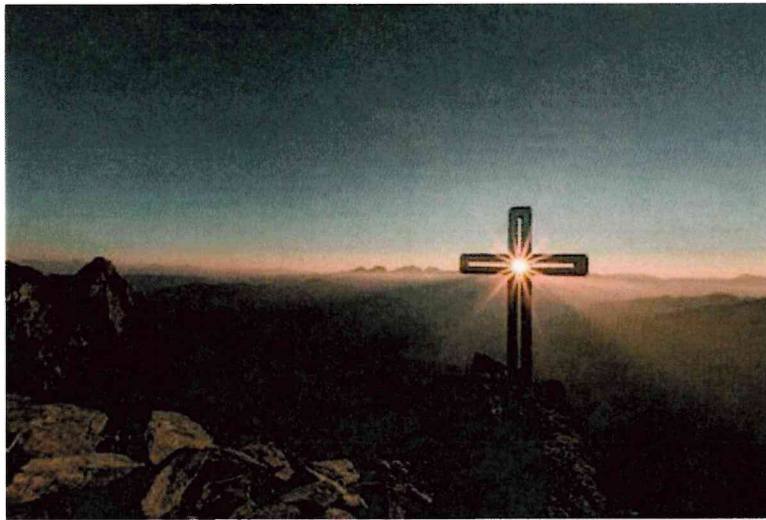


The logo features a stylized blue cross with a flame at the top and two flames at the base, one on each side.

WESTMINSTER CHURCH OF DETROIT



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Sunday, March 10, 2024
Fourth Sunday of Lent

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude Prelude On 'Brethren, We Are Met to Worship' Wilbur Held

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)

Children are excused to Sunday School after the Passing of the Peace.

**Please stand as you are able*

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (Psalm 107:1-3, 21-22)

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; for God's steadfast love endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, those God redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

Let them thank the Lord for God's steadfast love, for God's wonderful works to humankind.

And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices and tell of the Lord's deeds with songs of joy.

Gospel Praise

My Liberty

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, giver of all that is good, we rejoice that you are the source of all that is. The breath of life is a gift from your generous hand. The food we eat is grown in the world you sustain. The community that supports us is called into being by

your saving activity. Everything we have is a gift from you. Why, then, do we complain as though the manna, raining down from heaven for us even now, is not enough? Why do we worry that your well of living water will someday run dry? It is surely our sin that causes us to live as though we do not trust your goodness. Forgive us, we pray. Teach us again to put all our trust in your promises that never fail. Remind us that we are always in your loving care. Fill us with grace, so that our lives might show forth the fullness of your love for all people. Amen.

Declaration of God's Forgiveness(Hebrews 10:16-18)

"This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, say the Lord:

'I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds,'
and he adds,

'I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more'

Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin."

Believe the promise of the Gospel: 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 #792** 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. (Refrain)
Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.
(Refrain)**

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Ephesians 2: 1-10

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Wondrous Love
Chancel Choir

arr. Paul Christiansen

Gospel Reading

John 3: 14-21

Message

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

Affirmation of Faith(from the Confession of 1967, Inclusive Language)

Having sung God's praise, having confessed our sin and been assured of God's pardon, having heard God's word, let us respond by affirming the faith of the church. What do you believe?

God's reconciling act in Jesus Christ is a mystery which the Scriptures describe in various ways. It is called the sacrifice of a lamb, a shepherd's life given for this sheep, atonement by a priest; again it is ransom of a slave, payment of debt, vicarious satisfaction of a legal penalty, and victory over the powers of evil. These are expressions of a truth which remains beyond the reach of all theory in the depths of God's love for humankind. They reveal the gravity, cost, and sure achievement of God's reconciling work.

Hymn AAHH #420

Leave It There

Call to Offering

Invitation to Offering

The offering plates will be passed this morning.

Organ Offertory

Adagio

Alessandro Marcello

***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

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 #700** I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

***Benediction**

Postlude Toccata on 'How Firm a Foundation' Claude Muphree

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. Dakota Whitaker, Pastor/Head of Staff
Dalos Grobe, Chancel Choir Director/Organist
Victor Boyd, Gospel Choir Director
Lynn Burdell, Liturgist

* Please stand as you are able.

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

420 LEAVE IT THERE

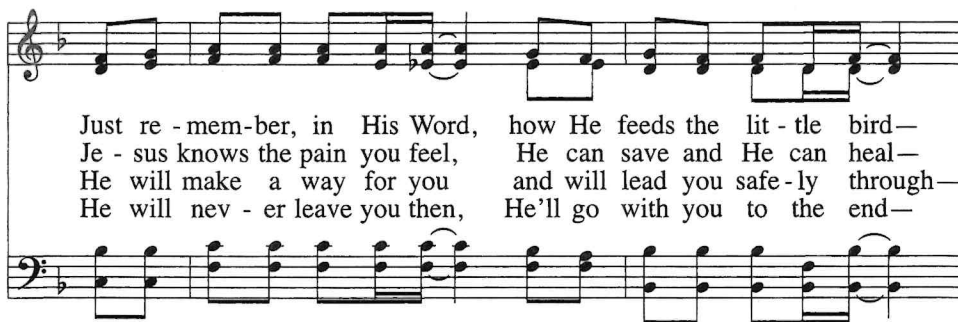
Cast your burden on the LORD and He will sustain you; He will never permit the righteous to be moved.
Psalm 55:22



1. If the world from you with-hold of its sil-ver and its gold,
 2. If your bod-y suf-fers pain and your health you can't re-gain,
 3. When your en-e-mies as-sail and your heart be-gins to fail,
 4. When your youth-ful days are gone and old age is steal-ing on,



And you have to get a long with mea-ger fare,
 And your soul is al-most sink-ing in de-spair,
 Don't for-get that God in heav-en an-swers prayer;
 And your bod-y bends be-neath the weight of care,

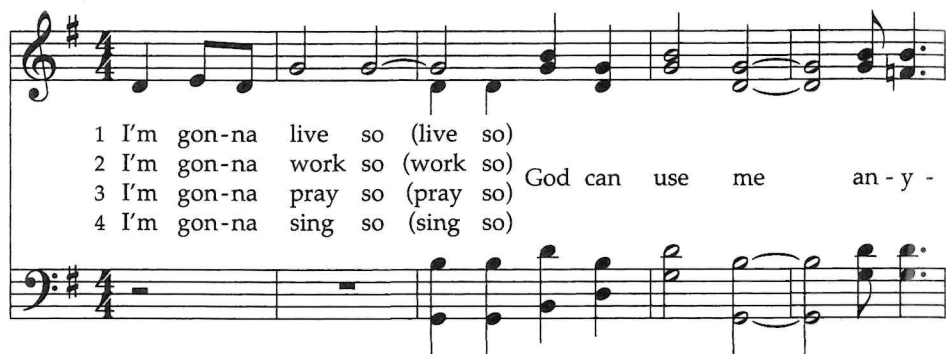


Just re-mem-ber, in His Word, how He feeds the lit-tle bird—
 Je-sus knows the pain you feel, He can save and He can heal—
 He will make a way for you and will lead you safe-ly through—
 He will nev-er leave you then, He'll go with you to the end—



Take your bur-den to the Lord and leave it there.

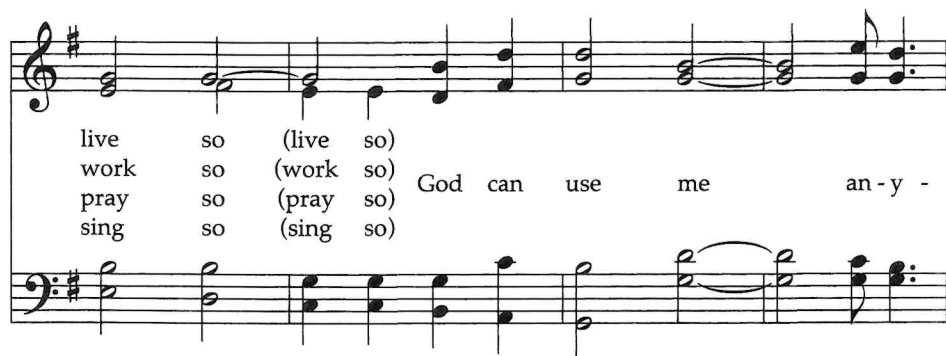
700 I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me



1 I'm gon-na live so (live so)
 2 I'm gon-na work so (work so)
 3 I'm gon-na pray so (pray so) God can use me an - y -
 4 I'm gon-na sing so (sing so)



where, Lord, an - y - time!
 (an - y - time!) I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na



live so (live so)
 work so (work so)
 pray so (pray so) God can use me an - y -
 sing so (sing so)



where, Lord, (my Lord,) an - y - time!
 (an - y - time!)

Leave it there, leave it there, Take your

Leave it there, leave it there, leave it there, leave it there, Take your

bur - den to the Lord and leave it there; If you

leave it there;

trust and nev - er doubt, He will sure - ly bring you out. Take your

bur - den to the Lord and leave it there.