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**Sunday, August 31, 2025**  
**Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost**

**WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME**

**Prelude**

**Air**

**Robert Cundick**

*Welcome to all – especially to our guests.*

*Please take a moment to sign the Friendship Pad, located in each of the pews.*

*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**

Gathered together to worship God this morning,  
**we are right where we belong.**

Called to this celebration of worship by God's spirit,  
**we approach God with joy in our hearts.**

Nourished by the love of Christ, God's Son,  
**we gladly feast at this banquet of grace.**

Christ is in our midst yesterday, today, and forever.  
Let us prepare our hearts to meet him. Amen.

**Opening Hymn**

**King of My Heart**

**McMillan and McMillan**

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession**

**Awesome and compassionate God, you have loved us with  
unfailing, self-giving mercy, but we have not loved you.  
You constantly call us, but we do not listen. You ask us to  
love, but we walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped**

in our own concerns. We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed. God of grace, as you come to us in mercy, we repent in spirit and in truth, admit our sin, and gratefully receive your forgiveness through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

### **Declaration of God's Forgiveness**

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.  
The old life has gone; a new life has begun.  
Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **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 #839**    Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!  
                                  Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!  
                                  O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
                                  Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
                                  Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

**Refrain:** This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long. (2x)

### **WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD**

#### **Prayer for Illumination**

#### **First Reading**

Psalm 112

This is the Word of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

#### **Anthem**

The Narrow Way  
Chancel Choir

K. Lee Scott

## Second Reading

Luke 14: 1, 7-14

## Message

### **WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD**

#### **\*Affirmation of Faith (Apostle's Creed, c. 150 AD)**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

#### **\*Hymn GTG #694**

Great God of Every Blessing

## Call to Offering

## Invitation to Offering

## Organ Offertory

Sarabande

Gordon Young

**\*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.**

## Prayer of Dedication

## 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.

### WE GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

\* Hymn AAHH #549                      This Little Light of Mine

### \*Benediction

Postlude                                      Toccata in Seven                                      John Rutter

*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. Dakota Whitaker, Pastor/Head of Staff  
Dalos Grobe, Chancel Choir Director/Organist  
Kristen Getschman, Liturgist

\*Those who are able may stand.

### Today's Anthem

Be near me, Lord, wheree'er I go; teach me what you would have me do; direct whate'er I think or say; and lead me in the narrow way. Prevent me, lest I harbor pride, lest I in my own strength confide; show me my weakness, let me see I have my power, my all in thee. Assist and teach me how to pray; incline my nature to obey; what you abhor, oh, let me flee, and only love what pleases thee. Be near me, Lord...



Visit our website at [www.wcodetroit.org](http://www.wcodetroit.org) for the link to view our Sunday morning worship services on YouTube or follow us on Instagram and Facebook.



**New to Westminster Church of Detroit?** We are so thankful that you have joined us today for worship, and we would love to get to know you and help you get to know us. Please sign the Friendship Pad which can be found in each pew rack. Sign it then pass it down to others sitting in your pew.

## **Westminster Church of Detroit News and Events**

### **Wednesday Noon Adult Bible Study Resumes – September 10th**

The Rev. Dr. Elizabeth 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](http://wcodetroit.org).

### **Sunday School for Children and Youth**

Sunday school for children and youth begins on September 14<sup>th</sup>. They are excused to their classrooms during the Passing of the Peace in worship. The children meet every Sunday morning, and the youth meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, youth are invited to help lead worship with Pastor Dakota. Details and sign up will be announced during class.

### **Blessing of the Backpacks, Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>**

To celebrate the start of a new school year, children, youth and adults are welcome to bring their backpack, briefcase, computer bag or whatever they use to receive a blessing and bag tag.

### **Rally Day, Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>**

Come and see what is planned for this fall at Westminster! Learn more about the different committees and their faithful ministry to this church and community. Sunday school registration will be available for families along with ice cream and fellowship with one another. Committee chairs, please contact Jenalle Sturgis at [Jenallesturgis07@hotmail.com](mailto:Jenallesturgis07@hotmail.com) to register for a table.

## **Sunday School "Camp"**

This morning is our last session of Sunday School Camp and I am blessed and encouraged by the 14 different elementary aged children who participated. I express my appreciation to the following adults who were moved by the Holy Spirit to share their time, gifts and talents: Cayden Chapman, Linda Feagin, Ann Gourlay, Kathy Kowalski, Cynthia Norris, Keziah Okoro, Andrew Palmer, Dianne Phillips, Wanda Robinson, and Chi Zama.

In God's peace,

JoAnne White

## **Prayer Concerns**

Praying for one another is an important and loving gift. If you would like to add a person to our prayer list, please call the church office at 313-341-2697 or email at [office@wcodetroit.org](mailto:office@wcodetroit.org). May God continue to surround you with love and care.

**Recent Prayer Requests:** Mary Finn and family, Dorothy Buchan

## **Ongoing Prayers for:**

Cecil Rice, Sabrina Crump (Deborah Fair's sister), Dr. Floyd Meachum, Gail Hearn, Don and Laura Chamberlain (brother and sister-in-law of Irene Gough) Dolly Johnson, Judy Chamberlain (cousin of Irene Gough), Cynthia Manuel (cousin of Irene Gough), Dr. Joyce Tibbs, Dorothy Ellis-Davis, Arice Willoughby, Catherine Lewis, Gladys Stephen, Prince Ella Cunningham, Sandy Gross, Margaret Clay, Virginia Fields and Family, Heide Lewis and Family, Julie Handel & Family, Elizabeth Galloway, Adeyah Brady Lewis (great-granddaughter of Carol Lewis), Lela Norris (Eddie & Cynthia Norris's sister-in-law), Faye Baker, Dorn Fair, Edda Dickerson, Sandra Lamb, Samuel Willis, Sandra Gray, Victor & Janette Jackson, Ann Gourlay, Ruth Wallace Robertson (Sharon Wallace's mother), Vernon and Alfreda Wilder, Jocelyn Wilder

**This Week at Westminster**

**Sunday, August 31st**

10:00am Worship

**Monday, September 1st**

Building Closed in Observance of Labor Day

**Wednesday, September 3rd**

4:00pm Westminster Harmony Chorale Rehearsal

5:00pm Mission Clothes Closet

6:30pm Lionheart Ministries Bible Study

6:00pm NA Meeting

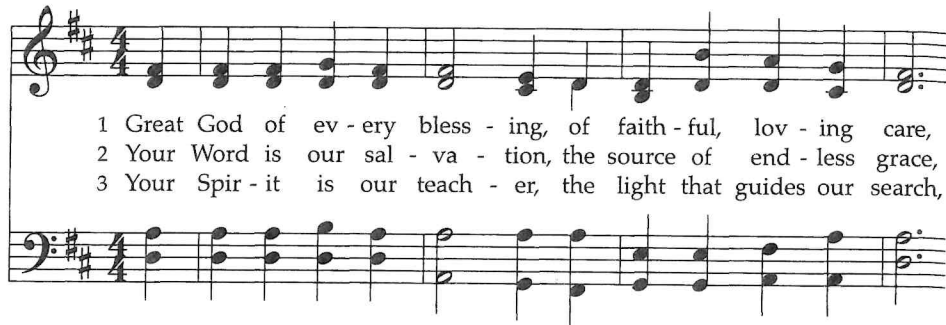
**Sunday, September 7th**

10:00am Worship

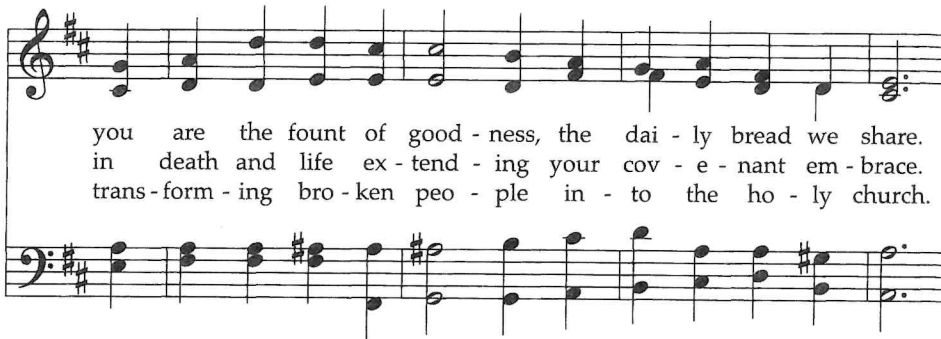
11:00am Rally Day



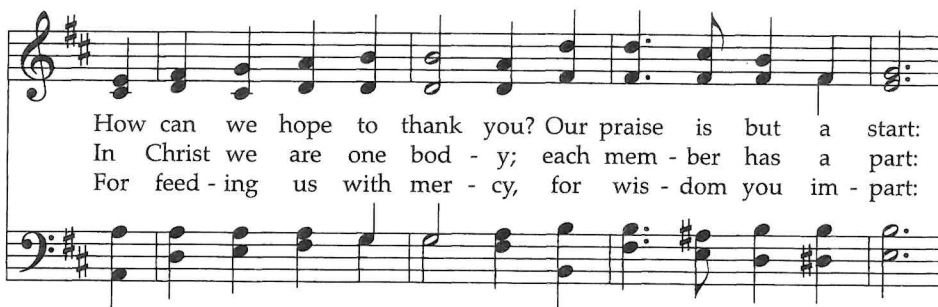
# 694 Great God of Every Blessing



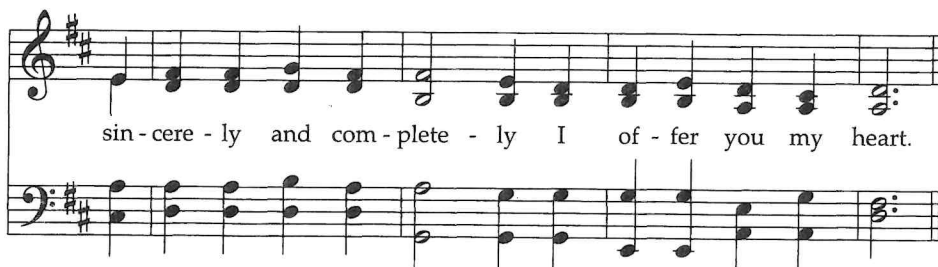
1 Great God of ev - ery bless - ing, of faith - ful, lov - ing care,  
2 Your Word is our sal - va - tion, the source of end - less grace,  
3 Your Spir - it is our teach - er, the light that guides our search,



you are the fount of good - ness, the dai - ly bread we share.  
in death and life ex - tend - ing your cov - e - nant em - brace.  
trans - form - ing bro - ken peo - ple in - to the ho - ly church.



How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start:  
In Christ we are one bod - y; each mem - ber has a part:  
For feed - ing us with mer - cy, for wis - dom you im - part:



sin - cere - ly and com - plete - ly I of - fer you my heart.

# 549 THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE

*Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.  
Matthew 5:16*

1. This lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine.  
2. Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm gon-na let it shine.  
3. Je - sus gave it to me, I'm gon-na let it shine.

This lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine.  
Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm gon-na let it shine.  
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm gon-na let it shine.

This lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine.  
Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm gon-na let it shine.  
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm gon-na let it shine.

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

4. Shine, shine, shine, I'm gonna let it shine....
5. All in my home, I'm gonna let it shine....