

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



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Sunday, September 3, 2023
14th Sunday after Pentecost
Communion Sunday

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Prelude on 'Adoro te devote'

Charles Callahan

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

We gather hoping to see God,
here in worship, we realize that we see God in one another.
We can see God
when we show one another honor,
when we pursue hospitality to strangers,
when we live in harmony with one another,
when we rejoice in hope.
Let us worship the visible God amongst us.

Gospel Praise

Only Jesus, Him Alone

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of love,
you ask us to love one another from the center of who we are,
you tell us to bless one another, you encourage us to do good.
But we have not listened to your words, instead of loving we have
practiced hatred, instead of blessing, we have perfected cursing,
instead of doing good, we have sought to get even.

**Forgive us for giving up.
Give us grace to try again,
and encouragement to make your ways, our ways.
We pray, we wait, and we hope. 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 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

Exodus 3: 1-15

Anthem

Come, Risen Lord
Chancel Choir

Gerald Near

Second Reading

Romans 12: 9-21

Message

Let Love Be Genuine

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.**

**The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of 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.**

***Hymn AAHH #681** Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

Sacrament of Holy Communion

To receive communion, you are invited to come to one of the four stations; two in the center aisle, two in the cross aisles and follow the directions given by the ushers.

If you are unable to come forward, please raise your hand and an usher will serve you where you are seated.

INVITATION

GREETING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give your thanks and praise.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.**

BLESSING OF THE ELEMENTS

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

CLOSING PRAYER

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 GTG #611** Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

***Benediction**

Postlude Festival March arr. Michael Burkhardt
*(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. Eileen Jewell, Guest Preacher
Dalos Grobe, Organist/Chancel Choir Director
Victor Boyd, Gospel Choir Director
Marilyn Ngundam, Liturgist

Today's Anthem

Come, risen Lord, and deign to be our guest; nay, let us be thy guests; the feast is thine; thyself at thine own board make manifest in this our sacrament of bread and wine. One body we, one body who partake, one Church united in communion blest; one name we bear, one bread of life we break, with all thy saints on earth and saints at rest. One with each other Lord, for one in thee, who art one Savior and one living Head; then open thou our eyes, that we may see; be known to us in breaking of the bread.

Liturgy reprinted by permission from Molly Spangler, *The Presbyterian Outlook*

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

681 LET US TALENTS AND TONGUES EMPLOY

*And all of them ate and were filled, and they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full.
Matthew 15:37*

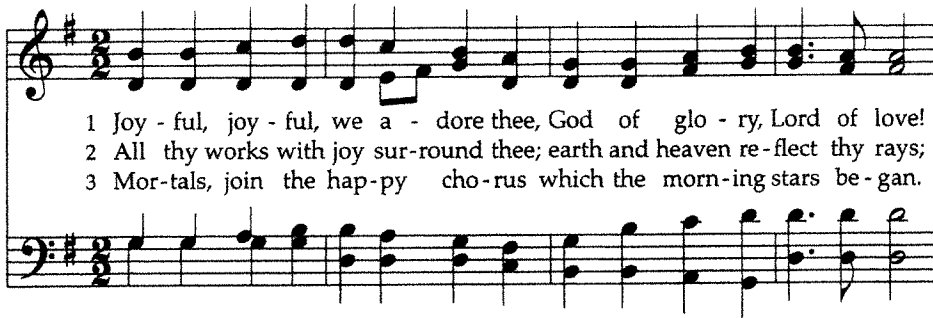
1. Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy. Reach - ing out with a
 2. Christ is a - ble to make us one. At the ta - ble He
 3. Je - sus calls us in, sends us out Bear - ing fruit in a

shout of joy: Bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured,
 sets the tone, Teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless,
 world of doubt, Gives us love to tell, bread to share:

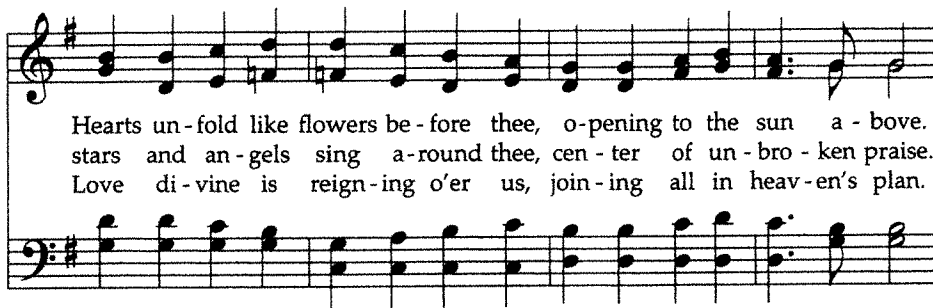
Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
 Love in word and in deed ex - press. Je - sus lives a - gain,
 God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

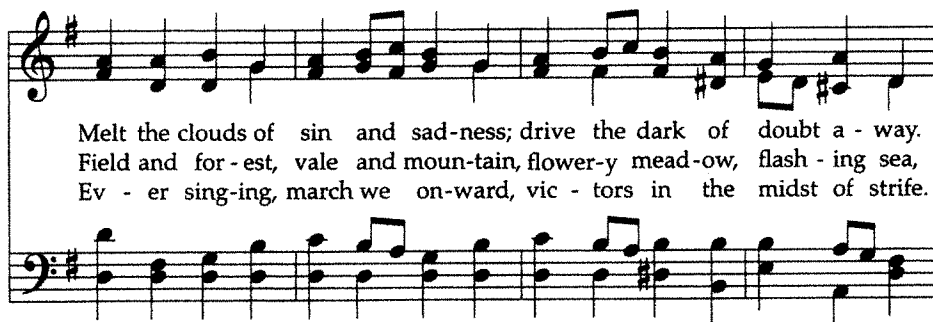
611 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee



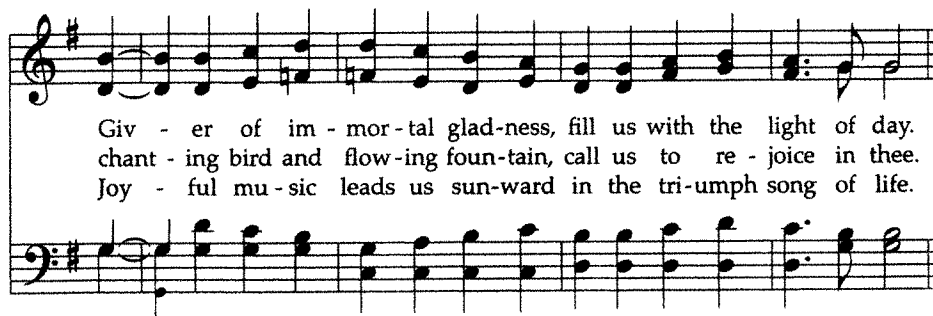
1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee; earth and heaven re-flect thy rays;
3 Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho-rus which the morn-ing stars be-gan.



Hearts un-fold like flowers be-fore thee, o-pen-ing to the sun a - bove.
stars and an-gels sing a-round thee, cen-ter of un-bro-ken praise.
Love di-vine is reign-ing o'er us, join-ing all in heav-en's plan.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way.
Field and for-est, vale and moun-tain, flower-y mead-ow, flash - ing sea,
Ev - er sing-ing, march we on-ward, vic - tors in the midst of strife.



Giv - er of im - mor-tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
Joy - ful mu - sic leads us sun-ward in the tri-umph song of life.