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**Sunday, January 26, 2025**  
**Third Sunday after Epiphany**

**WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME**

**Prelude**

**Voluntary**

**Harald Rohlig**

*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**

In the beginning, darkness covered the deep, and the earth was formless and empty; then God said,  
"Let there be light."

**God's voice is over the waters. God's peace reigns over us.**

Through Isaiah's word, the mighty prophet of Israel, the Lord has said: When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.

**God's voice is over the waters. God's peace reigns over us.**

Fear not, says the Lord: Only believe. I am with you. I have called you by name; you are mine.

**God's voice is over the waters. God's peace reigns over us.**

Jesus, the Son of God and Savior of the world, born from heaven itself, was baptized by John amongst sinners like us. When he came out of the water, the heavens were torn open and a voice said, "This is my beloved Son; with him I am very pleased."

**God's voice is over the waters. God's peace reigns over us.**

Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **Gospel Praise**

God Is Keeping Me  
Gospel Choir

## **Call to Confession**

### **Prayer of Confession**

Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and on the whole world. You give us life and all good things. Yours is the morning and the evening. Yours is the beauty and mystery that we see every day. We admit, Lord, that we often forget you. We forget to thank you and we sometimes act like the good we have and experience is our own doing. Forgive us, Lord. Despite our behavior you still bless us. You make the rain fall on the just and unjust and the sun to shine on both the proud and humble. Help us to follow you. Help us to remember you. Teach us to thank and glorify you all the days of our lives. **Amen.**

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

As the voice from heaven said to our Lord,  
so, in Christ, God now speaks to us:  
you are my child, my beloved one,  
with you I am well pleased!  
Thanks be to God! The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

### **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 #744**      Arise, Your Light Is Come!  
Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey;  
Show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today.  
Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song!  
Rise up like eagles on the wing; God's power will make us strong!

**WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**First Reading**                      Psalm 19

This is the Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

**Anthem**                              Good News                              Jane Marshall  
Chancel Choir; Sean Neall, soloist

**Second Reading**                      Luke 4: 14-21

**Message**

**WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD**

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family.

We believe that God has revealed God's self as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people; that God, in a world full of injustice and hatred, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged; that God calls the church to follow God in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry; that God

**frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind; that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly; that for God pure and undefiled religion is to visit the orphans and the widows in their suffering; that God wishes to teach the church to do what is good and to seek the right.**

**We believe that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.**

**We believe that the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged; that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others.**

**Therefore, we reject any ideology which would legitimate forms of injustice and any doctrine which is unwilling to resist such an ideology in the name of the gospel.**

**We believe that, in obedience to Jesus Christ, its only head, the church is called to confess and to do all these things, even though the authorities and human laws might forbid them and punishment and suffering be the consequence.**

**Jesus Is Lord.**

**To the one and only God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be the honor and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

*-Article 10.7-8, Confession of Belhar, Book of Confessions of the PC, USA*

**Hymn GTG #15**

**All Creatures of Our God and King**

**vv. 1-4**

## Invitation to Offering

**Bobbi Adams, violin; Carol Tallieu, flute**

*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, Gospel Choir Director  
Lynn Burdell, Liturgist  
Miriam Mokom, Myiesha Mokom, Acolytes

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.



### **Today's Anthem**

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to bring freedom to the oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.

**New to Westminister 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.

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

#### **Chili Cook-Off Today Following Worship**

Join us after worship today for some delicious, homemade chili and vote for your favorite. Sides and beverages will be provided by the Deacon Committee.

#### **February is Black History Month – The Invisible Church**

To celebrate and carry on the legacy of Black History month, Pastor Dakota will be doing a special sermon series for the month of February, "The Invisible Church." Each week will have a theme that relates to the history of the Civil Rights Movement, a prominent African American figure who epitomizes the fight for

equality and justice, and the lectionary reading that grounds and inspires the hope behind the movement. In Jesus, God shows us clearly that He is all about justice and equality amongst all peoples no matter where they live. Please join us in honoring the good fight: the fight for social justice and the preservation of the truth in the church.

### **Per Capita for 2025**

One of the regular expenses in the church budget is Per Capita, a yearly apportionment that each Presbyterian congregation is asked to pay to cover the administrative costs of the three governing bodies: Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly. Per Capita allows our mission dollars to be spent directly on mission projects rather than costs for administering mission.

The 2025 Per Capita is \$38 per church member.

If you are willing to contribute the Per Capita amount, please multiply \$38 by the number of church members in your family. Mark your contribution **“2025 Per Capita”** so it can be properly credited on your giving statement. Per Capita offering envelopes can be found on the table in the Narthex.

Thank you.

### **Evening Adult Bible Study**

The Wednesday evening bible study is reading and discussing Abraham Joshua Heschel's book, “Moral Grandeur and Spiritual Audacity”. The book is available for purchase through Amazon or Barnes and Noble. All are welcome to come and participate, either in person or by Zoom at 6:30pm in the Parlor. The Zoom link can be found on the WCOD website: [wcodetroit.org](http://wcodetroit.org).

### **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, January 26th**

10:00am Worship

10:15am Sunday School for Children & Youth

11:00 am Chili Cook-Off

### **Monday, January 27th**

7:00pm NA Meeting

### **Wednesday, January 29th**

12Noon Bible Study

2:00pm Gospel Choir Rehearsal

6:00pm NA Meeting

### **Sunday, February 2, 2025**

10:00am Worship

10:15am Sunday School for Children

11:00am Chancel Choir Rehearsal

11:30am Deacon Meeting

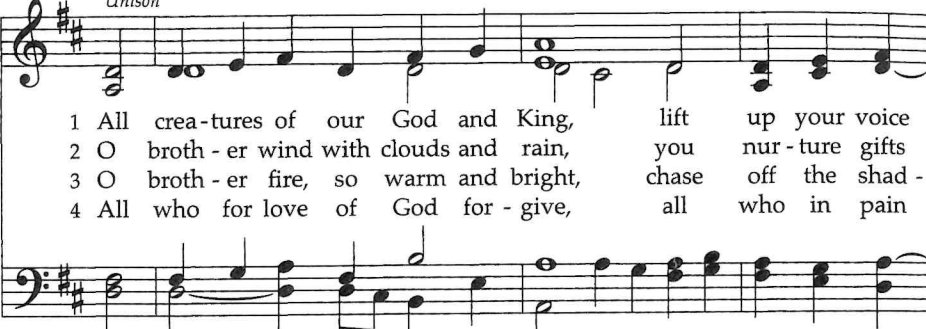
## **Prayer Concerns**

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](mailto:office@wcodetroit.org). May God continue to surround you with love and care.

Dr. Joyce Tibbs, Dorothy Ellis-Davis, Arice Willoughby, Dr. Maxine Bloodworth, Catherine Lewis, Gladys Stephen, Prince Ella Cunningham & Family, 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), Rev. Bill Furstenau Vernon and Alfreda Wilder, Jocelyn Wilder, the family, friends and team of Romero Drake, Trudie & Jim McCreadie

# 15 All Creatures of Our God and King

*Unison*



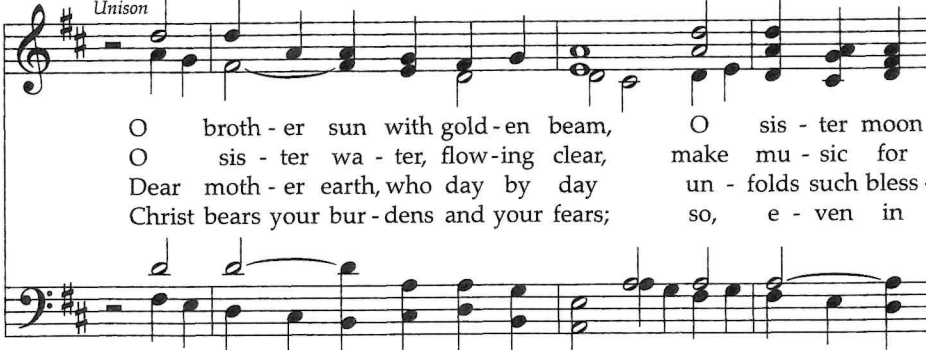
1 All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice  
 2 O broth-er wind with clouds and rain, you nur-ture gifts  
 3 O broth-er fire, so warm and bright, chase off the shad-  
 4 All who for love of God for-give, all who in pain

*Harmony*



and with us sing, Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!  
 of fruit and grain. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!  
 ous of the night. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!  
 or sor-row grieve, Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

*Unison*



O broth-er sun with gold-en beam, O sis-ter moon  
 O sis-ter wa-ter, flow-ing clear, make mu-sic for  
 Dear moth-er earth, who day by day un-folds such bless-  
 Christ bears your bur-dens and your fears; so, e-ven in

Sometimes called "The Canticle of the Sun," this cosmic roll call allows human beings to give voice to all creation. One of the earliest religious poems in the Italian language, it is made even more expansive by this broad, repetitive melody with interspersed "Alleluias."

TEXT: Francis of Assisi, 1225; trans. composite  
 MUSIC: *Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, 1623, alt.; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

LASST UNS ERFREUEN  
 LM with alleluias  
 (this tune in a higher key, 327)

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

*Harmony*

with sil - ver gleam,      sing    prais - es!    Al - le - lu - ia!  
 your Lord to hear.      Sing    prais - es!    Al - le - lu - ia!  
 ings on our way,      sing    prais - es!    Al - le - lu - ia!  
 the midst of tears,      sing    prais - es!    Al - le - lu - ia!

*Unison*

Al - le - lu - ia!    Al - le - lu - ia!    Al - le - lu - ia!

5 And you, most gentle sister death,  
 waiting to hush our final breath:  
 Alleluia! Alleluia!  
 Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,  
 fair is the night that leads us home.  
 Sing praises! Alleluia!  
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,  
 and worship God with humble heart.  
 Alleluia! Alleluia!  
 All creatures, bless the Father, Son,  
 and Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
 Sing praises! Alleluia!  
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## 131 GUIDE MY FEET

*By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us,... to guide our feet into the way of peace.*  
*Luke 1:78-79*

1. Guide my feet  
 2. Hold my hand  
 3. Stand by me  
 4. I'm Your child

while I run this race,

Oh, Lord,

Guide my feet  
 Hold my hand  
 Stand by me  
 I'm Your child

while I run this race,

Oh, Lord,

Guide my feet  
 Hold my hand  
 Stand by me  
 I'm Your child

while I run this race, For I

vain.  
 don't want to run this race in vain, race in vain.  
 vain.

Text: Negro spiritual

Tune: GUIDE MY FEET, 888 10; Negro spiritual; harm. by Dr. Wendell P. Whalum, © estate of Wendell Whalum