

Westminster At Worship

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 7, 2021

10:30 a.m.



GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WESTMINSTER AT WORK

PRELUDE

†CALL TO WORSHIP (ISAIAH 40)

Leader: Have you not know? Have you not heard? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

People: It is God who stretches out the heaven and spreads it like a tent.

Leader: Have you not know? Have you not heard?

People: The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

Leader: Come, let us worship our Creator God,

People: Let us worship God together.

MUSIC

"How Beautiful"

Brandi

CALL TO CONFESSION

Trusting together in God's steadfast mercy, let us search our hearts, coming before God's throne to confess our sins.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, hear us now as we come to you in silent reflection

—Silent Reflection—

We confess, gracious God, that we have not lived as you have longed for us to live. We have failed to love you above all else, we have been blind to our neighbor's needs, we have spoken when silence would have been golden, and failed to speak on behalf of the voiceless. We have trusted everything but you to lift us from the darkness. Forgive us, dear Lord. Cleanse our hearts, make them more like yours, teach us to live like Jesus. Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, hear and believe the Good News of the Gospel,

**People: In and through Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.**

PASSING THE PEACE

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

OLD TESTAMENT

Exodus 3 and 4, selected verses (NRSV)

10 But Moses said to the Lord, "O my Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor even now that you have spoken to your servant; but I am slow of speech and slow of tongue."

11 Then the Lord said to him, "Who gives speech to mortals? Who makes them mute or deaf, seeing or blind? Is it not I, the Lord?"

12 Now go, and I will be your mouth and teach you what you are to speak."

13 "What of your brother Aaron the Levite? I know that he can speak fluently; even now he is coming out to meet you, and when he sees you his heart will be glad.

15 You shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth; and I will be with your mouth and with his mouth, and will teach you what you shall do. Take in your hand this staff, with which you shall perform the signs.

NEW TESTAMENT
Hebrews 11 and 12, selected verses (NRSV)

Chapter 11:

1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

2 Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval.

3 By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going.

27 By faith Moses left Egypt, unafraid of the Pharaoh's anger; for he persevered as though he saw God who is invisible.

Chapter 12:

1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us,

2 looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

SERMON *“Becoming Involved in Life One Step at a Time”*
Anne Remington

MUSIC

“Here I Am, Lord”

Men’s Trio

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father 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 to 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 worshiped 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

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

†DOXOLOGY

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.*

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Blessed are you, O Lord God, creator of the universe
From your hands we receive all that we need, often
before we even know to ask. Along with our thanks,
we return to you a portion of these gifts. Let them be
used in Jesus' name to serve those in need, that
whatever good works these gifts accomplish might
glorify our Father in heaven. Amen.**

HYMN

"Let Us Break Bread Together"
Women's Trio

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE 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 up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Sanctus

Leader: and all the faithful of every time and place,
saying:

**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.**

The Memorial Acclamation

Leader: ...We live out the mystery of faith and
proclamation:

**People: Christ has died,
Christ has risen,
Christ will come again.**

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**

BEING SENT WITH GOD'S WORD

CHARGE

BENEDICTION

MINISTERS	All the People
PARISH ASSOCIATE	Rev. Linda Williams
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR	Nikelle Johnson
NURSERY SUPERVISOR	Elaine Edwards
CHOIR DIRECTOR	Dawn Auger
HAND BELL DIRECTOR	Peggy Hanson
ORGANIST	Wendy Tally
TREASURER	Heather Heidtman
CUSTODIAN	Harold Miller
SECRETARY	Judy Harrelson
CCLI License #2328090	

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR FEBRUARY 7, 2021

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION will take place via Zoom today, following the worship service. The letter mailed out last week, will have the Zoom login information. The Annual Report can be viewed on Westminster's homepage at wpcbc.org.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING LUNCHEON: For many years, Westminster's Youth Group has hosted its annual Souper Bowl of Caring Luncheon during the Annual Meeting of the Congregation. Everything has been different this past year, and the Souper Bowl of Caring is no different. That doesn't mean we can't still enjoy some delicious soup AND attend the Annual Meeting. This year's Annual Meeting will be held virtually, so we thought we would hold a virtual Souper Bowl. **Make your favorite soup and share a picture of your family enjoying it during the Annual meeting.** Now for the twist! If you are willing, share your recipe with us and we will create a Westminster Soup Cookbook. Email pictures and recipes to Nicole Rezler at nicolerzler228@gmail.com or the church office at office@wpcbc.org. Any questions, please reach out. As in past Souper Bowl of Caring events, we welcome donations to Westminster's Food Pantry. Thank you!

MOVIE: Grab some popcorn or your favorite movie snacks and join us on **Sunday, February 14 at 3:00 p.m. via Zoom** to preview the movie *The Antidote*. This documentary, created in 2020, was made in response to the times we are living in. *The Antidote* weaves together stories of kindness, decency, and the power of community in America. It's about everyday people who make the intentional choice to lift others up, despite fundamentally unkind realities in our society that contradict the founding ideals of our country. It's about who we are and maybe, who we can be. Please contact Nikelle to receive the zoom link (cedirector@wpcbc.org).

THE WIRED WORD ADULT FAITH FORMATION: Join us on Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom. Enjoy lively conversations about current events in the news and the Bible passages that relate to those events. Any questions regarding the class or for Zoom information, contact Rev. Linda at 989-686-1360 or email at parishassoc@wpcbc.org.

THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY: Join us on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom where we will discuss a variety of Bible passages as well as explore the ideas of the book, *“The Bible with and Without Jesus.”* Bible scholars and teachers Amy-Jill Levine and Marc Z. Brettler take readers on a guided tour of the most popular Hebrew Bible passages quoted in the New Testament to show what the texts meant in their original contexts and then how Jews and Christians, over time, understood those same texts. Any questions regarding the class or for Zoom information, contact Rev. Linda at 989-686-1360 or email at parishassoc@wpcbc.org.

THE BOOK CLUB will meet Tuesday, February 23 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom. We will discuss the book *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry* by Gabrielle Zevin. Books are available at church this month. They are available in the church office for check-out and can be picked up during regular business hours. Contact Nikelle at cedirector@wpcbc.org to receive Zoom login information.

SPIRITUALITY OF AGING: Our Spirituality of Aging groups have begun gathering in groups of twos over the phone. We realize this is not the way we would have all hoped to have gathered this Fall, but for the ten to twelve who have signed up, it has become a way to remain connected during these coronavirus days. For these “two-by-two” conversations, we are using *“On the Brink of Everything,”* a beautiful book of reflections on what we can learn as we move closer to “the brink of everything.” This book is written by beloved and bestselling author Parker J. Palmer. It’s never too late to join in! If you have any questions or would like to learn more about our “two-by-two” discussion format, please give Rev. Linda a call.

PER CAPITA & OFFERING ENVELOPES: Per capita for 2021 is \$28.76. This is per active, confirmed member. Offering envelopes for 2021 are available for pick-up at the church during regular office hours.

This Week at Westminster

Today, Sunday, February 7, 2021

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

11:45 a.m. Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Souper Bowl of Caring via Zoom

Monday, February 8

6:00 p.m. Finance Meeting

Tuesday, February 9

6:00 p.m. Spiritual Growth

Wednesday, February 10

1:00 p.m. The Wired Word

Thursday, February 11

5:00 p.m. Food of Faith at Messiah Lutheran

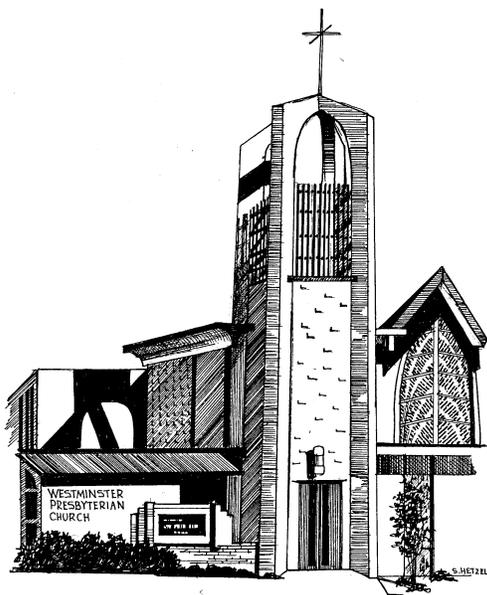
7:00 p.m. Adult Faith Formation via Zoom

Next Sunday, February 14

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

3:00 p.m. The Antidote Movie via Zoom

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



Westminster Presbyterian Church

103 E. Midland Street

Bay City, MI 48706

989-686-1360

email: office@wpcbc.org

website: wpcbc.org

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

lunch 12:00 -1:00 p.m.

Friday

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.