

Preview for Service of Word and Sacrament, October 12, 2025
Ordinary Time
Liturgical Color: Green
Westminster Presbyterian Church, Tiburon, California

Visit the church website: www.wpctiburon.org, 415-383-5272
240 Tiburon Boulevard, Tiburon, California 94920

This weekly study guide seeks to help members, friends, and visitors prepare for the upcoming Sunday service and teaching.



Call to Worship (8:30)

One: May our worship today give us what we need,
Many: comfort for the hurting, challenge for the comfortable.
One: May our worship help us understand what we can become,
Many: a community of justice and caring, humility and kindness.

Opening Blessing (10:00)

Bless us, O God, with what we need today. Only you truly know that, though deep down we know it too. If it is comfort, grant us comfort. If it is challenge, present us challenge. May this time help us understand what we can become, a community of justice and caring, humility and kindness. Amen.

Community Prayer

God, you are the healing one and you empower us to heal. You are the comforting one and you enable us to comfort others. You are the encouraging one and through you we can encourage. You are also challenge us, and call us to challenge one another in truth and love. You call us to make things better for all and not just for some. Forgive us if we have missed this side of faith. Help us to receive your prophetic word with open hearts and live according to it with humility and grace. Amen.

Sermon Focus & Title

Out of Love: Not So Minor Prophet 1 Robert McClellan

Today we begin a series on the Micah, who is known as one of the “minor” prophets. Minor, however, refers only to Micah’s word count, not to the profundity of the message therein. Micah has major things to say about justice, about true worship, about how to be in the world. Today we begin with an introduction and an important first lesson: the prophet

speaks critically of their setting because they love it. They want it to become the best version of itself it can be.

Scripture(s)

First Reading - Micah 1:2-7

(Judgment Pronounced against Samaria)

2 Hear, you peoples, all of you;
listen, O earth, and all that is in it,
and let the Lord God be a witness against you,
the Lord from his holy temple.
3 For the Lord is coming out of his place
and will come down and tread upon the high places of the earth.
4 Then the mountains will melt under him,
and the valleys will burst open
like wax near the fire,
like waters poured down a slope.
5 All this is for the transgression of Jacob
and for the sins of the house of Israel.
What is the transgression of Jacob?
Is it not Samaria?
And what is the high place[a] of Judah?
Is it not Jerusalem?
6 Therefore I will make Samaria a heap in the open country,
a place for planting vineyards.
I will pour down her stones into the valley
and uncover her foundations.
7 All her images shall be beaten to pieces,
all her wages shall be burned with fire,
and all her idols I will lay waste;
for as the wages of a prostitute she gathered them,
and as the wages of a prostitute they shall again be used.

Second Reading - Micah 1:8-16

(The Doom of the Cities of Judah)

8 For this I will lament and wail;
I will go barefoot and naked;
I will make lamentation like the jackals
and mourning like the ostriches.
9 For her wound[b] is incurable.
It has come to Judah;
it has reached to the gate of my people,
to Jerusalem.

10 Tell it not in Gath;
 weep not at all;
in Beth-leaphrah
 roll yourselves in the dust.

11 Pass on your way,
 inhabitants of Shaphir,
 in nakedness and shame;
the inhabitants of Zaanan
 do not come forth;
Beth-ezel is wailing
 and shall remove its support from you.

12 For the inhabitants of Maroth
 wait anxiously for good,
yet disaster has come down from the Lord
 to the gate of Jerusalem.

13 Harness the steeds to the chariots,
 inhabitants of Lachish;
it was the beginning of sin
 to daughter Zion,
for in you were found
 the transgressions of Israel.

14 Therefore you shall give parting gifts
 to Moresheth-gath;
the houses of Achzib shall be a deception
 to the kings of Israel.

15 I will again bring a conqueror upon you,
 inhabitants of Mareshah;
the glory of Israel
 shall come to Adullam.

16 Make yourselves bald and cut off your hair
 for your pampered children;
make yourselves as bald as the eagle,
 for they have gone from you into exile.

Hymns

For the Troubles and the Sufferings 764
Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak

Quotes, Questions & Prompts for Reflection, Discussion, and Prayer

“The prophet is a [man] who feels fiercely.” - Abraham Joshua Heschel

1. What does it mean to be prophetic?

2. What types of critiques work well (when you are the one receiving it)?
3. What are the best ways to improve society?
4. Why do prophets often seem (and often are) angry?
5. Mystery question: Can you figure out the meaning of the picture of today's worship preview?