



# THE CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

\*Please rise in body or in spirit.

## WE GATHER TOGETHER

### Prelude

Variations on Kum Ba Yah

John A. Behnke

1. Someone's Praying, Lord
2. Someone's Crying, Lord
3. Someone's Singing, Lord

### Introit (11:00)

Welcome Song  
*Cherub Choir*

Toni Sullivan

### Welcome and Announcements

#### \*Share the Peace of Christ

#### \*Call to Worship

Leader: God invites us into wide and spacious lives.

People: **We come to be untangled from the distractions and expectations of the world.**

Leader: God calls us into love that knows no borders.

People: **We come to expand our compassion and generosity, to let down the walls that separate us.**

Leader: God's Spirit breathes new life into our lungs.

People: **We come to exhale, to lower our shoulders, to trust that God is forming us into the people we were created to be.**

#### \*Opening Hymn No. 2

Come, Thou Almighty King

ITALIAN HYMN

#### \*Prayer of Confession

Spirit of life,  
you call us into freedom,  
into the wide, open spaces of your love.

Yet we confess how often we shrink back—  
clinging to fear, old habits, and the need to control.

We resist the love that asks us to grow,  
we distract ourselves with fleeting pleasures,  
and we build up walls against vulnerability.

Forgive us, God.

Loosen all that binds us and help us walk freely in the way of Christ,  
that we might be the people you have created us to be.

*(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. 288

Spirit of the Living God

LIVING GOD

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

---

## Anthem (11:00)

My Faith's Got Shoes  
*Junior Choir*

Mark Burrows

---

## 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

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

New Testament, page 190

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

---

### Sermon

Living a Spiritual Life

Laura Bentley

---

**WE OFFER OUR GRATITUDE**

---

## Offertory Anthem

The Word Was God

Rosephanye Powell

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. (John 1:1-3)

**\*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. 286**

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

TRENTHAM

---

**\*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.

---

**\*Postlude**

Kum Ba Yah, Variation #3

Behnke

---

**Leading in worship:** Laura Bentley, Jo Forrest, Faith Kemmler, Jim Burns, Chris Hestwood, Beth Ketterman, Lana Kipp, the Quartet, and Cherub, Junior, and Chancel Choirs.

## Sermon Series: What are we here for?

This series begins with that simple question. Guided by Paul's letters to early Christian communities, who were figuring it out in real time, we'll explore what it means to follow Christ, personally and as a community. This is an invitation to reflect on our place in God's work, and to remember who we are when we gather in Christ's name.

## STAFF PROGRAM/MINISTRY CONTACTS

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

Laura Bentley, Associate Pastor, bentley@westminster-church.org

Harrison Burgess, Youth Ministry Coordinator, burgess@westminster-church.org

Laura Ecklin, Director of Youth Ministry, ecklin@westminster-church.org

Debb Egli, Associate Director of Children's & Family Ministry, egli@westminster-church.org

Walt Geroda, Property Manager/Head Custodian/Maintenance, geroda@westminster-church.org

Christine Hestwood, Director of Music and Communications, hestwood@westminster-church.org

Jack Kelly, Director of Finance and Operations, kelly@westminster-church.org

Faith Kemmler, Director of Children's & Family Ministry, kemmler@westminster-church.org

Kathy Long, Director, Westminster Recreation & Outreach Center, long@westminster-church.org

Emily Shubilla, Volunteer Coordinator, shubilla@westminster-church.org



## 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.



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/>

## 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

Photos/Videos at Westminster: We would like to make you aware that by participating in Westminster Presbyterian Church worship and activities, you may be photographed and/or videotaped and therefore assign and authorize the producer, Westminster Presbyterian Church, all rights to reproduce, copy, exhibit/publish, and distribute any such videotape and photography.

2040 Washington Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15241



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

Sunday, February 8, 2026

WESTMINSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Westminster Seminars February 8 | 9:45 a.m. | Galbreath Chapel

**FEBRUARY SERIES:** Pittsburgh Railroad Strike of 1877 and the Role of Churches: 1877: America Retreats from the Promises of Reconstruction *presented by* Elaine Frantz, Professor of History, Kent State University. For more info and the Zoom link, go to [westminster-church.org/event/westminster-seminars/](https://westminster-church.org/event/westminster-seminars/).



**Next Week's Topic:** The Great Strike of 1877 in Pittsburgh, America, and the World

## Worship Service in the Style of Taizé

Join us for a time of contemplative worship featuring candlelight, singing, scripture, prayers, and silent meditation for personal reflection.

Wednesday, February 11,  
6:30-7:00 p.m. in Galbreath Chapel

### RESCHEDULED

## ① ONE SERVICE SUNDAY

Sunday, February 15 | 10:00 a.m. | Sanctuary

The service will blend both traditional/contemporary styles with our annual Congregational Meeting. It will also be livestreamed. Lunch will be served after worship in Fellowship Hall.

## Blood Drive

Sunday, February 15 | 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. | Room 107

Westminster's Deacons are hosting our first blood drive of the year. Please preregister for your appointment by using sponsor code UG0010171 to secure a time slot. Registration is easily done by calling Vitalant at 877-258-4825 or online at <http://www.vitalant.org>.



## ASH WEDNESDAY | February 18 | Prayer Stations and Worship

5:30 p.m. Prayer Stations in the WROC - Join us for a time of reflection as you experience intergenerational prayer stations.  
6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship in the Sanctuary will include imposition of ashes.

## February Is Hunger Action Month

Hunger Action Month is a time for us to come together and financially support the various hunger programs at Westminster. Our fundraiser, **Together We Feed: \$15K for 15 Programs to Fight Hunger**, will help programs like Food 2 Go, StreetMOMs, and more.



**Rise Against Hunger** Saturday, February 28 | 9:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m. | WROC



Join us for a 90-minute session on the assembly line for one morning to package over 25,000 meals. Register here: <https://westminster-church.org/event/hunger-action-month-rise-against-hunger/> or by scanning the QR code.

## Help Us Keep the Music Alive!

Our organ inspires worship, lifts our voices, and guides our hearts in praise. We're forming a **Fundraising Committee** to purchase a new organ console, and we need volunteers! If you love music, worship, or making a lasting impact, join us in this exciting project. Contact Chris Hestwood at [hestwood@westminster-church.org](mailto:hestwood@westminster-church.org) to get involved.

# Assembling QuickKits

Sunday, February 22 | After each worship service | 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](mailto:shubilla@westminster-church.org).

## WPC Book Group Meeting

RESCHEDULED: Wednesday, February 25 | Noon-1:15 p.m. | Church Library

We will discuss two books: *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah and *A Tale for the Time Being* by Ruth Ozeki. All are welcome! Any questions can be directed to Nana Wilson at [callingnana@gmail.com](mailto:callingnana@gmail.com).

## The Civil Rights Movement and Social Justice

RESCHEDULED: Wednesday, February 25 | 6:15 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

It's easy to look back on slavery, Jim Crow, and the Civil Rights Movement as a part of our country's past, but the effects of those eras still impact communities and people of color today. Hear from Faith Kemmler's recent experiences on a Civil Rights Travel Seminar about why telling these stories matters and how we can continue to be agents of justice and change today.



### WEEKLY CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 8-14, 2026

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

8:00	Nursery (Birth-Preschool)*	Rm. 222
8:30a	<b>Traditional Worship</b>	<b>North Courtyard</b>
	Wiggle Room***	Rm. 239
9:00a	Welcome Center	North Main Entry
9:30a	<b>Bridge Contemporary Worship</b>	<b>WROC/Livestream</b>
	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	<b>Traditional Worship</b>	<b>Sanctuary/Livestream</b>
	Sunday School (4yrs-4th Grade)**	Rm. 233
	Wiggle Room***	Rm. 239

#### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

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

#### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13

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

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14

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.

#### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

12:00	AA (Door #20)	Fellowship Hall
6:30	Scout Pack 366 Meeting	Fellowship Hall

#### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

7:00a	Tuesday Morning Men's Group	Rm. 238
10:00a	Staff Meeting	Rm. 238
7:00	Mission & Fellowship Commission	Rm. 231
7:15	Pastor Nominating Committee	Rm. 238
7:30	Boy Scout Troop 366	Rm. 107

#### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

9:00a	Men's Bible Study	Rm. 231
1:30	Movers and Shakers	Fellowship Hall
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 Grade)	Rm. 257 JAM
	Veritas Youth Group (7th-12th Grade)	Youth Dept.
7:00	Westminster Ringers	Rm. 268



Scan here for complete church calendar



Scan here for a full WROC schedule & information



Children's & Family Ministry



Food & Fellowship Menu



Music & Choirs