



THE CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

Prelude

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

arr. A.D. Miller

Welcome and Announcements

*Share the Peace of Christ

*Call to Worship

Leader: Beloved, let us come and worship God,
for God is love.

People: **We gather to praise God,
who first loved us.**

Leader: God's love was revealed in Jesus Christ
so that we might live through him.

All: **Come, Holy Spirit—
perfect your love in us
as we worship You.**

*Opening Hymn No. 133

O Come, All Ye Faithful
Verses 1, 3, and 4

*Prayer of Confession

Dear God,
You loved us first and show us what true love looks like through Jesus.
But we admit we haven't always loved you or others.
We have let fear, pride, and selfishness get in the way.
We have turned inward to satisfy our own wants and neglected the needs of others.
Forgive us.
Help us to follow your son, to learn his ways, and to serve one another.

(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. 84**

Creator of the Stars of Night
Verse 1

Creator of the stars of night, your people's everlasting light,
O Christ, redeemer of us all, we pray you, hear us when we call. Amen.

Sacrament of Baptism

Sung Response - Hymn No. 486

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise - verse 1

Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign,
with this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.

Remembering Our Baptisms

Prayers of the People

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

1 John 4:7-16

New Testament, page 95

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

Sermon

Beloved Is Where We Begin

Jo Forrest

WE OFFER OUR GRATITUDE

Offertory Anthem

See, Amid the Winter's Snow
Harrison Burgess, soloist

arr. Dan Forrest

***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. 136**

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

GO TELL IT

***Benediction**

Leading in worship: Jo Forrest, Laura Bentley, Kristy Berrott, Harrison Burgess, Lauren Moore, and Jim Burns.

STAFF PROGRAM/MINISTRY CONTACTS

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

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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.



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



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



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.

GET CONNECTED!

Westminster on Social Media

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



Westminster.Pittsburgh



wpc_pgh



WestminsterUSC



westminster-church.org/podcasts

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Pittsburgh, PA 15241



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

A PC(USA) Congregation

Sunday, December 28, 2025

WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayers of Concern and Thanksgiving

Baptisms

We rejoice with parents Carolyn and Mark Matthews and grandparents Jim and Kathy Painter as they present Margot Sophia and Harper Jane for the Sacrament of Baptism.

Westminster Seminars January 4 | 9:45 a.m. | Galbreath Chapel

JANUARY SERIES: C.S. Lewis: C.S. Lewis and His Conversions presented by Dr. Lou Mitchell.

For more info and the Zoom link, go to westminster-church.org/event/westminster-seminars/.



C.S. Lewis (1898-1963) is widely considered one of the most effective Christian thinkers of the 20th century. He used his exceptional literary talents to set out the truth claims of Christianity. From his non-fiction works like Mere Christianity to his beloved children's books, *The Chronicles of Narnia*, to his science fiction work, *The Space Trilogy*, Lewis creatively described the Christian faith, defended it from critics, and above all, made clear why Christianity has an enduring appeal in an increasingly secular world.

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

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 28-JANUARY 3, 2025

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

9:00a	Christmas Flower Pickup to noon Welcome Center	Gallery North Main Entry
10:00a	One Worship Service Nursery (Birth-Preschool) Wiggle Room***	Sanctuary Rm. 222-Nursery Rm. 239

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29

9:00a	Christmas Flower Pickup to noon	Gallery
12:00	AA (Door #20)	Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30

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

*Nursery - Staffed care for infants through preschool.

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

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1

All Day Church/Office/WECEP Closed

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2

7:00	AA (Door #14)	Rm. 107
	AI Anon (Door #14)	Rm. 231

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3



Scan here
for complete
church
calendar



Scan here for
a full WROC
schedule &
information



Children's &
Family
Ministry



Food &
Fellowship
Menu



Music &
Choirs