



THE Celebration OF Worship

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

Prelude

Adonai Roi

Gerald Cohen

*The text is Psalm 23 in Hebrew.
Katy Williams, soprano*

Welcome and Announcements

*Share the Peace of Christ

*Call to Worship

Cheryl Lawrie (adapted)

Leader: God calls us to bring prayers and our open hearts.

People: **We can bring the broken, darkest parts of ourselves,
the parts which strive to be beautiful,
and those which are nothing but flawed.**

Leader: God seeks to embrace all of who we are

People: **and to surround us with divine love.**

*Opening Hymn No. 307

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

A Word for All Ages (11:00)

Children 4yrs through 4th grade are dismissed to Sunday School.

Sending Song Hymn No. 748 (11:00) 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.

***Prayer of Confession**

God, we confess that we don't always understand our own actions.
We clearly know what is right—what you expect of us— but we don't always do it.
We also clearly know what is wrong— the thoughts and actions that hurt others
and offend you—but we do these things anyway.
We confess that we also shy away from speaking up to protect others from neglect or
abuse. Forgive us.

(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**

Hear Our Prayer, O Lord

Hear our prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Incline thine ear to us and grant us thy peace.

Prayers of the People

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.

Choral Response

THREEFOLD AMEN

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 2:13-23

New Testament, page 2

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Evil Around

Jo Forrest

WE OFFER OUR GRATITUDE

Offertory Anthem

Inscription of Hope

Z. Randall Stroope

I believe in the sun, even when it is not shining, and I believe in love, even when there's no one there.
And I believe in God, even when He is silent; I believe through any trial, there is always a way.
But sometimes in this suffering and hopeless despair, my heart cries for shelter, to know someone's there.
But a voice rises within me saying hold on my child, I'll give you strength,
I'll give you hope, just stay a little while.

*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. 343

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life
Verses 1, 5, and 6

GERMANY

*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

Lead Us, O Father, in the Paths of Peace

arr. Jon Spong

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

Today's service commemorates the 80th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi concentration camps and the Holocaust. The text of today's offertory anthem comes from a Jewish text found on a cellar wall in Cologne, Germany, during World War II. The original author is unknown, but it's believed to have been written by a child hiding from the Nazis.

Prayers of Concern and Thanksgiving

We offer our prayers for those with recent illnesses, surgeries, or hospitalizations: Ray Van Cleve.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Nominating Committee

On January 6, the Session voted to proceed with the process to call our next senior pastor to succeed Jo Forrest when she retires in the spring of 2026. The Nominating Committee will now begin the work to assemble a slate for the Pastor Nominating Committee. Please, prayerfully consider who you would like on this vital PNC, which may be yourself. Submit names to Melanie Hallums, chair of the Nominating Committee mhallums@yahoo.com or to Emily Shubilla, Volunteer Coordinator, shubilla@westminster-church.org. More information about the transition process and PNC will be available on the website in the coming weeks.



To view the letter from Rev. Dr. Jo Forrest, scan the QR code to the right.

Westminster Seminars

Jonathan Edwards: What You Don't Know About This Puritan Will Surprise You

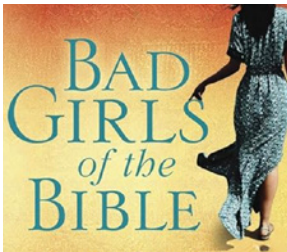
TODAY | 9:45 a.m. | Galbreath Chapel

January 26 - one hour earlier at 8:45 a.m.

For more info and the Zoom link, go to <https://www.westminster-church.org/events/event-list/westminster-seminars>.



Church Building Closed The church building will be closed Monday, January 20 (MLK), and on Tuesday, January 21, for the planned power outage. WROC classes will be held on January 21 as usual. Please read more on our church website at westminster-church.org.



LIFT Winter Series

Thursdays, January 23-February 20 | 7:00-8:30 p.m. | Memorial Parlor

Women everywhere marvel at those "good girls" in scripture—Sarah, Mary, Esther—but on most days, that's not who they see when they look in the mirror. Join us as we read *Bad Girls of the Bible: And What We Can Learn from Them* by Liz Curtis Higgs. Please know that reading is not required and perfect attendance is not mandatory!



The Veritas Pizza Olympics

Friday, January 24 | 6:30-8:30 p.m. | Youth Wing/Fellowship Hall

Join us to witness the first of its kind—**The Veritas Pizza Olympics!** This ultimate cheesy showdown will compare local pies to determine the true gold medalist. The night will be filled with pizza themed games, activities, and of course a taste test. This event is for students in 7-12th grade. Register before January 22 at midnight.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

ONE SERVICE SUNDAY

One Service Sunday and Congregational Meeting

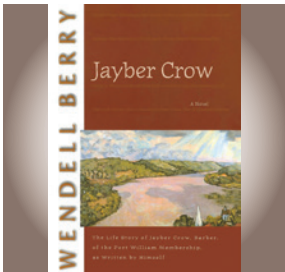
January 26 | 10:00 a.m. | Sanctuary

In this blended worship service and meeting, we will worship God and celebrate the work of this congregation by receiving the annual report, the 2025 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>.

Refugee Resettlement Team Information Session

Sunday, January 26 | 12:00 p.m. | Room 176

Since many hands make light work, our team is encouraging our community to learn how they can help in our resettlement work. Whether setting up a new home, helping with a welcoming meal, driving to medical appointments or, well, anything else, there is something for everyone that could take as little as an hour or two over several months. Any questions, contact John van Cleve at 412-848-6074 or via email: Jvanclleve@gmail.com.



Westminster Book Group

Adult Spiritual Development

Wednesday, January 29 | Noon - 1:15 p.m. | Church Library

The next meeting of the WPC Book Group will be on January 29, 2025, at noon in the church library. We will be discussing *Jayber Crow* by Wendell Berry. All are welcome!



When Hospitality and Loneliness Sit in the Same Pew

Wednesday, January 29 | 6:30 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

In his bestseller, *Unreasonable Hospitality*, Will Guidara writes about the remarkable power of giving people more than they expect. Recently, Vivek Murthy (Surgeon General) estimated one in two Americans is experiencing loneliness. As followers of Christ, come and explore what it might look like if hospitality and loneliness sat in the same pew and how we can deliver unreasonable hospitality.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



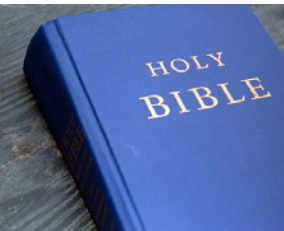
T'ai Chi with Dr. David Clippinger

Thursdays, January 30 - March 20 | 10:15 a.m.
Fellowship Hall | \$64



T'ai Chi is an ancient form of exercise that blends physical movement with deep meditative breathing in order to instill a sense of spiritual and physical well-being. Dr. David Clippinger has been studying, practicing, and teaching T'ai Chi, and Qigong, for over thirty years.

To register, go to wroc.westminster-church.org.



Confirmation Class 2025

Sundays, February 2-April 27 | 11:00-11:45 a.m. | Room 283

This class, open to 9th-12th graders, is an opportunity to dive more deeply into the Christian faith and what it means to be a member of the church. In addition to Confirmation classes, students will have the opportunity to get involved in worship, fellowship, and service. **Registration will close on Wednesday, January 29th.** For more info and to register, go to <https://www.westminster-church.org/children-&-youth/youth-ministry#confirm>. Contact Harrison Burgess at burgess@westminster-church.org with questions.



Dreams & Visions: Women's Retreat

February 7-9, 2025 | 7:00 p.m. Friday-11:00 a.m. Sunday
Crestfield Camp and Conference Center



All women of Westminister are invited to a weekend of rest, reconnection, and renewal led by Laura Bentley and Laura Ecklin. Our theme this year is "Dreams and Visions," and we'll use this time away from the distractions and worries of ordinary life to listen more deeply to the hopes and dreams that God has placed on our hearts. More than just a relaxing break, this retreat will deepen our friendships and sharpen our vision to see how God is working in our lives. And, of course, we'll have a lot of fun, too! **Register by January 31.**



STAY CONNECTED!

Join us for many exciting events and opportunities this winter. Are you receiving an email from the church each Tuesday and Friday? If not, please visit our website at www.westminster-church.org and complete the Join Our Email List or contact Anna Hiner with your name and email address. Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Westminister.Pittsburgh/>.

THIS WEEK @ WESTMINSTER

JAN 19-25, 2025



Scan here for complete church calendar



Scan here for a full WROC schedule & information

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

8:30	Traditional Worship Wiggle Room**	Sanctuary Rm. 239
9:00	Welcome Center	North Main Entry
9:45	Bridge Contemporary Worship Bridge Sunday School (4yrs-4th Grd) Wiggle Room - The Bridge** Wesminster Seminars	WROC/Lvstrm. Rm. 176 WROC Fitness Galbreath Chapel
11:00	Traditional Worship Wiggle Room** Sunday School (4 yrs-4th Grade)	Sanctuary/Lvstrm. Rm. 239 Rm. 233

***Sunday School** - Dismissed from worship after the children's message. Pickup after worship 9:45 in Room 176; 11:00 in Room 233. A time for children 4 years through 4th grade to explore the Bible, enjoy fellowship together, and grow in their faith.

****Wiggle Room** - 9:45 - Upstairs WROC Fitness Room; 8:30/11:00 - Room 239. Available to families with children who would prefer a separate space to step away while listening to the worship service. Please see an usher if you need help finding the Wiggle Room.

MONDAY, JANUARY 20

All Day Church/Office/WECEP Closed - MLK Holiday
All Day Let There Be Light Project - Planned Power Outage

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21

All Day Church/Office/WECEP Closed
All Day Let There Be Light Project - Planned Power Outage
10:00 Staff Meeting Zoom

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22

9:00a	Men's Small Group Bible Study	Rm. 231
4:30	Bible Read Along	Rm. 238
4:45	Little Ones & Loved Ones Cherub Choir (K-2nd Grade) Junior Choir (3rd-6th Grade)	Rm. 194 Rm. 176 Rm. 268
5:30	Wednesday Food & Fellowship	Fellowship Hall
6:00	Kids' Connection (5yrs-2nd Grd) Kids' Connection (3rd-4th Grd) JAM - Youth Group (5th-6th Grd) Veritas Youth Group (7th-12th Grd)	Rm. 233 Rm. 176 North Main Entry Youth Dept.
7:30	Westminster Ringers	Rm. 268

Wednesdays @ Westminster have something for everyone! From children's choirs to Children's & Family Ministry programs, Food & Fellowship, Veritas Youth Group, Bible studies, and more, make plans to be here. Visit our website or scan the QR codes below for details.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23

10:00	Women2Women	Room 238
6:00	Girl Scout Troop 26635	Yahweh Café
7:00	Chancel Choir LIFT (Ladies in Fellowship Together)	Rm. 268 Memorial Parlor
7:30	NA Nar Anon	Rm. 107 Rm. 131

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24

6:30	Fishers of Men	Rm. 231
7:00	AA Al Anon	Rm. 107 Rm. 231

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25



SCAN ME

Children's & Family Ministry



Food & Fellowship Menu



Music & Choirs

STAFF PROGRAM/MINISTRY CONTACTS

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

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

Richard F. Norris III, Seminary Intern, norris@westminster-church.org

Harrison Burgess, Associate Director of Youth Ministry, burgess@westminster-church.org

Laura Ecklin, Youth Ministry and Administrative Manager, 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

Anna Hiner, Membership & Communications Coordinator, hiner@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://www.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.

GET CONNECTED!



Westminster.Pittsburgh



wpc_pgh



WestminsterUSC

Westminister on Social Media

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

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 Anna Hiner, Membership & Communications Coordinator, at hiner@westminster-church.org or 412-835-6630x207.

2040 Washington Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15241



412-835-6630
www.westminster-church.org

A PC(USA) Congregation