



WESTMINSTER CHURCH OF DETROIT



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www.wcodetroit.org

Sunday, September 10, 2023
15th Sunday after Pentecost

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude Allegro Cantabile from *Symphony No. 5* Ch. M. Widor

Welcome to all – especially to our guests.

Hymns labeled GTG are in the Glory to God Hymnal (purple)

Hymns labeled AAHH are in the African American Heritage Hymnal (beige)

**Please stand as you are able*

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Hallelujah! Sing to the Lord a new song!

This day is God's gift to us.

Hallelujah! Sing to the Lord a new song!

God has graciously gathered us together in this place.

Hallelujah! Sing to the Lord a new song!

God is good and faithful. God is worthy of our praise!

Gospel Praise Lift the Savior Up

Blessing of the Backpacks

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

in Jesus, our risen Lord, we have seen your glory.

Yet our sinfulness often blocks out the light of Christ.

We are quick to accuse and slow to confess.

We find faults easily in others while ignoring our own shortcomings.

We have squandered your gifts.

We have turned from your ways.

We have ignored your Word.

**Have mercy on us, compassionate God.
Pour out your Holy Spirit on our sinful lives.
Wash us with your love and cleanse us with your grace
that day by day we might move closer to the people you would us be.
Amen.**

Declaration of God's Forgiveness

Relentlessly God seeks us out.
With abundant grace and boundless mercy, God seeks us out.
This is good news!
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Passing of the Peace/A Time for Celebration

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you!**

(Exchange signs of Christ's peace and forgiveness with others. We greet one another as neighbors in Christ. You may say "Peace be with you," or respond, "And also with you.")

***Response GTG #463** How Firm a Foundation
**When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.**

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Psalm 149: 1-9

Anthem

Thou Knowest, Lord
Chancel Choir

Henry Purcell

Second Reading

Romans 13: 8-14

Message

Put on the Lord Jesus Christ!

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

***Affirmation of Faith**

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.
In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"
With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

***Hymn GTG #306**

Bless Be the Tie That Binds

Call to Offering

We are cautious as we gather for worship. We are not currently passing an offering plate. We have placed an offering plate outside the sanctuary where you may place your offerings.

Invitation to Offering

Prayer of Dedication

***Doxology GTG #606** Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
**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.**

WE GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

Prayers of the People

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.**

***Hymn AAHH #504** Love Lifted Me

*Benediction

Postlude Fugue in C Major Jan Vanhal

(The organ postlude is offered as an instrumental prayer. You are invited to remain seated; if you wish to depart, please do so quietly, remembering those who are still worshiping.)

Worship Leaders:

The Rev. Opelton Parker, Guest Preacher
Dalos Grobe, Organist/Chancel Choir Director
Victor Boyd, Gospel Choir Director
Marilyn Ngundam, Liturgist

Today's Anthem

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts; shut not Thy merciful ears unto our prayers, but spare us, Lord most holy. O God most mighty, O holy and most merciful Father, Thou most worthy Judge eternal, suffer us not at our last hour for any pains of death to fall from Thee. Amen

Liturgy reprinted by permission from John Wurster, *The Presbyterian Outlook*

Visit wcodetroit.org for the link to view our Sunday morning worship services on YouTube.

Westminster Church of Detroit News

Rally Day Today!

Immediately following worship this morning, head to Calvin Hall for Rally Day! Come and learn about the many ministries that WCOD has to offer and ways in which you can become involved in the life of this wonderful church and congregation. Registration for Sunday school will also be available for families.

Wednesday Adult Bible Study

The Rev. Beth Downs leads this weekly Adult Bible study. This group meets faithfully every Wednesday from noon to 1:00pm, studying and discerning God's word. All are welcome to come and participate, either in person or by Zoom. The Zoom link can be found on the WCOD website: wcodetroit.org.

Better Sound Clarity at Worship Services in the Sanctuary for Those Who Wear Hearing Aids

If you wear hearing aids that have Bluetooth connectivity such as Phonak brand "Paradise" model (Bluetooth is typically used to connect your hearing aids to your smart phone), Westminster has a device in the sanctuary that can send crystal clear voice and music right into your ears, directly from our sound mixing board! Stop by the video & sound booth in the sanctuary prior to worship and see Bill or Jordan to get connected. A one-time set up will then reconnect automatically every time you come to worship, and it works great no matter where you sit in the sanctuary!

Westminster Church of Detroit Sewing Ministry Team

While continuing to sew quilts, soon The Sewers will be crafting fidget mats, marble mazes, and more. We also have several non-sewing projects such as

sorting fabric by color, cutting, tying quilts, and gluing knots. Help with options that are of interest to you. Our scheduled Thursday dates and times at WCOD are:

Hours - 9:30am to 3:00pm

September 14th & 28th

November 9th

October 12th & 26th

December 14th & 28th

Pop Can Tabs for the Ronald MacDonald House of Detroit

As you enjoy cool drinks on hot days, please remember to pull the tabs and bring them to church. Removing the pull tab will not change any refund you are due. There is a large jar on the table by the church office where you can deposit them. The tabs are taken to the Ronald MacDonald House of Detroit, near the DMC. Our donated tabs are used to purchase laundry supplies. Ronald MacDonald House provides residential space to families while their children recover from surgery.

Sunday School for Children and Youth begins on Sunday, September 17th!

Sunday school for children and youth resumes on Sunday, September 17th. We are looking forward to another wonderful year of learning about God's love with the children! Registration for Sunday school will be available at Rally Day (Sunday, September 10th), at the Christian Education table.

Camp Westminster News

Friends,

Please pray for the Church Leadership Team as we search for a new Executive Director for Camp Westminster.

The Camp Committee will assume the day-to-day operations of the camp until an Executive Director is hired.

Thank you for your love and support for Camp Westminster. Changes in leadership are often sad and frustrating, yet we all share the desire for the camp to thrive and continue its Christian mission by changing lives of children, youth, and adults. We ask for your prayers and support as we navigate this difficult transition.

Cecil Rice, Camp Committee Chair

Westminster Calendar

Sunday, September 10th

10:00am Worship
11:00am Rally Day

Monday, September 11th

7:00pm NA Meeting

Wednesday, September 13th

12Noon Bible Study
3:00pm Gospel Choir Rehearsal
6:00pm NA Meeting

Thursday, September 14th

9:30am Ministry Sewing Team

Saturday, September 16th

1:30pm RESPOND

Sunday, September 17th

10:00am Worship
11:15am Deacon Communion Training
11:30-12:30am Session Meeting

Monday, September 18th

7:00pm NA Meeting

Wednesday, September 20th

12Noon Bible Study
3:00pm Gospel Choir Rehearsal
6:00pm NA Meeting

Pastoral Care

<p>Dr. Joyce Tibbs 5111 W. Outer Drive Detroit, MI 48235</p> <p>Arcie Q. Willoughby St. Anne's Mead 16106 W. 12 Mile Road Room 11 Southfield, MI 48076</p>	<p>Mrs. Dorothy Ellis-Davis 11705 Ashbury Park Detroit, MI 48227-1182</p> <p>Dr. Maxine Bloodworth Advantage Living Center 25330 Six Mile Redford, MI 48240 Macomber Room #36-1</p>
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Prayer Concerns

Family #	Family #
1 Catherine Lewis	6 Ruth Wallace Robertson (Sharon Wallace's mother)
1 Gladys Stephen	6 Constance Rowley
2 Prince Ella Cunningham & Family	8 Rosa Armstrong
2 Sandy Gross	8 Faye Baker
3 Margaret Clay	8 Deanna Riley
4 Virginia Fields and Family	10 Derek Barns
4 Heide Lewis and Family	11 Victor Jackson
4 Bessie Ward	11 Jamez James (Victor & Janet Jackson's son)
5 Zoe Henry (Doris Greer's Niece)	12 Bobbie Fae Arstead
5 Simeon Mitchell	12 The Henderson Family (Heide's Sister)
6 Elizabeth Galloway	Rev. Bill Furstenau
6 Carol Lewis	
6 Lela Norris (Eddie & Cynthia Norris's sister-in-law)	

Constance Rowley is requesting prayers of comfort and support as she is scheduled for hip replacement surgery on September 11, 2023, at Providence Hospital Novi. If you would like to send a note, please mail it to: Constance Rowley, 6442 Heritage, West Bloomfield, MI 48322.

Blest Be the Tie That Binds 306

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in
2 Be - fore our *Fa - ther's throne we pour our
3 We share our mu - tual woes; our mu - tual
4 When we are called to part, it gives us
5 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we

Chris - tian love. The fel - low - ship of
ar - dent prayers. Our fears, our hopes, our
bur - dens bear. And of - ten for each
in - ward pain; but we shall still be
shall be free; and per - fect love and

kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.
aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.
friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

504 LOVE LIFTED ME

...in His love and in His pity He redeemed them; He lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.
Isaiah 63:9

1. I was sink - ing deep in sin, Far from the peace - ful
2. All my heart to Him I give, Ev - er to Him I'll
3. Souls in dan - ger, look a - bove, Je - sus com - plete - ly

shore, Ver - y deep - ly stained with - in,
cling, In His bless - ed pres - ence live,
saves; He will lift you by His love

Sink - ing to rise no more; But the Mas - ter
Ev - er His prais - es sing. Love so might - y
Out of the an - gry waves. He's the Mas - ter

of the sea Heard my de - spair - ing cry,
and so true Mer - its my soul's best songs;
of the sea, Bil - lows His will o - bey;

From the wa - ters lift - ed me— Now safe am I.
 Faith - ful, lov - ing serv - ice, too, To Him be - longs.
 He your Sav - ior wants to be— Be saved to - day.

me,
 Love lift - ed e - ven me, Love lift - ed

me,
 e - ven me, When noth - ing else could help,

1. Love lift - ed me; 2. Love lift - ed me.