are also looking for donations of individually packaged desserts for a bake sale!
- **ALL SAINTS' REMEMBRANCE:** Sunday, November 1 during worship.
- **HANGING OF THE GREENS:** Sunday, November 22, help us decorate the church during and after worship.
- **PACK THANKSGIVING BASKETS:** Sunday, November 22, volunteers are needed to help pack Thanksgiving Baskets for our community members after worship. More details to follow.

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. 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	Current Period Oct 1, 2026	Year to Date
Pledges & Other Giving	26,962	361,463
One-time Gifts	0	0
Other Cash Received	47.76	4,633.18
Total Income	27,009.76	366,096.18
Expenses	32,026	321,315.18
Excess(Loss)	-5,016.24	44,781

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

