

January 26, 2025 | 10:00 a.m.

ONE SERVICE SUNDAY

WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



THE CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

Prelude Called Me Higher All Sons & Daughters

Welcome and Call to Order Jo Forrest

***Share the Peace of Christ**

***Call to Worship** Richard Norris III

Leader: The Spirit of the Lord is upon us.

People: **The Spirit of the Lord is in us, anointing us, sending us**

Leader: to bring good news, to bind up, to proclaim favor,
to comfort, to provide, to loosen.

People: **This is the day of the Lord.**

***Opening Song** Come! Live in the light!

Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God!

Refrain: We are called to act with justice. We are called to love tenderly.
We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.

Come! Open your heart! Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless, so all hatred and blindness will be no more!

Refrain

Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign and we'll walk with each other as sisters and brothers united in love!

Refrain

A Word for All Ages

Ordain and Install New Officers

Melanie Hallums

Sending Song Hymn No. 748 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.

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

***Prayer of Confession**

Dear God,
Our world is in need of healing and we confess the brokenness of our lives.
Have mercy on us.
Forgive us for the times we are afraid to defend the weak
because of the anger of the strong,
or fear advocating for the poor because of the power of the rich.
Open our eyes that we may see the need of others.
Open our ears that we may hear their cries.
Open our hearts so that we may offer your comfort.
Shape us in the ways of your son.

(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.

Associate Pastor and Deacon Report

Laura Bentley

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

Luke 4:14-21

New Testament, page 61

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

Sermon

The Spirit Is Upon Us

Jo Forrest

WE OFFER OUR GRATITUDE

Stewardship Report and Call for Offering

Kristy Berrott

Offertory Anthem

Take My Hand

Lloyd Larson

Take my hand, Lord, lead me onward, as a shepherd leads a lamb.
Be my guide along the pathway to becoming all I am.
Help me claim the gifts within me as your calling I embrace,
Always learning on this journey, always living in your grace.

—Continued

Take my heart, Lord, make it tender toward the people on my path.
 Fill my soul with your compassion; free my heart from fear and wrath.
 Help me see those around me through the eyes of heaven's gaze,
 As I seek to share with others what I've learned of heaven's ways.
 God, you save and call your children by your mercy and your grace,
 Granting gifts for every calling that can never be erased.
 Help me share your light with others through the life I seek to live.
 Make my heart the humble vessel of the gifts you freely give.
 Take my life, Lord, I surrender all I am and all I'll be be.
 Give me grace to share the bounty of the love you've shared with me.
 Help me rightly seek for justice; fill my heart with mercy, too.
 Let me live a life of service; let me humbly walk with you.

***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 and Financial Report**

Brian Eccher

Personnel Report

Denise Rost

Senior Pastor Report

Jo Forrest

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD

***Closing Song**

Great Are You Lord

All Sons & Daughters

You give life, You are love	It's Your breath in our lungs	All the earth will shout Your praise
You bring light to the darkness	So we pour out our praise	Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing
You give hope, You restore	We pour out our praise	Great are You, Lord
Every heart that is broken	It's Your breath in our lungs	
Great are You, Lord	So we pour out our praise to You only	

***Benediction and Adjournment**

***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

Alleluia

William Faulkes

Leading in worship: Jo Forrest, Laura Bentley, Richard Norris, III, Kristy Berrott, Brian Eccher, Melanie Hallums, Bill Ludwig, Denise Rost, Lauren Moore, Harrison Burgess, Chris Hestwood, Jim Burns, and the Chancel Choir.

Prayers of Concern and Thanksgiving

The congregation extends condolences to father, Norman Dingmore, and brother, Norm Dingmore, on the death of John Dingmore; to wife, Joyce Thoresen, and son, Eric Thoresen, and family on the death of Joseph Thoresen; to Bobbie Copeland and family on the death of her mother, Kay Fazio; and to wife, Celena Willy, and sons, Nate, Ben, and Alex Willy, on the death of Joshua Willy.

STAFF PROGRAM/MINISTRY CONTACTS

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

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Giving to Westminster

ONLINE: <https://www.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.

GET CONNECTED!



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WestminsterUSC

Westminster on Social Media

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

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Pittsburgh, PA 15241



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

A PC(USA) Congregation

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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 | 8:45 a.m. | Galbreath Chapel

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



Coming Up Next Month: Christianity for a Post-Christian Context: New Possibilities for Faith and Practice

February 2, 9, 16, and 23 | 9:45 a.m. | Galbreath Chapel

Scott Hagley, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

Beginning in the 1960s, mainline denominations, and later evangelical congregations, began to grow older and smaller, losing their younger members to a growing population of religiously unaffiliated persons. This has led to new pressures and immense changes in Christian communities. How should we understand these changes and what new possibilities for Christian faith and practice do such challenges suggest?

Refugee Resettlement Team Information Session

TODAY | 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: Jvanclave@gmail.com.

Westminster Book Group

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

At the next meeting of the Westminster Book Group, we will discuss *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.



Continued on reverse

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. **Registration will close on Wednesday, January 29.** 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 | **Register by January 31.**

All women of Westminster 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. Scan the QR code to learn more and register.



WEEKLY CALENDAR

JAN 26-FEB 1

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

8:45a	Westminster Seminars	Galbreath Chapel
9:00a	Welcome Center	North Main Entry
10:00a	One Service Sunday/Annual Meeting	Sanctuary
	Sunday School (4yrs-4th Grade)*	Youth Department
	Wiggle Room**	Rm. 239 / Wiggle Room
12:00	Refugee Resettlement Team Information Session	Rm. 176

MONDAY, JANUARY 27

12:00	AA	Fellowship Hall
6:00	Cub Scout Den Meeting	Rm. 107

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28

7:00a	Tuesday Morning Men's Group	Rm. 238
10:00a	Staff Meeting	Rm. 238
7:00	Tuesday Reading Group	Yahweh Café
7:30	Boy Scout Troop 366	Rm. 107

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

7:00a	Men's Small Group Bible Study	Rm. 238
12:00	Westminster Book Group	Library
4:30	Bible Read Along	Rm. 238
7:30	Boy Scout Troop 366	Rm. 107

4:45	Cherub Choir (K-2nd Grade)	Rm. 176
	Junior Choir (3rd-6th Grade)	Rm. 268
	Little Ones and Loved Ones	Rm. 194
5:30	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)	N. Main Entry
	Veritas Youth Group (7th-12th Grade)	Youth Dept.
6:15	One Hit Wonders	Fellowship Hall
7:00	Westminster Ringers	Rm. 268

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

7:00	Chancel Choir	Rm. 268
	LIFT (Ladies in Fellowship Together)	Memorial Parlor
7:30	NA	Rm. 107
	Nar Anon	Rm. 131

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31

6:30a	Fishers of Men	Rm. 231
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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1

*Sunday School - Dismissed from worship after the children's message. Pickup after worship in Youth Dept. A time for children in PreK through 4th grade to explore the Bible, enjoy fellowship together, and grow in their faith.

**Wiggle Room - 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.