

The Order of Worship

January 5, 2025
9:00 and 11:00 A.M.

EPIPHANY

THE CHURCH GATHERS . . .

Welcome to Westminster Church! We are a family of Christians gathered from many traditions and neighborhoods, worshipping here with the goal of connecting faith and life. If you are a visitor, we pray you will feel welcome and blessed by our worship. We invite you to consider making Westminster your church home. Please let us have your contact information so we may be in touch. When the prelude begins let us quietly prepare for the worship of almighty God.

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

PRELUDE In Dulci Jubilo Johann Sebastian Bach
CALL TO WORSHIP** Mary Boyd

One: I walked, eyes looking up, following the star.
All: I ran, lunging for a love that is bigger than me.
One: I tumbled and fell, tender step after tender step.
All: I ambled like a river, caught up in God's flow.
I crawled, kissing the earth below me.
One: Tell me again. How did you get here?
All: I am here by God's grace and love's pull.
One: Welcome home.
This is God's house.
There is room for you here.
All: Let us worship our gracious God.

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

*HYMN NO. 151 We Three Kings
*CALL TO CONFESSION

KINGS OF ORIENT

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

God of new beginnings,
We admit that we often follow the well-worn path, simply because others have been there before. Sometimes this is holy and humble, but there are days when a new path needs to be tread.

On those new-beginning days, O God, give us the courage to follow your star. Give us the courage to go home by another way. Give us the courage to kick up some dust and walk in a new direction for the sake of justice, love, and neighbor. For when you are doing a new thing, we want to have the courage to follow.

With hope in our hearts we wander, we travel. Amen.

*RESPONSE Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Responsive)**

One: Dear travelers,
No matter the roads you've taken, the steps you've made, or the paths you've traveled, there is nowhere you could go that would land you outside of God's love. Hear and believe the good news of the Gospel:

All: Regardless of the path we travel, or how lost we may get, or the twists and turns along the way, we do not walk alone. We are loved. We are forgiven. We have every chance to begin again. Thanks be to God for a love like that!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*RESPONSE

GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis deo. Gloria in excelsis deo.

TO EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD AND RESPOND ...

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 2:1-12

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN (11:00)

Allie Brewington

Children age 4 through 5th grade are invited to go downstairs for Children's Church.

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

HOMILY

Rev. Dr. Richard Coble

*HYMN NO. 147 The First Nowell
(Stanzas 1-5)

THE FIRST NOWELL

THE OFFERING

Please sign and pass the Friendship Register found on the pew nearest the center aisle. Your holding and passing the offering plate is an act of blessing and dedication to our life together in Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM What Cheer? Good Cheer!

Peter Warlock

Text from an anonymous 16th cent. poem

Refrain: What cheer? Good cheer! Be merry and glad this good New Year!
Lift up your hearts and be ye glad
In Christ His birth, the angel bade.
Say each to other, if any be sad: *Refrain.*

The King of Heav'n His birth hath take:
Now Joy and mirth we ought to make.
Say each to other, for His dear sake: *Refrain.*

I tell you all with heart so free:
Right welcome ye be all to me;
Be glad and merry for charity! *Refrain.*

*AT THE PRESENTATION Doxology

Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore.
Amen.

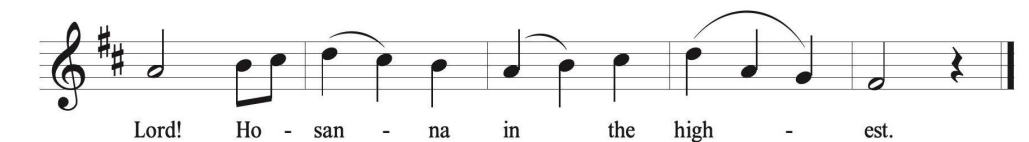
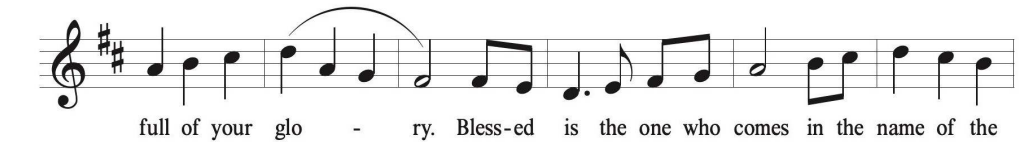
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

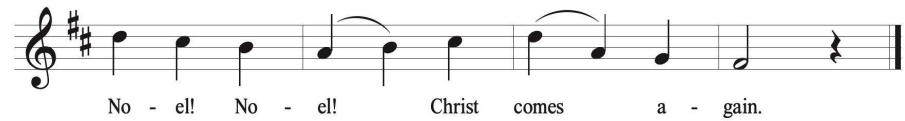
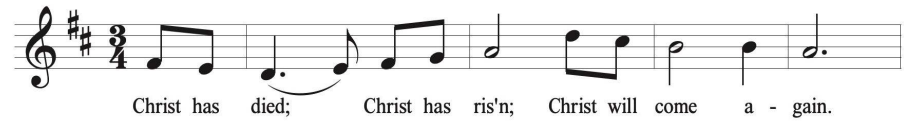
INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (Responsive)

One: The Lord be with you.
Many: And also with you.
One: Lift up your hearts.
Many: We lift them to the Lord.
One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
One: Creator God... forever sing to the glory of your name.



One: Jesus came as teacher... we proclaim the mystery of faith.



PRAYER OF CONSECRATION 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

BREAKING OF BREAD

*Congregation will come forward to receive the elements.
All pre-cut bread is gluten free.*

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION Love Came Down at Christmas

Crawford R. Thoburn

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...

*HYMN NO. 156 Sing of God Made Manifest

SALZBURG

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE In Thee is Gladness

Johann Sebastian Bach

*Please stand in Body or Spirit

**Liturgy from Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

CARE TEAM COORDINATOR FOR JANUARY: Janet Tortorelli

LARGE PRINT HYMNALS/ HEARING DEVICES are available from the ushers.

SERVING TODAY

ACOLYTE: (11:00) Jason Birdwell

GREETERS: (11:00) Shirley Wittman and Linda Van Beke

LITURGIST: Mary Boyd

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: (11:00) Chancel Choir

SHEPHERD'S TEAM: Stephen Fortney

SENIOR USHER: Barbara Froula

USHERS: (9:00) Carol Beilharz and Jeff Bendy

(11:00) Ron Alexander, Jaclyn Beeler, Tom Byerley, Josh and Elizabeth Birdwell

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given by Gail Latimer in memory of her father, Bill McDonald. Bill was a member of WPC from 1982 until his death in 1994.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 am

Adult Bible Study: The Bible Study class is reading and discussing every part of the Gospel of John. We compare many different translations to learn what the words meant to the followers of Jesus and to us now. (McKinnon Hall)

Feasting on the Word: Studies scriptures used in Worship (LKH)

The Wired Word: Discusses current events with a theological eye (Library)

CHILDREN'S OFFERINGS AT WESTMINSTER

During 9:00 Hour - Nursery available for children 0-5 years old

During 10:00 Hour - Nursery available for children ages 0-3 years old

Sunday School for kindergarten through 5th grade

During 11:00 Hour - Nursery available for children 0-3 years old

Children's Church for children preschool through 3rd grade

Children will be walked to Children's Church classes following the Time with Children during the 11:00 worship service.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

WAMS (Westminsters Awesome Middle Schoolers) - 6th & 7th Grades in the WAMS room.

Confirmation Class - 8th & 9th Grades in the downstairs Fellowship Hall.

SHOW (Senior Highs of Westminster) - 10th-12th Grades in the SHOW room.

CONGREGATIONAL LISTENING SESSION As you may have noticed, we're bursting at the seams with children and youth! What a blessing they are to us, but how can we continue to be a blessing to them in their faith and life journeys? The Intergenerational Programming Task Force has been asked to gather our congregation's thoughts on how we can continue to grow and enrich our children, youth and family programming to meet the needs of this growing segment of our church family. We will be holding our final listening session immediately following the January 19th 11:00 service. These creatively designed sessions typically last an hour, and we'll be serving lunch and offering childcare. If you have thoughts to share and haven't already attended a listening session (or you just have more to share) please join us! Please RSVP the church office if you plan on attending and if you'll need childcare.

MEN'S BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP will meet on Thursday, January 9th, at 8:30am in the McKinnon Room. Our speaker will be our own Dr. Dave Dupper, who will present a program entitled "Ageing as a Spiritual Journey". Our breakfast will be prepared by Phil Barnette. Come join us and bring a friend or new member. See you then.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"Where Faith and Life Connect"

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Rev. Dr. Richard Coble, Pastor/Head of Staff

Rev. Gradye Parsons, Parish Associate

Rev. John Linton Muntz, Parish Associate Emeritus

Dr. Edie Johnson, Music Director/Organist

Barbara Adamcik, Director of Youth and Connectional Ministries, CLP

Allie Brewington, Interim Director of Children's Ministries

Renee Wiesehuegel, Office Manager/Bookkeeper

Joanna Warren, Administrative Assistant

Linda Judge McRae, Parish Nurse

Debbie Bendy, Abbey Editor

Sawyer Warren, Worship Tech

OUR WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, January 5

9:00am - Worship

10:00am - Epiphany Celebration (LKH)

11:00am - Sanctuary Worship

5:00pm - Youth Group

5:00 pm - *Abbey* deadline

Tuesday, January 7

10:00am - Staff Meeting

11:00am - Staff lunch provided by Cindy Spangler

Wednesday, January 8

4:30pm - Companions

6:30pm - Sectionals

7:00ppm - Chancel Choir

Thursday, January 9

8:30am - Men's Fellowship Breakfast

1:00pm - FISH

6:00pm - Handbells

THE SESSION

Class of 2025

Class of 2026

Class of 2027

Ed Babelay

Bill Farnham

George Barber

Wendy Collins

Lee Ingram

Mary Boyd

Janet Drumm

Lucy Johnson

Allie Brewington

Stephen Fortney

Kathryn Oakes

Emily Gustafson

Barbara Froula

Richard Ward

Ken Hughes

Youth Elder: Lucy Gilbert

Clerk of Session: Bitsy Ingram

TRUSTEES

Alice Mercer

John Smartt

Larry Tragesser