

Westminster Presbyterian Church



An Inclusive Community of Faith
United by Our Faith in Jesus Christ and
Our Commitment to Sharing God's Love and Grace
to Those Among Us and Those Beyond Us

You Are Welcome Here:

We are glad you are worshipping with us today. Westminster is a welcoming and inclusive community seeking to grow in faith and understanding and to show God's love to those among us and those around us. We pray you experience our joyful welcome and God's peaceful presence as you worship with us today.

Questions about Westminster? Just ask! Any one of us would be glad to help.

The Sanctuary is a Place of Reverence and Worship

In order that our worship might be meaningful to all, please enter the sanctuary reverently. The narthex or courtyard are good places to visit with friends before or after worship. Use the moments before worship to prepare your heart, mind, and body for worship, centering yourself in the space and quieting your heart. It may be helpful to listen quietly to the prelude, find the hymns we will be singing, meditate on the scriptures we will be reading.

Children at Westminster:

Children are an integral part of our church family. We are glad when they come to worship God with us. In our midst, children learn our rhythms of worship, become knit into our fellowship, and teach us as surely as we are teaching them.

Please take children to the restroom before worship. If you need to leave the sanctuary during worship, please use the exits at the rear of the sanctuary. Please avoid walking through the courtyard during worship. We ask that families sit together during worship. Please do not let any child move unaccompanied through the building.

After the "Time with All God's Children", children first grade and up (by age or development) are encouraged to remain in worship. Children in kindergarten and younger (by age or development) may depart with our caregivers and teachers for Children's Sunday School or remain with their parents for worship if they choose.

If this is your first visit to Westminster, you are welcome to accompany your child to Children's Sunday School so that you can meet our caregivers and help settle your child in. Children's worship packets are available in the narthex. As is a brochure regarding our Children, Youth, and Vulnerable Adult protection policy.



Westminster Presbyterian Church
A Service for the Worship of God
January 19, 2025
Service of Ordination and Installation

WE GATHER IN GOD'S WORD

Chiming the Hour

Prelude

Words of Scripture

Psalm 118:24

This is the day the LORD has made!

We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Welcome and Announcements

Steve Kuhl

***Call to Worship**

from Psalm 36

God, stretching to the heavens?

God, lofty like the clouds?

God, mighty like the mountains?

God, immense like the great deep?

Your salvation is expansive and generous,
touching people and creatures alike.

We rejoice in the measures of your steadfast love!

***Hymn #12**

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

ST. DENIO

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 12

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:
 In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.
 Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

TEXT: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867, alt.
 MUSIC: Welsh folk melody; arr. *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839

ST. DENIO
 11.11.11.11

Even when we were dead through sin, our merciful and loving God made us alive together with Christ and raised us up through him.

In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.

Prayer of Confession

Merciful and loving God, you have called us to be your people and claimed us for the service of Jesus Christ. We confess that we have not lived up to our calling to proclaim the good news in word and deed. We are quick to speak when we ought to listen and remain silent when it is time to speak. We put too much faith in our own actions and fail to trust the strength and movement of your Spirit.

We pause for personal prayer.

O God, forgive our foolish and sinful ways. Strengthen us anew to follow Christ's way in the world. By your Holy Spirit, give us the grace we need to be faithful disciples and fulfill our common calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.

I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

***Gloria Patri**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.*

***Passing the Peace**

Lead a life worthy of your calling – with humility, gentleness, patience, bearing with one another in love, and making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Time for All God’s Children

Prayer of Illumination

First Reading

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

12 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be ignorant. ² You know that when you were gentiles you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³ Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says “Let Jesus be cursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, ⁵ and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

Second Reading

John 2:1-11

2 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” ⁴ And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what concern is that to me and to you? My hour has not yet come.” ⁵ His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the person in charge of the banquet.” So they took it. ⁹ When the person in charge tasted the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), that person called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.” ¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee and revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

This is the Word of the LORD. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Caroline V. Dennis

“Miracle Worker”

*His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."
John 2:5*

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

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.

Call to Offering

***Offertory Hymn #700**

“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

I’M GONNA LIVE

700 I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

1 I'm gon-na live so (live so)
 2 I'm gon-na work so (work so) God can use me an - y -
 3 I'm gon-na pray so (pray so)
 4 I'm gon-na sing so (sing so)

where, Lord, an - y - time!
 (an - y - time!)
 I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na

live so (live so)
 work so (work so) God can use me an - y -
 pray so (pray so)
 sing so (sing so)

where, Lord, an - y - time!
 (my Lord,) (an - y - time!)

This African American spiritual has more depth than may at first appear: for people who are bound in slavery to sing about dedicating themselves to God's use shows a profound awareness of God-given self-worth despite circumstances that would deny their human or spiritual value.

TEXT: African American spiritual
 MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. Wendell P. Whalum, 1984
 Music Arr. © Estate of Wendell P. Whalum

I'M GONNA LIVE
 Irregular

**Welcome New Members
Ordination and Installation of Elders**

Mary and Tim Rogers
Bill Kimler and Luke Christie

Presentation

Laine Horowitz

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Our Baptism

Questions for New Members and Elders Elect

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

I do.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior?

I do.

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?

I will, with God's help.

***Affirmation of Faith**

Apostles Creed

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

And in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, 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 sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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

Questions for our New Members

Mary and Tim have professed our faith as one body. Will you be a faithful member of this congregation, share in its worship and mission through your prayers and gifts, your study and service, and so fulfill your calling to be a disciple of Jesus Christ? **I will with God's help.**

Question to the Congregation:

Do you as members of the church of Jesus Christ promise to welcome Tim and Mary as siblings in Christ and welcome them to share in Christ's ministry among you? **We do.**

Will you guide and nurture them by word and deed, with love and prayer? And, will you encourage them to know and follow Christ, and to be faithful members of his church? Will you? **Yes! We will.**

Prayer and Welcome

Service of Ordination and Installation

Constitutional Questions for the Elders Elect

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit? **I do.**

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the church universal, and God's Word to you? **I do.**

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God? **I do and I will.**

Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture and continually be guided by our confessions? **I will.**

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit? **I will.**

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world? **I will.**

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church? **I do.**

Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love? **I will.**

Will you be a faithful Ruling Elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ? **I will.**

Questions for the Congregation

Do we, the members of the church, accept Luke and Bill as Ruling Elders chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

We do.

Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

We do.

Prayer for Ordination

The Reverend Dr. Brad Christie

Ordained teaching and ruling elders are invited to come forward, for laying on of hands during the prayer.

Charge to the Ordained

The Reverend Caroline V. Dennis

Called as Partners in Christ's Service 761

1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,
 2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
 4 So God grant us for to - mor-row ways to or - der hu - man life

we re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
 let us fol-low, nev - er fal-tering, rec - on - cil - ing folk on earth.
 help us bear each oth - er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
 that sur-round each per - son's sor-row with a calm that con-que-rs strife.

May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
 Men and wom-en, rich - er, poor - er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,
 Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,
 Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com-pas-sion to in - crease,

e - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful - fill God's cho - sen end.
 blend-ing hu - man skills to - geth - er gra - cious gifts from God un - fold.
 bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.
 mes - sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con - fi - dence and peace.

This hymn is a celebration of mutuality and diversity as well as a challenge to the Christian community to live out a ministry of reconciliation and inclusion. This 20th-century text is set to a 19th-century tune named for the noted pastor and preacher Henry Ward Beecher.

TEXT: Jane Parker Huber, 1981
 MUSIC: John Zundel, 1870
 Text © 1981 Jane Parker Huber (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

BEECHER
 8.7.8.7.D
 (alternate tune: EBENEZER)

Go with Us, Lord 748

Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and
ev - ery com - ing day, that in your Spir - it
strong and true our lives may be our gift to you.

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are placed below the vocal line. The first system has two asterisks above the notes for 'Lord' and 'and'. The second system has one asterisk above the note for 'ev'. The third system ends with a double bar line.

**May be sung as a canon.*

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

[*All stand as they are able.]

Serving Today at Westminster

Organ:	Claire Kuhl
Vocalist:	Heather McDonald
Liturgist:	Steve Kuhl
Host:	Watkins Family
Sunday School:	Beth Hammond
Children's Sunday School:	Kathy Gillespie

Today at Westminster

Sunday Study	9:00 am	Choir Room (<i>Adults</i>)
Sunday School	9:00 am	Children's Wing (<i>Children and Youth</i>)
Worship	10:00 am	Sanctuary
Children's Nursery	10:00 am	Sanctuary and Children's Wing
Congregational Meeting	11:00 am	Sanctuary
Sunday Sustenance	11:15 am	Fellowship Hall

This Week at Westminster

Office Hours:	9:00 – 1:00	T-Th	
BEMA Discussion Group	6:00 – 7:00	Monday	Joe Gettys Classroom
Crazy Heart Meditation	6:00 pm	Tuesday	Fellowship Hall
Brown Bags and Books	6:00 – 7:30	Wednesday	Joe Gettys Classroom
Crazy Heart Meditation	10:00 am	Saturday	Fellowship Hall

Next Sunday, January 26

Sunday Study	9:00 am	Choir Room (<i>Adults</i>)
Sunday School	9:00 am	Children's Wing (<i>Children and Youth</i>)
Worship	10:00 am	Sanctuary
Children's Nursery	10:00 am	Sanctuary and Children's Wing

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Study Opportunities at Westminster

Sunday Adult Study: Beth Hammond facilitates our study of the book of James this week.

Books and Brown Bags will gather at 6:00 in the Joe Gettys room to discuss chapters 2-3 of "Inspired" by Rachel Held Evans.

Books can be purchased at church for \$12.

Upper Zoom Prayer Room: Please send any prayer request updates to the church office. The community gathers on Zoom for prayers Monday at noon. Prayer list and link are sent out Monday morning.

New Year—New Session On Sunday, January 19th, Westminster will ordain a new group of Ruling Elders. These hardy *and* hearty souls have agreed to accept the challenge of guiding the business of the church. Please keep these new leaders in your prayers all year: **Luke Christie** and **Bill Kimler**. Also lift up in prayer **Tina Corley**, **Rob Graves**, **Laine Horowitz**, and **Richard Wilson** as they continue serving with grace and skill. Finally, remember **Len Bornemann** and **Claire Kuhl**, who have been elected Treasurer and Clerk of Session respectively.

As Luke and Bill step up, **Kathy Felder** and **Claire Kuhl** step down to become Resting Elders. Please express your gratitude to all of these Westminster shepherds who graciously give their time and talents to keep our church home missionally focused and fiscally sound.

About Our Cover Image: The seal of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is a symbolic statement of the church's heritage, identity, and mission in contemporary form. Symbols incorporated within the seal are the cross, a descending dove, representing the Holy Spirit and the sacrament of baptism, a fish, representing the church, an open book, representing Scripture, a pulpit, representing the preaching of God's word, a cup or chalice, representing the sacrament of communion, a robe, representing the humanity of Jesus, flames, suggesting both God's revelation to Moses in the burning bush and the appearance of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, and, finally, a triangle representing the Trinity.

Calling All Church Ladies: Please help us honor our office manager, Charleston Warner and her sweet baby boy, James Daniel (due March 13), with a Book Shower on Sunday, February 23 in the Fellowship Hall at 2:00 pm. Please sign the book registry in the Narthex today so that we can avoid duplicates.

MLK Day March: WPC members enjoy joining the MLK March each year. Gather at the Courthouse at 9:45 for a walk to Morris Chapel Baptist Church where there will be a program. Wear your WPC T-Shirt if you have one!



“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” *Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain*

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WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

An Inclusive Community of Faith

United by Our Belief in and Commitment to Jesus Christ

Office Hours: M-Th 9:00 a.m. – Noon Office Phone: 864.229.3595

www.wpcgnwd.org wpcgwd1@gmail.com

Clerk of Session

Claire Kuhl

Treasurer

Len Bornemann

Office Manager

Charleston Warner

RULING ELDERS

Class of 2025

Tina Corley

Rob Graves

Class of 2026

Laine Horowitz

Richard Wilson

Class of 2027

Luke Christie

Bill Kimler

Rev. Caroline Vinson Dennis, pastor

317.777.1487

Sunday Study 9:00 a.m. Church Service: 10:00 a.m.

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