



THE CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

Prelude

Variations on *Sleepers, Wake!*

Robert Lau

Welcome and Announcements

*Share the Peace of Christ

*Lighting of the Advent Candles

Leader: In the face of despair, in the wilderness of our lives...

People: **We light a candle of hope.**

Leader: May the light from this candle comfort the lost and the lonely.

People: **May it proclaim that God's hope is coming—on earth as it is in heaven.**

Leader: Friends, be not afraid.

People: **God's hope is at hand.**

*Opening Hymn No. 88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
verses 1, 2, 6, and 7

VENI EMMANUEL

*Prayer of Confession

Dear God, we confess that too often we choose comfort over courage, masks over honesty, appearances over compassion. We have stood silent in the presence of the bully and enabled what should have been confronted. In the very places where your love is most needed, we look away.

Forgive us for the times we have ignored the urgency of your call. Send us to look for you not in the safety of tradition, but in places where people live in the margins, the tents, and the kitchens of mercy. May we go into the wilderness where resurrection is not a story but a way of life.

(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

Mark 1:1-12

New Testament, page 34

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

Sermon

Last Known Coordinates

Jo Forrest

WE OFFER OUR GRATITUDE

Offertory Anthem

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence
The anthem text is Hymn No. 347

arr. Gustav Holst

***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. 106**

Prepare the Way, O Zion

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response**

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

Paul O. Mainz

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

The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

arr. David Johnson

Leading in worship: Jo Forrest, Laura Bentley, Chris Hestwood, Jim Burns, the Quartet, and the Chancel Choir.

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

A PC(USA) Congregation

Sunday, November 30, 2025

WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

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 or call the church office at 412-835-6630. **Please let us know by November 30.**



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/>

Tuesday Evening Book Group Tuesday, December 2 | 7:00-8:30 p.m. | Room 284

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 may be directed to Tom Drake at 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.

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.

A QUIET CHRISTMAS Wednesday, December 10, 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Westminster Annual Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 14 | 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!

My Monday Thing for Living Stones

Monday, December 15 | 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. | North Way Christian Community Church

My Monday Thing is a program with Living Stones where they serve breakfast and lunch, do crafts, and give free haircuts. We will be running the Christmas craft table. Registration is required.



Volunteering at the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank

Saturday, December 20 | 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. | 1 N. Linden Street, Duquesne, PA 15110

Westminster will be travelling to the Greater Pittsburgh food bank to serve in their market. Registration is limited and required so sign up by [December 9](#).



WEEKLY CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 30-DECEMBER 6, 2025

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30

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
3:00	Serving for Living Stones	Off Site

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1

12:00	AA (Door #20)	Fellowship Hall
6:00	Veritas - Movie Night: Wicked for the Good	Off Site
7:00	Deacons' Meeting	Rm. 231

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2

7:00a	Tuesday Morning Men's Group	Rm. 238
10:00a	Staff Meeting	Rm. 238
7:00	Tuesday Evening Book Group	Rm. 284
7:15	Pastor Nominating Committee	Rm. 238
7:30	Boy Scout Troop 366	Rm. 107

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3

9:00a	Men's Bible Study	Rm. 231
12:00	Westminster Book Group	Library
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	Family Gingerbread House Night	Fellowship Hall
	Veritas Youth Group (7th-12th Grade)	Youth Dept.
6:45	Grief Care	Memorial Parlor
7:00	Westminster Ringers	Rm. 268

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4

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 5

6:30a	Fishers of Men	Rm. 231
7:00	AA (Door #14)	Rm. 107
	Al Non (Door #14)	Rm. 231
5:00	Veritas Youth Group - Fall Retreat	Camp Crestfield

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

All Day	Veritas Youth Group - Fall Retreat	Camp Crestfield
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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