



THE JOY OF  
GIVING  
STEWARDSHIP 2026

# THE CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

\*Please rise in body or in spirit.

## WE GATHER TOGETHER

### Prelude

How Great Thou Art  
Raise the Songs of Harvest  
*Westminster Ringers*

Hine/arr. Randy  
G. Elves/J. Cruder

### Welcome and Announcements

### Living Our Faith

### \*Share the Peace of Christ

### \*Call to Worship

Leader: Shouts of joy!  
Songs of praise!  
Sounds of hope and love!

People: **These are the sounds of our thanksgiving –  
giving thanks to our God.**

Leader: We are God's people, led by God's love.  
Enter God's house full of praise.

People: **On this day of the harvest –  
we bring our gifts to you, God.**

### \*Opening Hymn No. 14

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

### \*Prayer of Confession

Dear God, you shower us with an abundance and your abiding care. We confess that we often forget. We take your gifts for granted and act as if they are ours alone. You ask us to bring our first fruits, to honor you with what we have, but we hold back, cling to what we think we deserve, and fail to trust. Forgive us for our pride and our forgetfulness. Teach us to live with grateful hearts.

*(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. 695**

Change My Heart, O God

*Refrain:*

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.  
Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

*Verse:*

You are the potter, I am the clay.  
Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.  
(*Refrain*)

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**Children's Message**

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**Sending Song - Hymn No. 748**

Go with Us, Lord

Go with us Lord and guide the way, through this and every coming day,  
that in your spirit strong and true our lives may be a gift to you.

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**Anthem**

Go Light Your World  
*Chancel Choir*  
*Holly Jones, soloist*

arr. Allen Pote

Carry your candle. Run to the darkness. Seek out the hopeless, confused and torn. Hold out your candle for all to see it. Take your candle and go light your world.

We are a family, whose hearts are blazing. So let's raise our candles and light up the sky!  
Praying to our Father, in the name of Jesus, make us a beacon in darkest time. Seek out the helpless, deceived and poor.

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**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

**Responses:**

Leader: For this joy,  
People: we give thanks.    OR    Leader: Lord, in your mercy,  
People: hear our 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.**

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**Congregational Response**

THREEFOLD AMEN

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**WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD**

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**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture Lesson**

Deuteronomy 26: 1-11

Old Testament, page 180

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

Giving Thanks

Jo Forrest

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**WE OFFER OUR GRATITUDE**

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**Offertory Anthem**

I Am Not Alone  
*Lauren Moore, soloist*

Kari Jobe

**\*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**

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**WE GO OUT TO SERVE**

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**\*Closing Hymn No. 39**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

**\*Benediction**

**\*Benediction Response**

Go Ye Now in Peace

Joyce Eilers

Go ye now in peace and know that the love of God will guide you.  
Feel his presence here beside you, showing you the way.  
Know that the God who sent his son to die that we might live  
will never leave you lost and alone in his beloved world.

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**Leading in worship:** Jo Forrest, Jan Baumann, Kristy Berrott, Faith Kemmler, Chris Hestwood, Lauren Moore, Jim Burns, the Quartet, Jim Marshall, the Chancel Choir, and the Westminster Ringers.

# 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.



Contributions must be received no later than Sunday, December 7, so that your gift can be listed in the Christmas Eve bulletin. Please indicate if you plan to pick up your flower or whether you would like it delivered to a member in care. Poinsettias will be available on December 24 following the 5:00 and 9:00 p.m. services, and December 26, 28, and 29, between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

**A suggested minimum donation of \$25 will cover the cost of the flowers. Additional donations beyond that will be used to support the work of the Chancel Guild throughout the year.**



## 2025 Christmas Memorial and Honoree Poinsettia Order Form

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

In memory of     In honor of

Name of Memorial/Honoree (PLEASE PRINT)

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

Deliver poinsettia to member in care

Will pick up poinsettia on December 24 following the 5:00 or 9:00 p.m. services, or December 26, 28, or 29, between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

***Please return this form to the church office by Sunday, December 7, 2025.***

2040 Washington Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15241

**WESTMINSTER**  
PRESBYTERIAN  
**CHURCH**



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

A PC(USA) Congregation

Sunday, November 23, 2025

WESTMINSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



**THE JOY OF GIVING**  
STEWARDSHIP 2026

## PLEDGE TODAY!



Thank you to those who submitted **190** pledges for **\$895,920** toward the 2026 operating budget. Today concludes our campaign with Commitment Sunday and a celebration. Please submit your pledge online, or through MyWPC, the QR code, or a pledge card. Every gift, no matter the size, reflects the joy of being a part of this church.

**One Service Sunday Potluck** TODAY | After worship | Fellowship Hall

## Westminster Seminars November 30 | 9:45 a.m. | Galbreath Chapel

**ADVENT SERIES: Philippians: An Epistle of JOY – Thanksgiving in All Things** presented by James E. Davison

The first place the apostle Paul visited when he entered Europe from Asia Minor was a small Roman town, Philippi. His visit produced a fascinating group of people who came to faith in Christ Jesus. Paul's relationship with this congregation was rich, with warm feelings on both sides, and he stayed in touch with them over the years. In this short letter to the Philippian church, we see Paul's warm relationship.

For more info and the Zoom link, go to [westminster-church.org/event/westminster-seminars/](https://westminster-church.org/event/westminster-seminars/).



## Bair Foundation Christmas Gift Drive

**Unwrapped gifts Due Sunday, December 7, at 12:00 p.m.**

Westminster is once again partnering with the Bair Foundation to provide Christmas gifts for 300 foster children in the local Pittsburgh area. Tags are back on the trees in the north and south entries of the church or visit our Amazon list at <https://westminstergives.com/> to ship your gift to us.

Read more here: <https://westminster-church.org/event/bair-foundation-christmas-gift-drive/>

## Serving for Living Stones

**Sunday, November 30 | 3:30-6:00 p.m. | Fairhaven United Methodist Church**

Join us in making a difference by assisting at a local neighborhood church in Overbrook. We are looking for volunteers to help serve food at the buffet line. Transportation will be provided from the north parking lot of the church. Your support in feeding those in need will be greatly appreciated! Space is limited, please register here: <https://bit.ly/47QjIM6>, or scan the QR code.



## Extended Communion Sunday, December 7 | 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The Deacons will be taking communion to anyone unable to attend Sunday worship. If you would like to receive communion or know of anyone to add to the list, please email Laura Bentley at [bentley@westminster-church.org](mailto:bentley@westminster-church.org) or call the church office at 412-835-6630. **Please let us know by November 30.**

## Tuesday Evening Book Group

Tuesday, December 2 | 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Please join the Tuesday Evening Book Group on December 2 to discuss *Into Thin Air*, by Jon Krakauer, a true story of the adventure and perils of climbing Mount Everest. All are welcome. Questions can be directed to Tom Drake at [tom.drake@yahoo.com](mailto:tom.drake@yahoo.com).

## Family Gingerbread House Night

Wednesday, December 3 | 6:00-7:30 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

Enjoy a casual evening as a family as you build a gingerbread house together. There will be no JAM or Kids' Connection this evening. RSVP not required, but greatly appreciated as it aids us in planning for a night of family fun! RSVP here: <https://bit.ly/wpcgingerbread25> or scan the QR code.



## WPC Book Group Wednesday, December 3 | 12:00 p.m. | Church Library

The next meeting we will discuss *When Books Went to War* by Molly Guptill Manning. All are welcome! Questions or comments, contact Nana Wilson at [callingnana@gmail.com](mailto:callingnana@gmail.com).

## LIFT and Women 2 Women: Advent Sessions

Thursdays, December 4 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 Poinsettias @ Westminster

See form on back cover of the bulletin.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 23-29, 2025

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

8:45a	Westminster Seminars	Galbreath Chapel
9:00a	Welcome Center	North Main Entry
10:00a	<b>One Service Sunday</b>	<b>Sanctuary/Livestream</b>
	Nursery (Birth-Preschool)*	Rm. 222
	Wiggle Room***	Rm. 239
	Bridge Sunday School (4yrs-1st Grade)**	Rm. 233
	Bridge Sunday School (2nd-4th Grade)**	Rm. 284
11:00a	<b>Potluck Lunch</b>	<b>Fellowship Hall</b>

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24

12:00	AA (Door #20)	Fellowship Hall
6:00	Cub Scout Den Meeting	Rm. 107
7:00	Deacons' Meeting	Memorial Parlor

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

7:00a	Tuesday Morning Men's Group	Rm. 238
10:00a	Staff Meeting	Rm. 238
7:15	Pastor Nominating Committee	Rm. 238
7:30	Boy Scout Troop 366	Rm. 107

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

9:00a	Men's Bible Study	Rm. 231
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### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27

All Day Church/Office/WECEP Closed - Happy Thanksgiving

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28

All Day Church/Office/WECEP Closed

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29

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

\*Nursery - Staffed care for infants through preschool.

\*\*Sunday School - dismissed from worship after children's message.

\*\*\*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