



Westminster Presbyterian Church



December 4, 2022 | 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

## THE CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

### WE GATHER TOGETHER

Prelude                                      Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence                                      Albert Travis

Welcome and Announcements

\*Share the Peace of Christ

\*Introit                                      O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, vs. 5                                      VENI EMMANUEL

\*Candle Lighting (8:30: George, Julie, Angela, & Delaney Krock; 11:00: Kerry & Mark Swaney)

Leader: We are preparing ourselves for the days  
when a shoot shall come from the stump of Jesse.

People: **The spirit of God shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding,**

Leader: the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord.

People: **He will teach us to walk in the way of the Lord.**

\*Opening Hymn No. 106                                      Prepare the Way, O Zion                                      BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

1 Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!  
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.  
Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.  
O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.

2 He brings God's rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above.  
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.  
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.  
O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.

**\*Prayer of Confession**

Dear God, how have we loved you? Too little and too late.  
How have we given our neighbor dignity and value? Too sparsely and too grudgingly.  
How have we guarded the priceless things like trust and truth? Too casually and carelessly.  
How have we humbled ourselves before you, eager to learn the ways of grace?  
Too seldom and too cleverly.  
*(A time of silence for personal confession)*

**\*Assurance of God's Love and Forgiveness**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.  
People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

**\*Sung Response No. 92**

While We Are Waiting, Come Cason  
While we are waiting, come *(repeat)*;  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.  
Come, Savior, quickly come *(repeat)*;  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting come.

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**WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD**

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**Prayer for Illumination**

**Gospel Lesson** Matthew 3:1-12

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.  
People: Thanks be to God.

**Sermon** Hope Blooms in Truth-Telling Jo Forrest

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**WE OFFER OUR GRATITUDE**

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**Offertory** E'en So Lord Jesus Quickly Come Paul O. Manz

Peace be to you and grace from him who freed us from our sins,  
Who loved us all and shed his blood that we might saved be.  
Sing Holy, Holy to our Lord, the Lord Almighty God,  
Who was and is and is to come; sing Holy, Holy, Lord!  
Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein. Rejoice on earth, ye saints below.

For Christ is coming soon!  
E'en so Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more.  
They need no light nor lamp nor sun, for Christ shall be their all!

**\*Doxology**

OLD HUNDREDTH

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**

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

The Apostles' Creed

Hymnal page 35

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell;  
the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;  
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

**The Sacrament of Communion**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving and the 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.

**Institution of the Lord's Supper**

**Prayer of Sending**

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**WE GO OUT TO SERVE**

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**\*Closing Hymn No. 93**

**Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates**

Georg Weissel

1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold the King of glory waits;  
the King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.  
3 Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide.  
Let me thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in me reveal.

**\*Benediction**

\*Benediction Response Away in a Manger, verse 3 arr. Wilberg

Postlude Sleepers, Awake! Ludwig Krebs

\*Please rise in body or in spirit.

Leading in worship: Jo Forrest, Christine Hestwood, Jim Burns, Louise Rogers, the Quartet, and the Chancel Choir.

Prayers of Concern and Thanksgiving

The congregation extends condolences to family and friends of Stewart Snodgrass Jr. who died on November 18; Flo Van Cara Sheap and family on the death of Robert "Bob" Sheap on November 24.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Today

### Isaiah 'Twas Foretold It with Steven S. Tuell

Sunday, Dec. 4, 11 & 18  
9:45 a.m. in Galbreath Chapel/Zoom

The Advent seminar series will guide the waiting and preparation that will end with our joyful celebration of Christ's incarnation at Christmas. Details here: <https://www.westminster-church.org/events/event-list/westminster-seminars>



### Writers of Westminster

Books available for sale  
Dec. 4, 11 & 18

W.O.W. Christmas Book - The fifth annual edition of our church book for the holidays, *Walking Along the Labyrinth*, will be available to purchase at the Welcome Center. Books are \$10 per copy or \$13 if you want us to mail it.

## This Week



### Online Advent Devotions

Available now on the church website

Advent is a time of spiritual preparation as we anticipate the birth of our Lord. Online daily Advent devotions are available on the Westminster website on the Advent page here: <https://www.westminster-church.org/advent-2022-westminster>.



### Town Hall South

Tuesday, Dec. 6  
11:00-noon  
USC Theater

Join us for our next speaker, Leon Logothetis. For over a decade he has traveled globally to over 100 countries to highlight the good in humanity. For more information and to purchase season tickets, visit [www.townhallsouth.org](http://www.townhallsouth.org)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)



### Then Sings My Soul

Friday, Dec. 9  
7:00 p.m.  
Sanctuary

World renowned mezzo-soprano Marianne Cornetti, accompanied by pianist Bryan Sable, will sing a concert of sacred music. Westminster's soprano section leader, Katy Williams, is a special guest on the program. *Freewill offering to benefit Westminster's Outreach programs*



### Breakfast at the Manger

Saturday, Dec. 10  
9:00 a.m. - noon  
Fellowship Hall  
Ages 10-Adult: \$10  
Ages 3-9: \$7  
Ages 2 & under: free

Children and their families are invited to enjoy breakfast, hear and interact with the Christmas story, make Christmas crafts, and celebrate the Christmas season together! Details and registration here: <https://www.westminster-church.org/events/event-list/breakfast-at-the-manger>.



### Westminster Christmas Concert

Sunday, Dec. 11  
7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

The Annual Christmas Concert features the Chancel Choir, Westminster Ringers, Cherub and Junior Choirs, and special guests, the USC Chanteclairs. The concert is free and will appeal to all ages. A freewill offering will be gratefully accepted to support outreach programs.

## Next Week



### Family Gingerbread House Night

Wednesday, Dec. 14  
6:00-7:30 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall

Enjoy a casual evening as a family as you build a gingerbread house together. Please bring a donation of women's hats and gloves and hand warmers to benefit Street Moms. Registration is not required, but greatly appreciated as it aids us in planning for a night of family fun! Register: <https://www.westminster-church.org/events/event-list/family-gingerbread-house-night>



### Christmas Remembrance Service

Wednesday, Dec. 14  
7:00 p.m.  
Galbreath Chapel

You are invited to a special communion service of Christmas Remembrance. The service will be a time of quiet reflection to remember loved ones. Join us for this special time of comfort and of hope.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)



## Christmas Joy Offering

Purple envelopes will be in the pews Dec. 18-Jan. 1 to collect for this special offering.

When we give to the Christmas Joy Offering, we share our love with the leaders of our Church - past, present and future. 50% of your gifts assist current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial needs. 50% of your gifts make it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

## Volunteer Opportunities



## Street Moms Meals & More

**Saturday, Dec. 17**  
8:00-10:00 a.m.  
Fellowship Hall Kitchen  
**Sunday, Dec. 18**  
Following 8:30 worship  
Rm. 276 (Youth Lounge)

We are going to be supporting Street Moms, a community outreach non-profit, designed to meet the needs of women experiencing homelessness in Wheeling, West Virginia.

On December 17, join us in cooking warm meals for these women. On December 18, help us pack personal care items. Details here: <https://www.westminster-church.org/serving/opportunities-to-serve#community>



## Christmas Eve Ushers

**Saturday, Dec. 24**  
Ushers are needed for the 5:00, 9:00 & 11:00 services

When people walk in the door looking for God, especially this time of year, it might be a one-time opportunity to help them feel welcome and at home. I figure God got them here; we better be at our best in the handoff. *Just come a little early to the service you were planning to attend!*



## Christmas Flower Delivery

Flowers are to be delivered  
Dec. 27 & 28

Put a smile on someone's face with a poinsettia. Deliver a plant to someone who can't come to church at Christmas. Deliver one or two poinsettias to folks who were recently hospitalized, are elderly and at home, or live in a senior community. Deadline to volunteer is Dec 14.



## Receptionists Needed

Weekdays; choice of shifts  
9:00-noon or noon-3:00

Would you like to hang out with the staff during the week? Volunteer regularly according to your schedule or fill in, as needed, when someone is sick or on vacation. Both regular and substitute positions are available.

To volunteer for the above opportunities, contact Jan Baumann at [baumann@westminster-church.org](mailto:baumann@westminster-church.org) 412-559-1034

# THIS WEEK @ WESTMINSTER

DEC 5 - DEC 11, 2022



Scan here for complete church calendar



Scan here for a full WROC schedule & information

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

|       |   |                          |
|-------|---|--------------------------|
| 9:30  | PACC Movie Matinee                          | Rm. 277                  |
| 12:00 | AA  | Rm. 176                  |
| 6:00  | Scout Pack 366 Adult Comm. Mtg.             | Rm. 107                  |
| 7:00  | Grace-Westminster Book Club Session Meeting | Zoom<br>Galbreath Chapel |

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

|       |                                |                |
|-------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| 7:00  | Tuesday Morning Men's Group    | Rm. 238        |
| 10:00 | Staff Meeting                  | Rm. 238        |
|       | Town Hall South Speaker Series | USC HS Theater |
| 1:30  | Kindergarten Story Time        | Library        |
| 6:30  | Centering Prayer               | Zoom           |
| 7:00  | AI Anon                        | Rm. 131        |
| 7:30  | Scout Troop 366                | Rm. 107        |

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

|      |                                 |                 |
|------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1:00 | Prayer Shawl Ministry           | Galleria        |
| 4:45 | Cherub Choir (Gds. K-2)         | Rm. 176         |
|      | Junior Choir (Gds. 3-6)         | Rm. 268         |
|      | Little Ones & Loved Ones        | Rm. 194         |
| 5:30 | Wednesday Food & Fellowship     | Fellowship Hall |
| 6:00 | Couples' Group                  | Rm. 231         |
|      | JAM Youth Group (Gds. 5-6)      | North Entry     |
|      | Kids' Connection (Gds. 3-4)     | Rm. 176         |
|      | Kids' Connection (Gds. PreK-2)  | Rm. 233         |
|      | Veritas Youth Group (Gds. 7-12) | Youth Dept.     |
|      | Wednesday Night Nursery         | Rm. 239         |
| 7:30 | Westminster Ringers             | Rm. 268         |

Wednesdays @ Westminster have something for everyone! From children's choirs to Children's & Family Ministry programs, Food & Fellowship, Veritas Youth Group, Bible studies, and more, make plans to be here. Visit our website or scan the QR codes below for details.



Children's & Family Ministry



Food & Fellowship fall menu



Music & Choirs

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

|      |                       |         |
|------|-----------------------|---------|
| 6:00 | Cub Scout Den Meeting | Rm. 176 |
| 7:00 | Chancel Choir         | Rm. 268 |
|      | Nar Anon              | Rm. 131 |
| 7:30 | NA                    | Rm. 107 |

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

|       |                            |           |
|-------|----------------------------|-----------|
| 6:30a | Fishers of Men             | Rm. 231   |
| 6:00  | Veritas Winter Retreat     | Off Site  |
| 7:00  | AA                         | Rm. 107   |
|       | AI Anon                    | Rm. 231   |
|       | Then Sings My Soul Concert | Sanctuary |

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

|      |                         |                 |
|------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 9:00 | Breakfast at the Manger | Fellowship Hall |
|------|-------------------------|-----------------|

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

|       |  |                   |
|-------|--|-------------------|
| 8:30  | Traditional Worship                                | Sanctuary         |
|       | Wiggle Room**                                      | Rm. 238           |
| 9:00  | Welcome Center/Writers of Westminster Book Signing | North Entry       |
| 9:45  | Bridge Contemporary Worship                        | WROC/Lvstrm.      |
|       | Bridge Sunday School PreK-4th Grade                | Rm. 176           |
|       | Wiggle Room - The Bridge**                         | WROC Fitness      |
|       | Westminster Seminar                                | Galbreath Chapel  |
| 11:00 | Traditional Worship                                | Sanctuary/Lvstrm. |
|       | Wiggle Room**                                      | Rm. 239           |
|       | Sunday School* PreK-4th Gd.                        | Rm. 233           |
| 7:00  | Christmas Concert                                  | Sanctuary         |

\*Sunday School - 9:45 a.m., dismissed from worship after children's message; 11:00 a.m., report directly to Room 233. A time for children in PreK through 4th grade to explore the Bible, enjoy fellowship together, and grow in their faith.

\*\*Wiggle Room - 9:45 - Upstairs WROC Fitness Room; 8:30/11:00 - Room 239. Available to families with children from birth through age 3 who would prefer a separate space to step away while listening to the worship service. Please see an usher if you need help finding the Wiggle Room.

# CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS @ WESTMINSTER

The Chancel Guild is accepting memorial or honoree contributions for poinsettias. Use the form below and make your check payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church and write "Poinsettia" on the memo line. Mail your check and form to the church office or place it in the collection plate.



## 2022 Christmas Memorial and Honoree Poinsettia Order Form



My Name \_\_\_\_\_

Memorial       Honoree

Name of Memorial/Honoree (PLEASE PRINT)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Deliver poinsettia to shut-in       Will pick up poinsettia on Sunday, December 25, after 10:00 a.m. worship, or Tuesday, December 27, or Wednesday, December 28, between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

***Please return this form to the church office by Sunday, December 11, 2022.***

*Photos/Videos at Westminster: We would like to make you aware that by participating in Westminster Presbyterian Church worship and activities, you may be photographed and/or videotaped. If you have any concerns, please contact Anna Hiner, Communications & Database Manager, at [hiner@westminster-church.org](mailto:hiner@westminster-church.org) or 412-835-6630x207.*



## Giving to Westminster

**ONLINE:** scan QR code

**TEXT-TO-GIVE:** Text WPCUSC to 73256.

*Standard text messaging rates may apply.*

2040 Washington Road  
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412-835-6630  
[www.westminster-church.org](http://www.westminster-church.org)

A PC(USA) Congregation