



The Order of Worship **December 12, 2021**
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 share your contact information with us so we may be in touch. When the prelude begins let us quietly prepare for the worship of almighty God.

PRELUDE
 (9:00) Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645 J. S. Bach
Sleepers Awake, for Night Is Flying
 (from the *Schübler Chorales*)
 (11:00) Variations on “Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her” Peter Van Eenam
From Heaven Above to Earth I Come
 Handbell Choir

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

(9:00) John and Ibbie Muntz
 (11:00) The Van Beke Family

CALL TO WORSHIP Adapted, Psalm 96

Leader: O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.
People: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; for the Lord is coming.
 Leader: Sing to the Lord, bless His name; tell of His salvation from day to day.
People: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; for the Lord is coming.

Leader: Worship the Lord in holy splendor; tremble before Him, all the earth.
People: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; for the Lord is coming

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

***HYMN NO. 93** (*Glory to God* hymnal) Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates Truro
***CALL TO CONFESSION**
***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)
 Drawn by the lights of this season, Gracious God, our lives are illuminated by your love. Your light attracts us, but in its radiance we also see 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 discord, calm us with your peace; where there is despair, strengthen us with hope and joy. Forgive us and renew us in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.
***KYRIE ELEISON** Healey Willan

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**
 Leader: Friends, believe the Good News!
People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
***RESPONSE** Gloria Patri No. 581 (*Glory to God* hymnal) Henry W. Greatorex

TO EXPERIENCE GOD’S WORD AND RESPOND ...

SCRIPTURE READING Zephaniah 3:14-20; Philippians 4:4-7
A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN (11:00) Allie Brewington
Children age 3 through 4th grade are invited to go downstairs and participate in Children’s Sunday School.
SCRIPTURE READING Luke 3:7-18
SERMON “What Then Should We Do?” Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips
***HYMN NO. 104** (*Glory to God* hymnal) O Lord, How Shall I Meet You
Valet will ich dir geben
***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Unison) Adapted, Isaiah 12:1-6
I will give thanks to you, O LORD. Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the LORD GOD is my strength and my Might; he

has become my salvation. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations. Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. Shout aloud and sing for joy, for the Holy One is in your midst.

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 online 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) Variations on “Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her” Peter Van Eenam
 (11:00) O Word, That Goest Forth on High Gerald Near
 O Word, that goest forth on high From God’s own depths eternally, And in these latter days wast born For succor to a world forlorn; Pour light upon us from above, And fire our hearts with ardent love, That, as we hear thy truth today, All wrong desires may burn away.

Latin hymn, c. 10th century

***AT THE PRESENTATION** Doxology No. 608 (*Glory to God* hymnal) *Tallis’ Canon*
 (Sung to the tune of Hymn No. 748 (*Glory to God* hymnal))
 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; praise holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...

***HYMN NO. 100** (*Glory to God* hymnal) (11:00)
 My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout *Star of the County Down*
***CHARGE AND BEDICTION**
***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** Freu dich sehr, o meine Seele Johann Ludwig Krebs
O My Soul, Be Glad and Joyful

*Indicates standing.
Music is used by permission, CCLI License 20705180 and 20705197.

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK: Melanie Lewis and Josh Birdwell
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) Lucy Powell and Josie Chattin

GREETERS: (11:00) Sue Byerly and Bitsy Ingram

LITURGIST: Barbara Adamcik

MINISTRY OF MUSIC:

(9:00) Handbell Choir

(11:00) Chancel and Handbell Choirs

SHEPHERD’S TEAM: Bill Oros

SENIOR USHER: Bill Wiesehuegel

USHERS:

(9:00) Stephanie Lynch-Wright and Suzanne Graham

(11:00) Mark Potocik, Penny Tschantz, Gary Rowcliffe, Barbara Froula, David and Shawn Owens

THIS MORNING’S PRELUDE at the 9:00 service is an example of J. S. Bach transcribing one of his earlier works. In this instance he borrows from his own *Cantata No. 140, BWV 140*, of the same name. It is a simple transcription: the unison upper string line is played by the right hand on one manual, the tenor melody (the chorale tune) played by the left on another with a registration that brings the melody out, and the orchestral bassline played by the pedals. The open nature of this trio setting allows the chorale melody to be easily recognized. Johann Georg Schübler published the collection of six chorale preludes (containing this morning’s) in 1747 or 1748 and this set would come to be known by his name.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN UPDATE: We have received 127 out of our 274 family unit pledges with a total of \$645,842. Last year we received 175 pledges for \$791,373. Thank you to everyone who has turned in a pledge. Everyone's pledges and time and talents combined will help Westminster Presbyterian Church continue its present ministry as well as discover new paths to spread the love of our wonderful Lord and Savior! If you haven’t had the opportunity yet to turn in your pledge, there are extra cards in the narthex. You are needed and appreciated!

CHILDREN’S OFFERINGS ON SUNDAYS: There are so many ways for children to be involved on Sunday mornings!

- **9:00 Worship:** Children 0-5 are welcome in the Nursery. Children 6+ remain in Worship
- **10:00 Hour:** Children 0-3 are welcome in the Nursery. Children 4-10 are invited to Fellowship Time downstairs.
- **11:00 Worship:** Children 0-3 are welcome in the Nursery. Children age 3-4th grade remain in Worship until Time with the Children, then are walked downstairs for Primary and Intermediate Sunday school.

OUT OF AN ABUNDANCE OF CAUTION, and in lieu of the pot-luck Christmas breakfast, we are offering Sunday School, coffee and donuts during the 10:00 hour next Sunday!

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING: The Christmas Joy Offering opens doors of opportunity for the leaders who are shaped and supported through our gifts - doors that lead to hopeful futures for young people at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Our gifts open doors that lead to relief for church workers and their families when emergency needs arise.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

10:00 am

Wired Word

Meets in the library, discussion around current event topics with an eye and ear toward scripture

Feasting on the Word

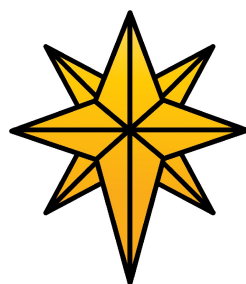
This lectionary-based class meets in the fellowship hall.

Bible Study

The Adult Bible Study class chooses a book of the bible to study in depth. Meets in the McKinnon Room with a Zoom option.

Congregational Chat Zoom with John & Ibbie Muntz

Will meet Mondays at 7:00 pm, the link can be found in E-news.



CHRISTMAS IN THE PAVILION

Join us this TODAY from 3-4:30 p.m.

Enjoy the "greatest hits" from the Children's Christmas Dramas in the beautiful pavilion space

In between the scenes, we will be singing Christmas Carols, accompanied by Westminster's awesome Brass Choir!

The Connect Team will be hosting a reception of cocoa, cookies, and other goodies after the show! We hope you can join us this Sunday!!

FINAL 2021 CONTRIBUTIONS as well as any 2022 prepaid offerings need to be in the church office by December 27. All offerings received by December 31 will be included in your 2019 contribution statement. If you have any questions regarding your contributions, please contact Renee Wiesehuegel. The church office will be open Dec. 27, 9:00-2:00; and Dec. 31, 9:00-12:00.

ADVENT FLORAL DONATIONS are being accepted. There is no set amount for each dedication. A list of donations will be included in the Christmas Eve bulletins as well as the *Abbey*. 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 of/honor of (circle one):

Given by:

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

“Where Faith and Life Connect”

6500 Northshore Drive, Knoxville TN 37919

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E-mail westminsterpres@comcast.net

www.wpcknox.org

Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips, Pastor

Rev. Gradye Parsons, Parish Associate

Peter Van Eenam, Organist and Choirmaster

Barbara Adamcik, Director of Youth and Connectional Ministries, CLP

Mary Boyd, Education Coordinator, CLP

Allie Brewington, Director of Children’s Ministries

Renee Wiesehuegel, Office Manager/Bookkeeper

Melissa Everett, Administrative Assistant

Daniel Lewis, Youth Assistant

Debbie Bendy, *Abbey* Editor

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

5:00 and 11:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Worship

December 26:

ONLINE WORSHIP ONLY

Provided by the Presbytery of East Tennessee



LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE: Longest Night is a worship service offered during Advent. It acknowledges that, for many people, Christmas is a time of loneliness, sorrow, alienation, or sadness. This service offers a way for people to claim those feelings while still feeling surrounded by the compassionate love of God. Westminster will offer a Longest Night service on Tuesday, December 21 at 7:00 p.m. Please join us in the sanctuary for this quiet service of music and contemplation

STOP BY WESTMINSTER CAFÉ for a coffee or a chat. Enjoy time in the Schilling Gallery or take your drink to a Sunday School class.

Class of 2022

Bob Albiston

Janet Drumm

Colleen Manrod

Charlie Mercer

Leslie Versen

Youth Elder: Sophia Manrod

THE SESSION

Class of 2023

Jaclyn Beeler

Jack Carley

William Milam

Penny Tschantz

Bill Wiesehuegel

Clerk of Session: Leigh Dunlap

Class of 2024

Josh Birdwell

Gloria Borum

Melanie Lewis

Lisa Oros

Chris Van Beke

TRUSTEES

Cile Mathews

Robert McKeehan

Ron Alexander