



# THE CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

\*Please rise in body or in spirit.

## WE GATHER TOGETHER

### Prelude

Two settings of *From Heaven Above to Earth I Come*

Johann Pachelbel  
Georg Böhm

### Welcome and Announcements

### \*Share the Peace of Christ

### \*Call to Worship

Leader: Come, seekers of hope, pursuers of wonder.

People: **We come, ready to risk what we know, to follow what we cannot yet see.**

Leader: God calls us to adventure, to the margins, to new light.

People: **And we will follow, trusting the promise of God's presence.**

### \*Opening Hymn No. 150

As with Gladness Men of Old

DIX

### \*Prayer of Confession

God of light,  
we confess that we do not always seek your way.  
We are drawn to what is easy, what is familiar,  
and we ignore the paths that lead to justice and mercy.  
Forgive us.

Shine your guiding star again in our hearts,  
that we might follow you and share your love with the world.

*(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.

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## WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD

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### Prayer for Illumination

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#### Scripture Lesson

Matthew 2:1-12

New Testament, page 2

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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#### Sermon

Another Way Home

Laura Bentley

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## WE OFFER OUR GRATITUDE

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#### Offertory Anthem

Go Tell It on the Mountain

arr. Nicholas T. Vangeloff

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#### \*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

Hymnal (page 35)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;  
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

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### The Sacrament of Communion

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#### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving 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.

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#### Institution of the Lord's Supper

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#### Prayer of Sending

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WE GO OUT TO SERVE

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\*Closing Hymn No. 152

What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

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\*Benediction

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\*Postlude

Postlude on *How Brightly Shines the Morning Star*

Pachelbel

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**Leading in worship:** Laura Bentley, George Krock, Doug Mitchell, Jim Burns, and the Quartet.

## 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.



## 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. If you have any concerns, please contact Melinda Harkiewicz, Membership & Communications Coordinator, at harkiewicz@westminster-church.org or 412-835-6630x207.

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Sunday, January 4, 2026

WESTMINSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## 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/](https://westminster-church.org/event/westminster-seminars/).



**Next Week's Topic:** Defending Christianity from Its Critics

## 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

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

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

## 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](mailto:shubilla@westminster-church.org).



## Offering Envelopes

If you indicated on your pledge card that you would like to receive offering envelopes for 2026, they are now available for you to pick up in the narthex.

**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>.

# 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 Weimar ([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.**



## PHISHING ALERT

# DANGER: Phishing

Phishing is the fraudulent practice of sending emails or other messages claiming to be from reputable people to get individuals to reveal personal information, such as passwords and credit card numbers.

Unfortunately, pastors, members, and church staff can be impersonated in texts and email. Therefore, if you receive a text or email from someone on staff asking for your assistance or money, please be careful about opening any links or replying. If there is a churchwide campaign, it will be included in an email from the church, not from an individual staff member. If you're not sure, please call the church to verify.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

JANUARY 4-10

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

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
	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-1st Grade)**	Rm. 233
	Wiggle Room***	Rm. 239
5:00	Children and Youth Disaster Relief	Fellowship Hall
	Packaging Event	

### MONDAY, JANUARY 5

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 6

7:00a	Tuesday Morning Men's Group	Rm. 238
10:00a	Staff Meeting	Rm. 238
7:00	Mission & Fellowship Commission	Rm. 176
7:15	Pastor Nominating Committee	Rm. 238

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7

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.
	Mission & Fellowship Commission (Mental Health)	Rm. 238
7:00	Westminster Ringers	Rm. 268

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

10:00a	Women2Women	Rm. 238
	Chancel Choir	Rm. 268
7:00	LIFT (Ladies in Fellowship Together)	Rm. 283
7:30	NA (Door #14)	Rm. 107
	Nar Anon(Doors #14)	Rm. 131

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 9

6:30a	Fishers of Men	Rm. 231
9:00a	Priority2Work	Rm. 176
7:00	AA (Door #14)	Rm. 107
	AI Non (Door #14)	Rm. 231
	Officer Retreat	Sanctuary

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

9:00a	Officer Retreat	Sanctuary
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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



Children's & Family Ministry



Food & Fellowship Menu



Music & Choirs