



**The Order of Worship** **December 14, 2014**  
9:00 and 11:00 A.M.

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**THE CHURCH GATHERS ...**

*Welcome to Westminster Church! We are a family of Christians gathered from many traditions and neighborhoods, worshiping 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.*

*Children are welcome in worship here. A nursery is available during the entire service.*

*When the prelude begins let us quietly prepare for the worship of almighty God.*

**PRELUDE**

(9:00) What Child Is This *Greensleeves*  
arr. Matthew Prins

Four-in-Hand Ringers

(11:00) O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *Veni Emmanuel*  
arr. Sandra Eithun

Handbell Choir

**OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION**

**LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE**

(9:00) The Bendy Family  
(11:00) Eric and Janet Drumm

**CALL TO WORSHIP** Psalm 24

Leader: The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it,

**People: The world, and those who live in it.**

Leader: Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? Who shall stand in God's holy place?

**People: Those who have pure hearts and do not lift up their souls to what is false.**

Leader: Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors!

**People: that the King of glory may come in.**

**TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...**

\***HYMN NO. 8** (blue hymnal) Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates *Truro*

\***CALL TO CONFESSION**

\***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

**Gracious God, the light of your love shines in this Advent season, but in its radiance we also seek the darkness around and within us. The intensity of these pre-Christmas days heightens our joys and magnifies our sorrows. Search us, O God, and remove anything that would prevent us from bearing good fruit with our lives. Where there is hatred, heal us with your love; where there is anxiety, calm us with your peace; where there is despair, strengthen us with hope and joy; where we have failed to see you in a stranger, failed to love you in our brothers and sisters, and failed to serve you in our neighbors, forgive and renew us in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

\***KYRIE ELEISON** *Healey Willan*

*(Congregation singing—music is found on the inside cover of the red hymnal)*

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

(First part: women; second: men; third: all)

\***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News!

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

\***RESPONSE**

Refrain from Hymn No. 116 (red hymnal) Angels We Have Heard on High *Gloria*

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

**TO EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD AND RESPOND ...**

**SCRIPTURE READING** Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN** (11:00) *Carolyn Greenwood*  
*Children age 4 through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade are invited to go downstairs for Children's Worship.*

**SCRIPTURE READING** John 1:6-8,19-28

**SERMON** Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips

“There are many of you who think to yourselves: ‘If I had only been there! How quick I would have been to help the baby Jesus!’...Why don't you do it now? You have Christ in your neighbor.”  
– From a Sermon of Martin Luther (1483-1546)

\***HYMN NO. 38** (blue hymnal) It Came Upon the Midnight Clear *Carol*

\***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Unison) *from A Declaration of Faith*

**We believe Christ gives us and demands of us lives in pilgrimage toward God's kingdom. Like Christ we may enjoy on our journey all that sustains life and makes it pleasant and beautiful. No more than Christ are we spared the darkness, ambiguity, and threat of life in the world. We are in the world, but not of the world. Our confidence and hope for ourselves and other people do not rest in the powers and achievements of this world, but in the coming and hidden presence of God's kingdom. Christ calls each of us to a life appropriate to that kingdom: to serve as he has served us; to take up our cross, risking the consequences of faithful discipleship; to walk by faith, not by sight, to hope for what we have not seen.**

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS** (11:00) Charlie and Alice Mercer

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ...** The Lord's Prayer

*During the Prayers of the People there will be a time of silence. You are invited to use this time for personal reflection, confession, thanksgiving, and prayer.*

**THE OFFERING**

*Please sign and pass the Friendship Register found on the pew nearest the center aisle.*

*Though many of us contribute electronically or by a check in the mail, your holding and passing the offering plate is an act of blessing and dedication to our life together in Jesus Christ.*

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

(9:00) O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *Veni Emmanuel*

(11:00) A Spotless Rose Herbert Howells

A Spotless Rose is blowing, Sprung from a tender root, Of ancient seers' foreshowing, Of Jesse promised fruit; Its fairest bud unfolds to light Amid the cold, cold winter, And in the dark midnight.

The Rose which I am singing, Whereof Isaiah said, Is from its sweet root springing In Mary, purest Maid; For through our God's great love and might, The Blessed Babe she bare us In a cold, cold winter's night.

Anonymous, 14<sup>th</sup> century

Terrance McCracken, Baritone

\***AT THE PRESENTATION** Doxology No. 591 (blue hymnal) *Tallis' Canon*

(Sung to the tune of Hymn No. 542 (blue hymnal))

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**

**TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...**

\***HYMN NO. 10** (blue hymnal) On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry *Winchester New*

\***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

\***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *Veni Emmanuel*

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, And order all things, far and nigh; To us the path of knowledge show, And cause us in her ways to go. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

\***POSTLUDE** Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr Andreas Armsdorff

*All Glory Be to God on High*

\*Indicates standing.

**NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS**

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY**

**PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK:** Ellen Anderson and Phil Barnette

**CARE TEAM COORDINATOR:** Sue Byerly

**LARGE PRINT HYMNALS AND HEARING DEVICES** are available from the ushers.

**PLEASE** place your bulletin into a blue recycling bin located at the Narthex door if you do not care to take it home.

**SERVING TODAY**

**ACOLYTES** (11:00): Ian Salsbery and Eric Partelow

**GREETERS** (11:00): Bud and Carolyn Cunningham

**CHILDREN’S WORSHIP:**

(9:00) Childcare through age 5

(11:00) Kirche Rogers, Caroline and Katie Rogers

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC:**

(9:00) Four-in-Hand Ringers and Handbell Choir

(11:00) Chancel and Handbell Choirs

**SENIOR USHER:** Bill Wiesehuegel

**USHERS:**

(9:00) John Styron and Genet Weber

(11:00) Don Byerly, Sue Caradine, Mary Lou Crow, Gordon and Robin Greeson

Children are always welcome in our worship services! A nursery for newborns up to 5 years of age is provided in the Children’s education wing by trained, caring staff each week as a part of our ministry to children and their families. Please ask a greeter or usher for assistance.

**THE BIRTH CANDLE** is lit today to celebrate the births of:

- Avery Grace Tanner, great-granddaughter of Vaughn Bush. Avery was born 15 weeks ago to Vaughn’s granddaughter, Chandler Tanner.
- Wyatt Olivieri, son of Marco and Amanda Pope Olivieri. Wyatt was born December 11<sup>th</sup> and is the grandson of Bingham Graves.

**HERBERT HOWELLS** is one of England’s finest twentieth-century composers.

Among his varied output, including chamber, orchestral, and choral works, are separate settings of the *Magnificat* and *Nunc dimittis* for a number of England’s most distinguished choirs. In this morning’s offertory we hear Howells’ gift for vocal line and harmonies that pull at the heart.

**THIS AFTERNOON AT 5:00**, the Chancel Choir, Westminster Choristers, and readers will present *A Service of Lessons and Carols* for the seasons of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany. Music by Brahms, Hovland, Howells, Jennings, Laubengayer, Near, and Walton will be featured. We hope you’ll come join us! A nursery will be provided.

**THE ABBEY DEADLINE** is today. Please send your announcements and articles to unitedprinters@comcast.net.

**Adult Sunday School**

All adult classes have merged for our Advent study entitled, *The Light Will Shine*. Mary Boyd leads our study as we take a look at Advent lectionary texts using the lens of Handel’s masterpiece, *Messiah*. Each week we will listen to music, read the scriptures and get a fresh perspective on the journey through Advent to find the “good news of great joy.”


**THE LADIES’ LUNCH BUNCH** will gather for lunch at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, December 18 at the beautiful home of Betty McKeehan, 6204 Westland Drive. She will prepare lunch for us. The cost is \$10 each. If there is extra money it will be donated to a mission project (to be determined). Please contact Georgann Byerley by Tuesday, December 16 if you can attend.

**UPCOMING EVENTS TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR**

December 21 Christmas Breakfast, 10:00 a.m.

December 24 Christmas Eve Services, 5:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.

**FISH CHRISTMAS GIFT CARDS:** This Christmas, help FISH Hospitality Pantries feed hungry families in our community by sending FISH Christmas Gift Cards to people on your Christmas list. You can mail the order form in today’s bulletin to FISH, and they will do the rest. Cards will be available in the church office during the week.



**Salvation Army Bell Ringing**  
**Saturday, December 20**  
**West Town Mall**  
**10:00 a.m - 8:00 p.m.**  
**Sign up today in the Schilling Gallery!**

**2014 ADVENT GIFT OPPORTUNITY**

When Knoxville area teens run afoul of the law, they are sent to the Richard L. Bean Juvenile Service Center. These young people range in age from 14-17, and are both boys and girls. They may be there for several days, weeks, or months. This Advent season, as we did last year, we would like to show God’s love to them, to let them know that someone is thinking of them and praying for them. Last year, we received thank-you notes from Mr. Bean and a number of the teens. Some said we had made it their best Christmas ever.

Between now and next Sunday, December 21, we will be accepting gift bags with small treats for these teens. If you would like to participate, bring a Christmas gift bag with any of the following items in it:

- Hats, scarves, gloves
- Socks, slippers
- Combs, brushes, small mirrors
- Chocolate, candy, etc.
- Nail polish, lipstick, hair ornaments
- Small games, books
- Pens, pencils, writing papers
- Other small things you think a teen would like!

Put your bag on the gift table in the Schilling Gallery by Sunday, December 21. We will add a tag telling the teen that the gift comes to them from Westminster with our prayers, and we’ll deliver the gifts to the Center before Christmas. Thanks to the whole Westminster family for your giving spirit!

**DONATIONS** are being accepted for the Advent floral decorations. **Today is the deadline** for donations to be included in the December 17 edition of the *Abbey*.

There is no set amount for each dedication. A list of donations will also be included in the Christmas Eve bulletins. Donations can be placed in the offering plate or brought to the office.



I would like to contribute to the Flower Guild for Advent:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

In memory/honor (circle one) of:

\_\_\_\_\_

Given by:

\_\_\_\_\_

**WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

*“Where Faith and Life Connect”*

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Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips, Pastor

Rev. John Linton Muntz, Parish Associate

Peter Van Eenam, Organist and Choirmaster

Barbara Adamcik, Director of Youth and Connectional Ministries

Angela Grobe, Director of Children’s Ministries

Mary Boyd, Education Coordinator

Renee Wiesehuegel, Office Manager/Bookkeeper

Sandra Williams, Administrative Assistant

Rev. Friedrich Schilling, Jr., Pastor Emeritus

Debbie Bendy, *Abbey* Editor

**Youth Christmas Drama**

**December 14, 2014 - 6:00 p.m.**

Westminster Players present



**Class of 2015**

Ellen Anderson

Jean Bonnyman

Hap McSween

Rick Oakes

Jack Woodall

Youth Elder: Lily Seidner

Clerk of Session: Georgann Byerley

Leonard McKeehan

**THE SESSION**

**Class of 2016**

Jerry Faerber

Vicki Mayfield

Scott Porter

Elizabeth Ridley

Angela Shilling

**TRUSTEES**

John Smartt

**Class of 2017**

Phil Barnette

Bitsy Ingram

William Milam

Bryan Powell

Brenda Seip

Larry Ridley