



THE CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

Prelude

Eight brief settings of *Savior of the Nations, Come*
Text: Hymn No. 102

J.S. Bach et al.

Introit (11:00)

Waiting!
Cherub Choir

Toni Sullivan

Welcome and Announcements

*Share the Peace of Christ

*Lighting of the Advent Candles

Leader: Friends, be not afraid. God's joy is at hand.

People: **In this Advent journey,**
grant us the courage to seek joy:
joy in the face of apathy,
joy in the face of sorrow,
joy in the face of uncertainty.

*Opening Hymn No. 93

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

TRURO

*Prayer of Confession

God of joy,
you meet us in our shadows and call us into your light.
Yet we confess that we shut others out of belonging—
those who are different from us, those who struggle, those we fear.
And we confess that we often feel unsure of our own place, too.

Forgive us.
Help us to trust that we belong to you.
Help us to make our homes and communities places of wide welcome,
where joy can rise even amid sorrow and injustice.

(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 - Hymn No. 92** While We Are Waiting, Come

While we are waiting, come (2x);
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

With power and glory, come (2x);
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

Come, Savior, quickly come (2x);
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

Anthem (11:00)

Christ Is Born on Christmas Day
Junior Choir

Pat Messick

Prayers of the People 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.

Congregational Response

THREEFOLD AMEN

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 1:1, 17-25

New Testament, page 1

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Joe's House

Laura Bentley

WE OFFER OUR GRATITUDE

Offertory Anthem

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 will 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**

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

***Closing Hymn No. 82**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response**

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

Paul O. Manz

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!

Postude

God's Son Is Coming

J.S. Bach

Leading in worship: Laura Bentley, Jo Forrest, Sara Kyle, Chris Hestwood, Beth Ketterman, Lana Kipp, Cherub and Junior Choirs, the Quartet and Chancel Choir, Heather and Dennis Loos, and the Bowser family.

Thank you to the Chancel Guild, led by Maureen Ludwig, for decorating our sanctuary so beautifully. The exquisite new banners were created by Kathy Peelor and Toni Jo Kidd.

STAFF PROGRAM/MINISTRY CONTACTS

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Giving to Westminster

ONLINE: <https://westminster-church.org/give>

TEXT-TO-GIVE: Text WPCUSC to 73256.

Standard text messaging rates may apply.



Westminster Staff Contact Information

We would love to hear from you. Give us a call, drop us an email, or stop by the church office.

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A PC(USA) Congregation



Sunday, December 14, 2025

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayers of Concern and Thanksgiving

The congregation extends condolences to Norm Dingmore on the death of his father, Norman Dingmore on November 19; and to the family of Bob Duncan on the death of Lora Lee Duncan.

We offer our prayers for those with recent illnesses, surgeries, or hospitalizations: Sandy Shanahan.

Westminster Seminars TODAY | 9:45 a.m. | Galbreath Chapel

ADVENT SERIES: Philippians: An Epistle of JOY – Our True Hope presented by James E. Davison.
For more info and the Zoom link, go to westminster-church.org/event/westminster-seminars/.



Westminster Annual Christmas Concert

TODAY | 7:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

Westminster's Annual Christmas Concert will feature the Chancel, Junior, and Cherub Choirs and the Westminster Ringers. There are even sing-along carols for the congregation to participate! Bring your families!

Breakfast at the Manger

Saturday, December 20 | 9:00 a.m.-Noon | Fellowship Hall

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! **Registration required by Monday, December 15; tickets will not be sold at the door.**



LIFT and Women 2 Women: Advent Sessions Thursdays through December 18

Be prepared to meet the people of the Christmas story in ways you have never encountered them before and allow the hope of Christmas to shine even brighter. Join Women 2 Women (every other Thursday at 10:00 a.m. in Room 238; or LIFT (every Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in Room 283). Both groups will be using the book *Season's Greetings*.

Christmas Flower Delivery

Flowers for delivery can be picked up at the church on December 26, 28, or 29, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

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. RSVP to Emily Shubilla at shubilla@westminster-church.org by Wednesday, December 17.

WROC | Register Now for Winter Fitness Classes at the WROC!

Classes begin January 2.

Visit our website at wroc.westminster-church.org for a list of all fitness classes or call Kathy Long at 412-835-6630x200.

- Barre Sculpt
- Cardio Strength Fusion
- Cardio Drumming
- Flow and Gentle Yoga
- Parkinson's Fitness - Boxing
- Pickleball for Parkinson's
- Stronger Bones/Better Balance
- Tai Chi
- Zumba



Children and Youth Disaster Relief Packaging Event

Sunday, January 4 | 5:00-7:00 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

Come and gather together to make Church World Service hygiene kits that will be shipped to those experiencing a disaster across our nation. Pizza dinner will be provided so registration is suggested. All children in 6th grade and younger must be accompanied by an adult.



CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 24, Christmas Eve

Traditional Worship..... 3:00 p.m. | Sanctuary
 Contemporary..... 5:00 p.m. | WROC
 Traditional Worship..... 9:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

Nursery care available during 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. services.
 All three services will be livestreamed.

One Service Sunday

Sunday, December 28
 One worship service
 10:00 a.m.
 Sanctuary

WEEKLY CALENDAR

DECEMBER 14-20, 2025

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

8:00 Nursery (Birth-Preschool)* Rm. 222
 8:30a **Traditional Worship** **North Courtyard**
 Wiggle Room*** Rm. 239
 9:00a Welcome Center North Main Entry
 9:30a **Bridge Contemporary Worship** **WROC/Livestream**
 Bridge Sunday School (4yrs-1st Grade)** Rm. 176
 Bridge Sunday School (2nd-4th Grade)** Rm. 284
 Wiggle Room - The Bridge*** WROC Fitness
 9:45a Westminster Seminars Galbreath Chapel
 11:00a **Traditional Worship** **Sanctuary/Livestream**
 Sunday School (4yrs-4th Grade)** Rm. 233
 Wiggle Room*** Rm. 239
 7:00 Annual Christmas Concert Sanctuary

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15

9:30a My Monday Thing with Living Stones Off Site
 12:00 AA (Door #20) Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16

7:00a Tuesday Morning Men's Group Rm. 238
 10:00a Staff Meeting Rm. 238
 7:30 Boy Scout Troop 366 Rm. 107

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17

9:00a Men's Bible Study Rm. 231
 4:45 Little Ones and Loved Ones Rm. 222 Nursery
 Cherub Choir Rm. 176
 Junior Choir Rm. 268
 5:15 Wednesday Food & Fellowship Fellowship Hall
 6:00 Kids' Connection (5yrs-2nd Grade) Rm. 233
 Kids' Connection (3rd-4th Grade) Rm. 176
 JAM - Youth Group (5th-6th Grades) Rm. 257 JAM
 Veritas Youth Group (7th-12th Grade) Youth Dept.
 7:00 Westminster Ringers Rm. 268

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18

10:00a Women2Women Rm. 238
 7:00 LIFT (Ladies in Fellowship Together) Rm. 283
 Chancel Choir Rm. 268
 7:30 NA (Door #14) Rm. 107
 Nar Anon (Door #14) Rm. 131

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19

6:30a Fishers of Men Rm. 231
 7:00 AA (Door #14) Rm. 107
 Al Non (Door #14) Rm. 231

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

8:30a Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank Off Site
 Volunteer Opportunity
 9:00 Breakfast at the Manger Fellowship Hall

Please see an usher if you need help finding the following:

*Nursery - Staffed care for infants through preschool.

**Sunday School - 9:45 a.m., dismissed from worship after children's message; 11:00 a.m., report directly to Room 233.

***Wiggle Room - Available to families with children who would prefer a separate space to step away while listening to the worship service.



Scan here for complete church calendar



Scan here for a full WROC schedule & information



Children's & Family Ministry



Food & Fellowship Menu



Music & Choirs