

The logo features a stylized cross with a flame at the top and flames at the base, rendered in blue and red.

WESTMINSTER CHURCH OF DETROIT



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Sunday, August 24, 2025
Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Shepherd Me, Lord Gershon Kingsley
Chancel Choir & Westminster Harmony Chorale

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

Christ is in our midst. This morning, today, and forever more.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

And blessed is His glorious Kingdom. Through his birth, death,
and resurrection joy has entered all the world.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

And blessed is this holy house and all the people in it for we have
seen his salvation and truly, joy has entered all the world.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Christ is in our midst. Let us prepare our hearts to meet him. Amen.

Gospel Praise

I Heard the Voice of Jesus
Westminster Harmony Chorale

Edwin Hawkins

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we wander and lose our way. You give us wisdom but we prefer our own foolishness. You give us mercy and grace but we choose vengeance and anger. Lord, heal us and bring us into your light. Help us to walk in your truth and to trust you in all things. We thank you for your Son and the mercy you so freely give us without measure. We thank you for your everlasting kindness and your love that is always with us. 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

Isaiah 58: 9-14

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

Anthem

**Go and Tell John
Chancel Choir**

Lloyd Pfautsch

Second Reading

Luke 13: 10-17

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 AAHH #678**

Certainly Lord

Call to Offering

Invitation to Offering

Organ Offertory

Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness

arr. Wayne Wold

***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 GTG #450

Be Thou My Vision

*Benediction

Postlude

Chaconne

L.N. Couperin

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
Victor Boyd, Westminster Harmony Chorale Director
Jerrold Lee, Westminster Harmony Chorale Assistant Director
Lynn Burdell, Liturgist

*Those who are able may stand.

Today's Anthem

Lord, watch over me, shepherd me, Lord. Lord, let me lie down, shepherd me, Lord. Lord, let me be free...Lord, make me a crown...Shepherd me, Lord, O shepherd me, Lord. And when I walk in darkness and fear, lend me your staff. Let me know you are here. Lord, set me a table...Lord, sweeten my day...Lord, as long as I am able, show me the way. O shepherd me, Lord!

Go and tell John what you see and hear, that the blind recover their sight...that the lame are able to walk...that the deaf are able to hear. Go tell John, tell him what you see and hear, that the sick regain their health...that the dead are raised to life. Happy is the man who comes to me, happy is the man who believes in me for he shall see God. Go and tell John.

Visit our website at 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

Congregational Meeting Today Immediately Following Worship

The Session has called a congregational meeting for this morning, for the purpose of receiving and approving Rev. Dakota Whitaker's terms of call. This meeting will be held in the sanctuary immediately following worship. All members of the congregation are asked to attend.

Capital Campaign Reveal – Sunday, August 31st

During worship on Sunday, August 31st, Rev. Dakota and the Capital Campaign committee will give an update on the progress of the campaign. Join us for a time of prayer and celebration for the abundant gifts that have been pledged for the "Building a House Where All Belong" campaign.

High School Youth & Parent Meeting

A high school parent and student meeting is scheduled for next **Monday, August 25th at 7:00 pm** on Zoom to discuss:

- the Sunday School youth schedule,
- youth participation in the 3rd Sunday service each month, and
- the Detroit Presbytery City-wide Youth group.

The QR code for the meeting is below. If you have questions or cannot attend, please contact Jann Palmer at 248-910-2923.



Sunday School for Children and Youth

Sunday school for children and youth begins on September 14th. 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 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. On the 3rd 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 7th

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 7th

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 to register for a table.

Sunday School "Camp"

Sunday School Camp for our younger students, (pre-school through age 12) is offered each Sunday through the last Sunday in August, August 31. Sunday School Camp is like regular Sunday School, except, we enjoy more games and weather permitting will include outdoor activities. The children should come dressed in more casual clothing that permits running, jumping, glue, and possible paint spills.

For our Old Testament lesson, we will review the story of Noah and the Ark. Afterward, we will check on our green beans to see if they are ready to harvest. We are fortunate to have members Kathy Kowalski, Elder and Corporation Treasurer, and Dianne Phillips, former Michigan State Varsity basketball player and is currently a volleyball coach at Marion High School. They will teach our students the fundamentals of volleyball.

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. May God continue to surround you with love and care.

Recent Prayer Requests: Dorothy Buchan

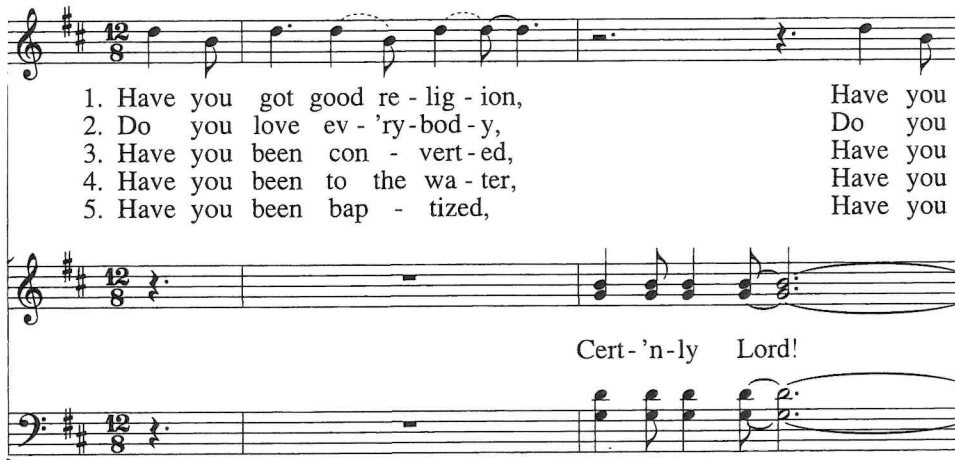
Ongoing Prayers for:

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

CERTAINLY LORD 678

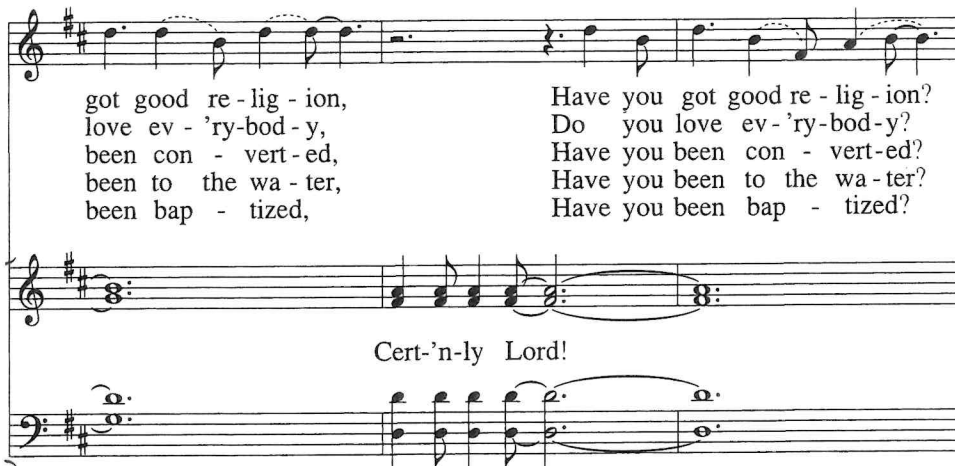
Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, those He redeemed from trouble.

Psalm 107:2



1. Have you got good re - lig - ion, Have you
 2. Do you love ev - 'ry-bod - y, Do you
 3. Have you been con - vert-ed, Have you
 4. Have you been to the wa - ter, Have you
 5. Have you been bap - tized, Have you

Cert-'n-ly Lord!



got good re - lig - ion, Have you got good re - lig - ion?
 love ev - 'ry-bod - y, Do you love ev - 'ry-bod - y?
 been con - vert-ed, Have you been con - vert-ed?
 been to the wa - ter, Have you been to the wa - ter?
 been bap - tized, Have you been bap - tized?

Cert-'n-ly Lord!



Cert-'n-ly Lord! Cert-'n-ly, cert-'n-ly, cert-'n-ly Lord!

Last time

450

Be Thou My Vision

Capo 1: (D) E^b (G) A^b (D/F#) E^b/G (A7) B^b7 (D) E^b



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

(A) B^b (D) E^b (G) A^b (A) B^b



naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

(G) A^b (D) E^b (F#m7) $Gm7$ (G) A^b (A) B^b



thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

(Bm) Cm (D/F#) E^b/G (G) A^b (D) E^b



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.