

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

WESTMINSTER CHURCH OF DETROIT



17567 Hubbell Ave
Detroit, MI 48235
(313) 341.2697
office@wcodetroit.org
www.wcodetroit.org

Sunday, February 23, 2025
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Deep River

arr. Richard Billingham

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(from Psalm 37: 39-40)

Our salvation is from the Lord;

God is our refuge in times of trouble.

The Lord helps us and rescues us;

God saves us because we take refuge in our Lord.

Gospel Praise

City Called Heaven

Westminster Harmony Chorale

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, you have commanded us to love you above all and to have no other gods. You have called us to love others as you love them. But we are personally and socially deformed by the love of others “gods”-the false gods of prosperity and materialism, racial and ethnic privileging, gender exclusivity, and nationalistic imperialism. Forgive us our sins and transform us by your Spirit so that we might learn to love as you love and live as people baptized as your own children. Amen.

Declaration of God's Forgiveness

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 AAHH #524** There Is a Balm in Gilead

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole,

There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain,

But then the Holy Spirit restores my soul again.

Repeat refrain.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Glory, Glory Hallelujah
Chancel Choir

arr. Bradley Ellingboe

Second Reading

John 7:37-52

Message

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

***Affirmation of Faith (from the Brief Statement of Faith)**

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

Hymn AAHH #676

Wade In The Water

Call to Offering

Invitation to Offering

Organ Offertory

Steal Away

arr. Gilbert Martin

***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 #295**

Go to the World!

***Benediction**

Postlude

Plenty Good Room

arr. Lloyd Larson

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 worshipping.

Worship Leaders:

The Rev. Dr. Melissa Allison, Guest Preacher
Dalos Grobe, Chancel Choir Director/Organist
Victor Boyd, Westminster Harmony Chorale Director
Jim McCreddie, Liturgist
Peyton Friday, Deven Humphreys, Acolytes

During the month of February, the choir anthems as well as the organ preludes, offertories and postludes are arrangements of spirituals or original compositions by African American composers.

Today's Anthem

Glory, Glory, hallelujah! since I laid my burden down. I feel better, so much better...Feel like shouting, "Hallelujah!" since I laid my burden down. I am climbing Jacob's ladder...Every round goes higher and higher...since I laid my burden down.

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

Wednesday Noon 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.

Ash Wednesday Service, March 5th at 12Noon

March 5th is Ash Wednesday which begins the season of Lent. Join us for a service of prayer, imposition of ashes and music to begin our Lenten journey of reflection and the renewal of our faith. This service will be held in the Chapel and led by Rev. Beth Downs.

Pop Can Tabs for the Ronald MacDonald House of Detroit

As you enjoy canned drinks, 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. Annette Trice, a member of our office staff, takes the tabs to the Ronald MacDonald House of Detroit, near the DMC. Ronald MacDonald House provides residential space to families while their children recover from surgery.

Westminster Calendar

Sunday, February 23rd

10:00am Worship

10:15am Sunday School for Children & Youth

Monday, February 24th

7:00pm NA Meeting

Wednesday, February 26th

3:00pm Gospel Choir Rehearsal

6:00pm NA Meeting

Thursday, February 27th

9:30am Sewing Ministry Team

Sunday, March 2nd

10:00am Worship

10:15am Sunday School for Children

11:00am Chancel Choir Rehearsal

11:30am Deacon Meeting

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

Matthew Gough (son of Irene Gough), Melvina Norment, A'lanna Norment, Aaliyah Garrett, Kamani Jacobs, Central Park Village, Bishop Melvin L. Williams, Trudy & Jim McCreadie, Rev. Dakota, Megan, Lennon and Dorothy Joy Whitaker

Dr. Joyce Tibbs, Dorothy Ellis-Davis, Arice Willoughby, Dr. Maxine Bloodworth, 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), Rosa Armstrong, Faye Baker, Dorn Fair, Dianna White (Deborah Fair's sister-in-law), 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

WADE IN THE WATER 676

So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Refrain

Acts 2:41

Wade in the wa - ter, wade in the wa - ter chil - dren,

Wade in the wa - ter, God's gon - na trou - ble the wa - ter.

Verses

1. See that host all dressed in white,
2. See that band all dressed in red, God's gon - na trou - ble the
3. If you don't be - lieve I've been re - deemed,

The lead - er looks like the Is - ra - el - ite,
wa - ter. Looks like the band that Mo - ses led,
Just fol - low me down to Jor - dan's stream,

God's gon - na trou - ble the wa - ter. D.C.

Go to the World!

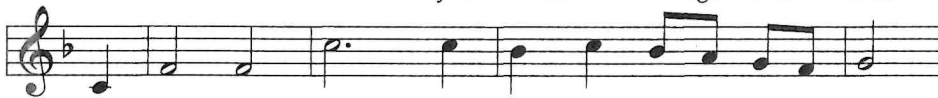
295



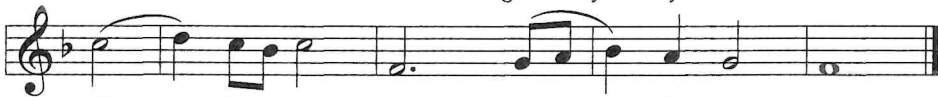
1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.
2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - ery place.
3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;
4 Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,



Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,
Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.
the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.
for I am with you till the age shall end,



bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.
Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.
As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.
when all the hosts of glo - ry cry "A - men!"



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.