



***KYRIE ELEISON**

Healey Willan

Upper voices
 Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lower voices
 Lord, _____ have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
 on _____ us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

All
 on _____ us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, _____ have mer - cy up - on us.

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
 God is with us.
 We are not alone.
 Thanks be to God.**

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.

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.

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 Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God G. F. Handel

Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God, Thy truth unseal. Thy love reveal. Lord, hear Thou in mercy our prayer to Thee. Come in Thy might. Send forth Thy light. For Thee we long. Hear Thou our prayer. To Thee be glory now and evermore.

***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. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...

***HYMN NO. 99** (*Glory to God* hymnal) My Soul Gives Glory to My God *Morning Song*

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**
 Hymn No. 105 (*Glory to God* hymnal) People, Look East *Besançon*
 (Verses 4 and 5)

***POSTLUDE** Ríu, Ríu, Chíu Spanish villancico
arr. D. Marlatt

Brass Choir

*Please stand in Body or Spirit

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

The Order of Worship

December 24, 2023

10:00 A.M.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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 Magnificat quarti toni Johann Pachelbel
 Brass Choir

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Milam Family
CALL TO WORSHIP Kathy Parsons

One: Welcome, dear people, God has blessed our gathering.

All: We come again on this journey, following the light.

One: God's light shines for us today, bringing peace and comfort.

All: May we, like Mary, respond to God's presence and love, with confident joy. AMEN.

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

***HYMN NO. 104** (*Glory to God* hymnal) O Lord, How Shall I Meet You
Valet will ich dir geben

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

O God who will not let us go, we confess that we have been so wrapped up in ourselves that have not loved You with our whole hearts, and we have not loved our neighbors as we love ourselves. By Your grace and through Your transforming love, open our hearts wide to You; forgive what we have been, help us change what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of your holy Name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

***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 Psalm 136

TIME WITH CHILDREN Sophia Manrod

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 1:26-38

SERMON "Reimagining Mary, Reimagining Ourselves" Rev. Gradye Parsons

***HYMN NO. 101** (*Glory to God* hymnal) No Wind at the Window *Columcille*
 (Verses 1: All; 2: Lower voices; 3: Upper voices; 4: All)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Unison)

**We are not alone,
 we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:
 who has created and is creating,
 who has come in Jesus,
 the Word made flesh,
 to reconcile and make new,
 who works in us and others by the Spirit.
 We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:
 to celebrate God's presence,
 to live with respect in Creation,
 to love and serve others,
 to seek justice and resist evil,
 to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
 our judge and our hope.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK: Wendy Collins and Josh Birdwell
LARGE PRINT HYMNALS AND HEARING DEVICES are available from the ushers.

SERVING TODAY

ACOLYTES: Monroe and Mason Carley

GREETERS: Bill and Bonnie Rogers

LITURGIST: Kathy Parsons

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Brass and Chancel Choirs

SHEPHERD’S TEAM: Jay Schmid

SENIOR USHER: Bill Wiesehuegel

USHERS: Bonny and Doug Naugher, Michael Yates, Jaclyn Beeler

THIS MORNING’S POSTLUDE is a festive arrangement for brass of the mixed meter (an extra beat of silence is heard periodically throughout each verse and refrain) Spanish carol sung by our Chancel Choir and numerous others over the past several decades. In the choral version, the verses are sung by a soloist, followed by the choir singing the refrains. One can hear the same structure in the brass arrangement.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CHILDREN’S FELLOWSHIP HOUR (10:00 am) will resume on January 7.

ONE WORSHIP SERVICE on December 31 at 10:00 am.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE: Many thanks to all of you who have come together to offer your time, talents, and financial resources to the glory of God through the ministries of Westminster Presbyterian Church. We have received 167 pledges so far from our 255 family units for a total of \$864,958.00. We need EVERYONE’S participation in order to reach our asking budget of \$1,100,28.

FINAL 2023 CONTRIBUTIONS as well as any 2024 prepaid offerings need to be in the church office by December 31 will be included in your 2023 contribution statement. If you have any questions regarding your contributions, please contact Renee Wiesehuegel.

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICE for our sweet John Shilling will be held on Friday, December 29 at 2pm in Westminster’s Sanctuary. If you would like to contribute a tray of finger foods for the reception immediately following the service (cookies, nuts, cheese/crackers, fruit, etc.), please notify the church office.

Advent Flowers 2023

We would like to thank everyone for their contributions to our Flower Guild during this Advent Season.

Donor(s) Ellen and Ken Anderson In honor of our community of faith at Westminster. God has so blessed us!
Gail, Rob, April and Ayres Clark In loving memory of Bo Clark
Phil and Judy Barnette. In loving memory of John Shilling
Laura Barron. In loving memory of Jack Barron, Lester and Harriette Rowe

Beeler Family In memory of Brooks Beeler
Carol Beilharz, children and grandchildren. In loving memory of Clark
Brewington Family. In loving memory of Ruthie Landis Carey
Brewington Family. In honor of Bart Carey “Pops”
Tim and Anne Crais. In honor of our children and grandchildren
Barbara Cline. In memory of Lisa and Dan, Gabe and Jeff, Faith and Ariana
Rich and Betty Collins . . In memory of our parents, Fred and Shirley, Herb and Cleta
Donna Davis and Ivan Beltz In memory of Virginia and Bertram Raskin
and Nancy Beltz

Anne Davidson. In memory of Bud and Jean Davidson
Jack Draper In honor of Shirley Draper
Melissa and James Everett. In honor of Mark and Gail Noland
Gibbons and Fuller Families. In memory of Ernie Fuller and Michael Gibbons
Maria and David Gall In memory of their brothers
Don and Connie Graham In honor of our children and grandchildren
Jan Gross In memory of John Gross (husband) Jeffrey Allen Gross (son),
Dan Newman (brother) and (parents) Sue and Chalmer Newman,
Lillian and Marsh Gross

Mary Jennings. In memory of Benny McDaniel
Buz and Lucy Johnson. In memory of our parents - Ewing and Bernice Johnson,
John and Mary Watson

Linda Judge-McRae In honor of the WPC Shepherd Team members
Anne and John Langley In honor of our grandchildren, Bryson, Molly and Anna
Melanie and Daniel Lewis. In honor of Adelina and Owen Lewis
Nancy Lowe and Harold Jones. In memory of our mother, Elizabeth Jones
The MacKays. In memory of Zorro MacKay
The MacKays. In honor of Audrey Belyea
Ed, Cile, Hannah & Eva Mathews and Danielle Mathews Hemsley.
In memory of Matt Mathews

The Oakes Family In memory of Fritz and Barbara Schilling,
Fred and Lillian Schilling and Clara Huey
Pam and Mark Potocik In honor of Jon and Rayann Potocik, Chris and Jessica Potocik
Amy Rawe. In honor of Richard and Janice Rawe, from their
granddaughters - Margaret, Nina and Samantha

Rick and Janice Rawe. In honor of all Westminster Volunteers
Scott and Linda Rutherford In memory of Bill Rutherford
John and Elizabeth Salsbery In memory of Chris and Betty Salsbery and Nancy Dean
John and Elizabeth Salsbery In honor of Jim and Linda Yates
Karen and Richard Smith In memory of Nancy, Scott and Carter Dean
Greg and Glenda Tolliver In memory of Terry Jones
Julia Tortorelli. In honor of their nephews, Will and Victor Martin
Penny Tschantz. In memory of her son, Peter Tschantz
Robin and Joel Turner and family In memory of Joe Ben Turner
Leslie Versen. In memory of Phyllis Daniels
Genet Gammon Weber In memory of Peter Tschantz and Joseph Moore Gammon , Jr.
Renee and Bill Wiesehuegel In loving memory of Amy McBrayer
Shirley Wittman In memory of John Wittman
Jim and Linda Yates. In memory of Bob Cantrell, Bonnee Rainwater,
Betty and Chris Salsbery, Joe Ben Turner and Eileen Watt

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

Peter Van Eenam, Organist and Choirmaster

Barbara Adamcik, Director of Youth and Connectional Ministries, CLP

Sophia Manrod, Director of Children’s Ministries

Renee Wiesehuegel, Office Manager/Bookkeeper

Joanna Warren, Administrative Assistant

Linda Judge McRae, Parish Nurse

Debbie Bendy, Abbey Editor

Arthur Collins, Worship Tech

THE SESSION

Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
Josh Birdwell	Ed Babelay	Bill Farnham
Gloria Borum	Wendy Collins	Lee Ingram
Melanie Lewis	Janet Drumm	Lucy Johnson
Lisa Oros	Stephen Fortney	Kathryn Oakes
Chris Van Beke	Barbara Froula	Richard Ward
Youth Elder: Arthur Collins	Clerk of Session: Bitsy Ingram	

TRUSTEES

Ron Alexander Alice Mercer John Smartt



“Love Is Born” by Katie Jones