



# THE CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

\*Please rise in body or in spirit.

## WE GATHER TOGETHER

### Prelude

Two Hymn Settings  
*It Is Well with My Soul*  
*Amazing Grace*

Craig Phillips

### Welcome and Announcements

### \*Share the Peace of Christ

### \*Call to Worship

Leader: We are here because God is not finished with us.

People: **We are here because joy is meant to be shared.**

Leader: We are here as partners in God's grace,  
held together by love.

People: **Let us worship God with joy.**

### \*Opening Hymn No. 327

From All that Dwell Below the Skies

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

### \*Prayer of Confession

God of grace,  
you call us into joy,  
yet we confess that we often live as though joy is fragile  
or reserved for someone else.

We hold back our gratitude.  
We forget to pray for one another.  
We grow impatient—with others, with ourselves,  
and with the slow work of love in our lives.  
You are still at work within us,  
yet we doubt that anything can really change.

Forgive us.

Restore our trust in what you are doing among us.  
Free us to love more deeply, and to rejoice more boldly.

*(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.**

O Christ, I cannot search my heart through all its tangled ways,  
 nor can I with a certain mind my steadfastness appraise.  
 I only pray that when you call, "Come, follow, follow me!"  
 you'll give me strength beyond my own to follow faithfully.

**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

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**WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD**

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**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture Lesson**

Philippians 1:1-11

New Testament, page 196

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

**Sermon**

Here for Joy

Laura Bentley

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**WE OFFER OUR GRATITUDE**

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**Offertory Anthem**

The Work of Christmas

Dan Forrest

When the song of the angels has stilled, when the star in the sky is gone,  
 when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their flock,  
 the work of Christmas begins:  
 To find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner,  
 to rebuild the nations; to bring peace among brothers, to make music from the heart.

~ Howard Thurman

## \*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.

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## \*Prayer of Dedication

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WE GO OUT TO SERVE

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## \*Closing Hymn No. 611

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

HYMN TO JOY

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## \*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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## \*Postlude

Tuba Tune

C.S. Lang

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

## 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

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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.



## 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.



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!

### Westminister on Social Media

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



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WestministerUSC



westminster-church.org/  
podcasts

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Sunday, January 11, 2026

WESTMINSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Prayers of Concern and Thanksgiving

The congregation extends condolences to Suzanne Rein and the family of Lowell Rein on his death.

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

**JANUARY SERIES:** C.S. Lewis: Defending Christianity from Its Critics *presented by Dr. Lou Mitchell.*  
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:** Christian Truth through Fantasy Stories for Children

## Children and Youth Disaster Relief Packaging Event

TODAY | 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.**



## 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, January 14,  
6:30-7:00 p.m. in Galbreath Chapel

## Assembling QuickKits

Sunday, January 18 | 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).



## ONE SERVICE SUNDAY

### One Service Sunday and Congregational Meeting

January 25 | 10:00 a.m. | Sanctuary

In this blended worship service and meeting, we will worship God and celebrate the work of this congregation by receiving the annual report, the 2026 budget, and vote on the Rev. Dr. Jo Forrest's terms of call. We will also ordain and install our new officers. Following worship, all will gather in Fellowship Hall to enjoy lunch. Sunday school will also be in session. (The seminar will meet at 8:45 a.m. in Galbreath Chapel.) Read more at <https://www.westminster-church.org/events/event-list/one-service-sunday>.

## Tuesday Evening Book Group

Tuesday, January 27 | 7:00 p.m. | Memorial Parlor

The Tuesday Evening Book Group will review *The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid*, by Bill Bryson. It is an innocent, strange and hilarious story of a boy growing up in mid 20th century America.

# WPC Book Group Meeting

Wednesday, January 28 | Noon-1:15 p.m. | Church Library

The next meeting we will discuss *The Great Alone* by Kristen Hannah. All are welcome! Any questions can be directed to Nana Wilson at [cuingnana@gmail.com](mailto:cuingnana@gmail.com).

# The Civil Rights Movement and Social Justice

Wednesday, January 28 | 6:15 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

It's easy to look back on the slavery, Jim Crow, and 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.



# Forks and Fellowship

Forks and Fellowship is an opportunity for 8 to 10 people to share fellowship and community through a meal or activity. See the website for more details, and contact Meghan Widmar ([meghanwidmar@gmail.com](mailto:meghanwidmar@gmail.com)) or Marge McCabe ([miconroy41@gmail.com](mailto:miconroy41@gmail.com)) with questions.

Deadline to register is February 1.



# Register Now for Tai Chi

Thursdays, 10:15-11:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

T'ai Chi is an ancient form of exercise that blends physical movement with deep meditative breathing in order to boost energy, cultivate physical and emotional balance, and instill a sense of spiritual and physical well-being. Instructor: Dr. David Clippinger. Visit our website at [wroc.westminster-church.org](http://wroc.westminster-church.org) for a list of all fitness classes or call Kathy Long at 412-835-6630x200.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

JANUARY 11-17, 2026

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

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
	Wiggle Room - The Bridge***	WROC Fitness
9:45a	Westminster Seminars	Galbreath Chapel
11:00a	Traditional Worship	Sanctuary/Livestream
	Sunday School (4yrs-1st Grade)**	Rm. 233
	Wiggle Room***	Rm. 239
5:00	Children and Youth Disaster Relief	Fellowship Hall
	Packaging Event	

### MONDAY, JANUARY 12

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

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 13

7:00a	Tuesday Morning Men's Group	Rm. 238
10:00a	Staff Meeting	Rm. 238
7:15	Pastor Nominating Committee	Rm. 238

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14

9:00a	Men's Bible Study	Rm. 231
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 Grades)	Rm. 257 JAM
	Veritas Youth Group (7th-12th Grade)	Youth Dept.
6:30	Taizé Worship Service	Galbreath Chapel
7:00	Westminster Ringers	Rm. 268

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

7:00	Chancel Choir	Rm. 268
	LIFT (Ladies in Fellowship Together)	Rm. 283
7:30	NA (Door #14)	Rm. 107
	Nar Anon(Doors #14)	Rm. 131

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

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

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

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