



THE CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

Prelude

News of Great Joy
Christmas Angels Medley
Westminster Ringers

arr. Arnold Sherman
arr. Dan Edwards

Welcome and Announcements

*Share the Peace of Christ

*Lighting of the Advent Candles

Leader: Friends, be not afraid, even now — even now — God's love is overwhelming the world, on earth as it already is in heaven!

People: As our Advent pilgrimage draws to completion,
grant us the courage to share your love,
love for the unexpected challenge,
love for the vulnerable one,
love for the presence of God.

*Opening Hymn No. 140

Once in Royal David's City

IRBY

*Prayer of Confession

God of light and love,
we come with hearts that are wary to be open.
We have trusted our own understanding more than we've trusted you.
We try to make sense of everything, forgetting that faith sometimes
asks us to step beyond what we can explain.
Forgive us for the times we let doubt define us,
for the moments we closed our hearts to your possibilities.
In your son, you show us that love defies logic, that trust transcends fear.
Teach us to believe—not just with our heads, but with our whole selves.

(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.

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

The Gospel of John 1:1-5, 10-14

New Testament, page 238

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Cusa's Lab

Jo Forrest

WE OFFER OUR GRATITUDE

Offertory Anthem

Carols Around (And a Round)
beloved carols with Dona Nobis Pacem (Grant Us Peace)

arr. Nygard

***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. 147**

The First Nowell
verses 1, 2, 4, and 6

THE FIRST NOWELL

***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!

Postlude

Postlude on *Venez, Divin Messie*

César Franck

Leading in worship: Laura Bentley, Jo Forrest, Jim Burns, Lorraine Milovac, Jim Marshall, Westminster Ringers, the Quartet and Chancel Choir, the Brennen and Dellaria families.

STAFF PROGRAM/MINISTRY CONTACTS

Jo Forrest, Senior Pastor, Head of Staff, forrest@westminster-church.org

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Giving to Westminister

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

TEXT-TO-GIVE: Text WPCUSC to 73256.

Standard text messaging rates may apply.



Westminister Staff Contact Information

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

GET CONNECTED!

Westminister on Social Media

Watch worship videos, podcasts, share Westminister events, find prayers, scripture, and more to like and share!



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wpc_pgh



WestministerUSC



westminister-church.org/podcasts



MyWPC/Realm® Connect is an online tool that will help you stay connected with Westminister's activities and events, as well as manage your personal information and giving.



<https://westminister-church.org/mywpc/>

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2040 Washington Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15241



412-835-6630
www.westminister-church.org

A PC(USA) Congregation

Sunday, December 21, 2025

WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayers of Concern and Thanksgiving

The congregation extends condolences to the family of John Redfield upon his death.

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

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



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

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
 No Sunday school.

Year-End Giving Reminder

For your contribution to be tax deductible in 2025, it should be received in the church by Friday, December 26, 2025, to allow for sufficient processing time. Earlier mailing is encouraged to ensure timely posting to giving statements. Contributions postmarked after December 31, 2025 will be treated as 2026 contributions

To ensure the deductibility of your church contributions, please do not file your 2025 tax return until you have received a written acknowledgement of your contributions from the church. Some of your contributions may not be 100% tax deductible.

The 2025 contribution statements are anticipated to be mailed to you around the third week of January 2026.

If you have any questions regarding year-end contributions, please contact Gary Vamos, Accounting Assistant, at 412-835-6630x202, or Jack Kelly, Director of Finance/Operations, at x201.

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.



Assembling QuickKits

Sunday, January 18 | After each worship | Room 274



Come and make QuickKits with us! QuickKits are bags of essential items like deodorant, shampoo, a toothbrush, and more put together in a reusable bag. We will fill them together and put them throughout the church to take and give to those in need. All ages welcome! For questions, contact Emily Shubilla at shubilla@westminster-church.org.

Severe Winter Weather Policy

In the event of severe weather, Westminster Presbyterian Church and Westminster Recreation & Outreach Center (WROC) will follow the schedule of the [Upper St. Clair School District](#).

Please read more on our church website at westminster-church.org.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

DECEMBER 21-27, 2025

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22

12:00 AA (Door #20) Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

3:00	Christmas Eve Traditional Worship	Sanctuary
	Nursery (Birth-Preschool)*	Rm. 222 Nursery
	Wiggle Room***	Rm. 239 Wiggle Room
5:00	Christmas Eve Contemporary Worship	WROC
	Christmas Eve Overflow Worship	Fellowship Hall
	Nursery (Birth-Preschool)*	Rm. 222 Nursery
	Wiggle Room***	Rm. 239 Wiggle Room
9:00	Christmas Eve Traditional Worship	Sanctuary
	Christmas Eve Overflow Worship	Fellowship Hall
	Wiggle Room***	Rm. 239 Wiggle Room

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

All Day Church/Office/WECEP Closed

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26

9:00a-Noon Christmas Flower Pickup Gallery

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27

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