



**Service of Worship  
First Sunday of Advent  
December 2, 2018  
9:00 a.m.**

**PASTORAL STAFF:**

Gregory Knox Jones, Head of Staff  
Sudie Niesen Thompson, Associate Pastor  
Jill Getty, Pastoral Care Assistant

**MUSIC STAFF**

Paul Fleckenstein, Organist/Director of Music  
Merideth Hite Estevez, Director of Faith Formation through  
Music and Arts, Teaching Artist in Residence  
Allison Martin, Assistant Director of Children's Music  
Soloist/Section Leaders: Hye Eun Choi, Sharon Babcock,  
Jason Berger, Brenton Mattox

**YOUTH LEADERS**

Merideth Hite Estevez  
Josh Cox, Chris Hickey, Emily Knepper,  
Molly McPheeters, Tommy Neilson

**DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL OPERATIONS**

Colleen Falasco

**DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES AND SECURITY**

Paul Crothamel

**Westminster Presbyterian Church extends an enthusiastic welcome**, in Christ's name, to all who worship here or join us in fellowship. Our church family seeks to embody God's boundless love by embracing, liberating and empowering people – whoever they are and wherever they may be on their faith journeys – to realize the transforming power of Christ in our congregation, community and the world beyond.

**A Covenant Network Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)  
An Earth Care Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)**

**1502 West 13<sup>th</sup> Street ♦ Wilmington, DE 19806 ♦ 302-654-5214 ♦ [www.wpc.org](http://www.wpc.org)**

## **This Morning at Westminster**

**8:30 – 11:15 a.m.**      The Holy Toast Café, in Classroom 6, offers free coffee, tea, and fellowship. Breakfast items are available for one dollar per item.

### **Deacon Team of the Month**

Barry Cobb, Kyle Carrick, Diane Chandler, Teisha Fooks, Debbie Wise

**7:00 – 9:00 a.m.**      **Deacon Planning Meeting**      Staff Conference Room

**8:45– 12:15 p.m.**      **Nursery Care**

**9:00 – 9:55 a.m.**      **Worship**

Children are always welcome in worship. We also provide additional opportunities for children to grow in faith. Children are escorted to classes after TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN during worship.

- ❖ **Godly Care** – Children ages 2 through 4 in Preschool Suite C.
- ❖ **Godly Play 1** – Children in Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade in the Ruth Christie Room.
- ❖ **Sing-to-Praise Choir Program** – Children in grades 3 through 6 in the Youth Music Room.

**All children who leave the sanctuary** after TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN must have a completed yellow security label on their backs. If you do not find a security label in the pew pocket, you can obtain one in the Preschool Suite. This policy is for your child's protection. Children will only be released to a guardian or an adult pre-approved by the guardian. Thank you for your help.

**10:10 a.m.**      **Intergenerational Advent Celebration**      Community Hall

**10:10 a.m.**      **Education for All Ages**

- High School/Confirmation Class Grades 9 – 12      Classroom 7
- Sunday Seminars      see page 7

**10:50 a.m.**      **Session Meeting**      Classroom 5

**11:15 a.m.**      **Living Mosaics Worship**      Rodney Chapel

**12:00 p.m.**      **Fellowship Time after Living Mosaics**      Meeting Room

**12:00 p.m.**      **Guatemala Youth Trip Meeting**      Classroom 6

### **Later Today**

11:15 a.m.	Flying Solo Brunch	Catherine Rooney's
11:30 a.m.	Homebound Communion	Members' Homes
6:00 p.m.	Clean But Not Straight – NA	Club Room
8:00 p.m.	AA	Club Room



Westminster is certified as an “Earth Care Congregation” by the Presbyterian Church (USA). This honor means that we have exhibited exceptional leadership in protecting God's creation and being good stewards of earth's resources through our worship, education, outreach and advocacy. Only 2% of the 10,000 Presbyterian congregations in this country have earned this honored distinction.

## SANCTUARY FLOWERS

**The flowers in the Sanctuary** are given to the glory of God.

**Consider giving the flowers for Sunday worship** to remember or honor loved ones or to celebrate an event, while expressing praise and thanksgiving to God. Please contact Linda Watson during business hours at 302-571-6719 or [lwatson@ycst.com](mailto:lwatson@ycst.com) for available dates. The next available dates are December 16 and 30.

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND PRAYER

**Please remember in your prayers:**

- ❖ **Those unable to attend worship on a regular basis** by sending a card, saying a prayer, or visiting. This week we ask you to remember Tom Ford at home, Jerry Greth at Amity Place and Dottie Gkonos at Brandywine Senior Living in New Jersey.
- ❖ **Westminster's Prayer Team** prays for the needs of our community of faith. You may submit a prayer request by leaving a confidential message on 302-654-5848, ext. 335; or filling out a prayer request card (in the pew pocket) and placing it in the offering plate; or sending an email to [wpcprayerlist@gmail.com](mailto:wpcprayerlist@gmail.com).

**Afghanistan and Iraq often seems far away**, and we may neglect to realize that Americans, as well as Afghans, Iraqis and members of coalition forces continue to die. As Christians, we are called to pray for the spreading of peace and justice and an end to violence. If someone in your family is serving in the military, please let us know, so that we may include that person on our prayer list. Contact Cathy Lang: 302-654-5214 ext. 129, or [cathylang@wpc.org](mailto:cathylang@wpc.org).

**This week we pray for:**

- The families of those from the U.S. who have died recently:  
Sergeant Leandro A. S. Jasso, age 25, from Leavenworth, Washington.
- Those suffering from Traumatic Stress Disorder, whose scars may be deep and long-lasting.

## WORSHIP NOTES

**Easy-to-use assisted listening devices** may be found in the back of the sanctuary and the side entrance off the main hallway.

**Worship Resources** – You can obtain large print hymnals and listening devices from any usher. Worship bags for children ages 3 through 6 include a children's bulletin designed for them. Children's bulletins for ages 7 through 12 are also available from the ushers.

**Are you wearing a nametag?** Whether you are a long-time member or new to our church family, wearing a nametag provides others the opportunity to meet you, greet you by name, and for you to become more familiar with others at church. You will find nametags and markers in baskets at all major entrances.

**You can make a contribution** to Westminster Presbyterian Church by visiting our website [www.wpc.org](http://www.wpc.org) and click the "Donate Now" button or scan the QR code on your smart phone



# ORDER OF WORSHIP

TOWER CHIME

Sue Spilecki

## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Advent is a time of joyful anticipation of Christ coming into our lives. During the four weeks prior to Christmas, we prepare ourselves for the celebration of the birth of Christ – a time to remember the event that occurred 2,000 years ago changing history forever, and a time to welcome Christ anew into our lives. To mark the weeks, we light candles and honor the major themes of the season.*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please sign and pass the friendship folder, located at the end of the pew, to the person next to you.*

## \*PASSING THE PEACE

## ORGAN PRELUDE

Prelude on *Hyfrydol*  
(Tune: Hymn #82)  
I Andante  
II Adagio

Charles Callahan

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Rob Jenkins and Gathoni Murugi-Jenkins and their daughters, Murugi and Ciru

The church announces the coming of Christ because it speaks to a deep truth.

**Christ is coming.**

Christ is always coming,

**Christ is always entering a wounded heart and a troubled world.**

We light the first candle, the candle of hope,

**as we express our longing for healing, for justice and the well-being of all creation.**

## ADVENT PRAYER

**Loving God, as we embark on this Advent season,  
we open all the dark places in our lives and memories  
to the healing light of Christ.  
Prepare our hearts to be transformed  
and reveal your creative power of hope  
that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.**

## \*HYMN NO. 88

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  
Vs. 1-2, 6-7

VENI EMMANUEL

## TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

*Children through Grade 6 may leave for Godly Care, Godly Play I, and Sing-to-Praise Choir,  
or they may remain in worship.*

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 21:25-36

New Testament, page 74  
Margo Reign, Lay Reader

*Passages in **bold** print may be said by all. At the asterisk (\*), please stand as you are able.*

OFFERING

*“All shall give as they are able, according to the blessing the LORD your God has given you.”  
(Deuteronomy 16:17)*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“O Thou, the Central Orb”

Charles Wood

O Thou the central orb of righteous love,  
Pure beam of the most High, eternal Light  
Of this our wintry world, Thy radiance bright  
Awakes new joy in faith, hope soars above.

Come, quickly come, and let Thy glory shine,  
Gilding our darksome heaven with rays Divine.  
Thy saints with holy luster round Thee move,  
As stars about Thy throne, set in the height  
Of God’s ordaining counsel, as Thy sight  
Give measur’d grace to each, thy power to prove.

Let Thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin,  
Our nature shall feel eternal day,  
In fellowship with Thee, transforming day  
To souls ere-while unclean, now pure within.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

We live in troubling times.  
There is far too much violence, injustice and suffering.  
**Yet, as followers of Jesus, we do not despair,  
because there is hope for overcoming the darkness.**  
Our hope is in the One who is the Bread of Life  
who beckons us to love one another  
**and to spread God’s love throughout the world.**

\*HYMN NO. 734

“Hope of the World”

*DONNE SECOURS*

*V. 1: Choir*

*Vs. 2 & 3: All*

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**  
Eternal God...

LORD’S PRAYER (page 35 in our *Glory to God* hymnal, using “debts” and “debtors”)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*The Lord's Supper is open to all who trust in Christ.  
For those who have wheat allergies, we provide gluten-free rice crackers with the communion bread.*

## PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

\*HYMN No. 82

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

HYFRYDOL

BENEDICTION

CHORAL POSTLUDE

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Eleanor Daley

GOING FORTH

## New to Westminster?

**Welcome! We are so glad you are here.**

Here is some information you might find helpful:

- Hymnals are located on a shelf under the pew in front of you, or at the ends of the pew. Please join us in singing!
- A red Friendship Pad at the end of the pew will be passed during the service. We hope you will sign it and let us know how we can welcome you with a follow-up contact.
- There will be an Ambassador, Robin Rosser, at the back of the church at the end of worship, who would love to answer any questions you might have or give you more information about Westminster.
- For more information about our community of faith, sign up for our weekly e-newsletter from the home page of our website ([www.wpc.org](http://www.wpc.org)) or contact the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson at [sniesenthompson@wpc.org](mailto:sniesenthompson@wpc.org) or (302) 654-5214 ext. 103.



**Please join us for coffee or tea in Community Hall and Classroom 6 after the service.  
Ask someone to show you the way!**



# Advent Celebration

**TODAY**  
**10:10 – 11:00 a.m.**  
**Community Hall**

Join Westminster members and friends of all ages as we gather to welcome the Advent season with joy. You are invited to create cards that will accompany our Christmas Boxes for those in need in our community, to share fun and fellowship, and to prepare emotionally and spiritually for the mystery of Christmas.



*Child care for infants will be available in the Nursery.*

## ***Sunday Seminars***

### ***The Challenge of Paul***

Today through December 16

Classroom 3

Facilitator: Bob Cox

*The Challenge of Paul* is an educational video series of lectures featuring historical Jesus scholar, John Dominic Crossan, who guides participants through the three-dimensional world of the Apostle Paul's time and place. Crossan pushes past generations of doctrine and dogma to reveal the real-life character of Paul who shaped a generation of courageous Christ-followers to challenge boldly the greed and violence of the Roman Empire, the overlord of the first century Mediterranean world.

### ***Membership Exploration Class***

Classroom 5

Facilitator: Greg Jones

Have you been considering membership at Westminster? Are you interested in learning more about this community of faith? Please join us for the second session of our Membership Exploration Series to discuss Westminster's ministry and mission and ways to connect with our church family. There will also be an opportunity to join the Westminster congregation at the end of this session.

# Christmas Boxes Project Is Under Way!

Every year, Westminster fills more than 120 boxes at Christmas with food and gifts for families in need in our community. You can be a part of this joyful project.

- Take one or more “Wish Stars” from a Christmas tree in the Pavilion or near Rodney Chapel. **Sign the log book by the tree for each star you take!**
- Buy and wrap the gifts with the Wish Stars taped to the outside of the package. Place them in one of the festively wrapped collection bins **by Sunday, December 9.**
- Donate canned cranberry sauce, sweet potatoes and fruit (we have enough of everything else, thank you!). Bring your donations to church **by Sunday, December 9** and place them in a collection bin.
- Bring your donations to church **by Sunday, December 9** and place them in a collection bin.
- Help wrap and sort gifts in Grace Hall beginning at 10:10 on **Sunday, December 9.**
- Plan to attend the Packing Party and Potluck Dinner on **Friday, December 14, at 6:00 p.m.**

You can find more detailed information and additional ways to help in the October/November 2018 issue of *The Westminster Chimes* and the *Weekly Word* e-newsletter. There will also be an “Answer Elf” at each tree on Sunday mornings to answer questions.



# CHRISTMAS AT WESTMINSTER 2018

*Please join us for the many ways we celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ.*

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## CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Sunday, December 9, 4:00 p.m.

Bask in the glorious sounds of Christmas as the Westminster Choir and soloists, 14-piece orchestra, and organ usher in the season with music to lift your soul. Free admission; offering received.

## CHRISTMAS BOXES DINNER AND PACKING PARTY

Friday, December 14, 6:00 p.m.

Share holiday joy with neighbors in need by packing boxes with food and gifts and enjoying a dinner with fellow members and friends. All ages welcome!

## CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Sunday, December 16, 10:00 a.m.

Share the joy of Christmas by caroling to those in our faith community who can no longer attend church. Christmas Caroling is different this year! See the December *Chimes* for details. Children especially welcome!

## CHRISTMAS EVE

Monday, December 24

Services for Families with Young Children – 4:00 and 5:30 p.m.

Informal, lively services combining the story of Jesus' birth with the singing of familiar carols. Child care for infants and toddlers is available in the Nursery for the 4:00 and 5:30 p.m. services.

Candlelight Communion Services – 8:00 and 10:00 p.m.

Traditional candlelight services with communion, choral and instrumental offerings, and sermon by Dr. Jones.

On Sunday, December 23, we will have our usual two worship services at 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

On Sunday, December 30, there will be ONE worship service at 10:00 a.m.



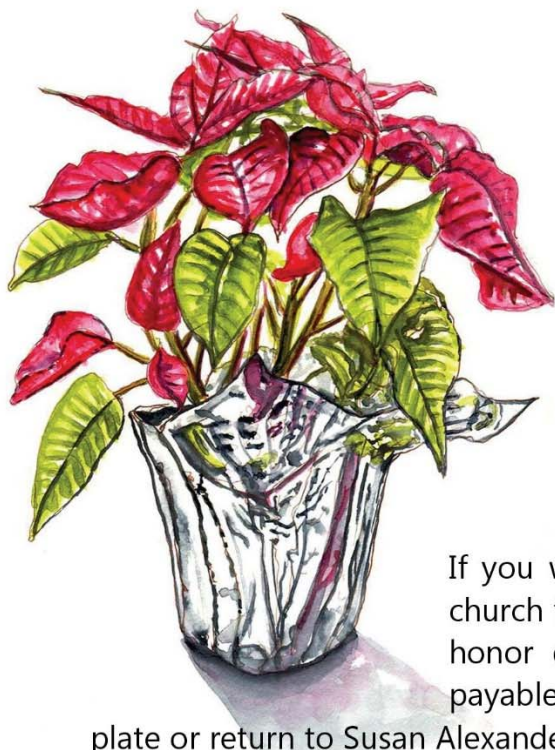
# ECHO Giving in the World

An Outreach of Westminster Presbyterian Church – Supporting Mission



*Echo Giving* provides an alternative to traditional gift-giving, benefiting Westminster-supported missions across our city and around the globe. With your **tax-deductible donation**, the options for helping your neighbors are many – you can feed the hungry at Emmanuel Dining Room, fund families in transition through Family Promise, or support a neighbor's path to homeownership through a Habitat build. Similarly, you can buy clean cook-stoves for Guatemala or Congo, support disaster relief efforts, and help Westminster youth participate in myriad mission opportunities.

**An Echo Giving table will be set up in Community Hall during the 10:10 education hour on Advent Sundays, December 2, 9, 16 and 23.** Stop by to pick up your shopping list, discuss giving options, and decide how you'd like to make a difference during the Christmas season. Make your contribution, and you'll receive an *Echo Giving in the World* card for the loved ones on your list. Shopping lists are also available on the literature tables.



# 2018 Christmas POINSETTIAS

If you wish to make a contribution toward the decoration of the church for the Christmas season, you may do so in memory of, or in honor of, loved ones. Please complete this form, make checks payable to *Westminster Presbyterian Church*, and place in the offering plate or return to Susan Alexander at the front desk by **Monday, December 10**. For any form received *after* that date, the names will be listed in the December 30th bulletin.

## DONATION AMOUNT

☐ \$20      ☐ \$40      ☐ \$60      ☐ \$80      ☐ \$100      ☐ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## PLEASE PRINT NEATLY

❖ In Memory Of: (FOR THE DECEASED)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Deceased Person's Name*

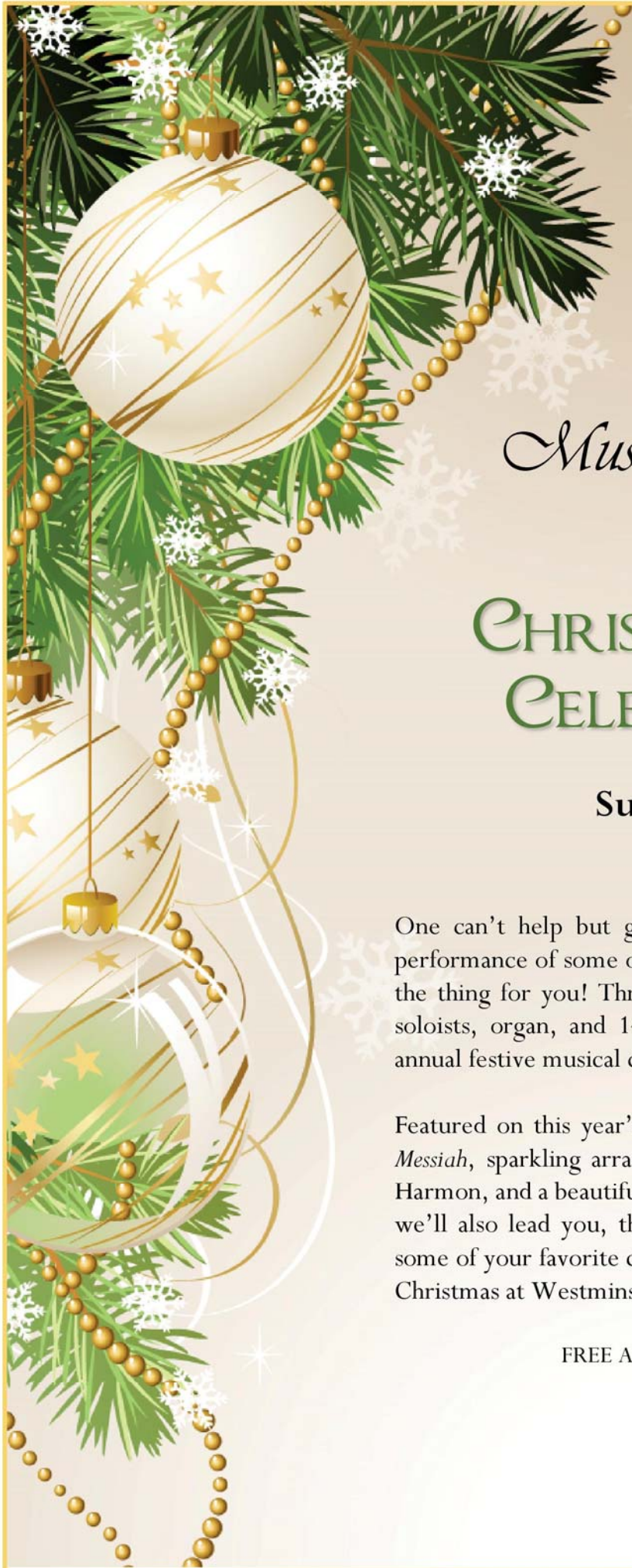
❖ In Honor Of: (FOR THE LIVING)

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Living Person's Name*

❖ Given By:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Donor's Name and Telephone Number*

**If you wish to take a poinsettia plant home with you, you may do so following the 10:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve. Plants remaining after that service will be delivered to our homebound members. If you can help with delivery, please contact Jill Getty at [jgetty@wpc.org](mailto:jgetty@wpc.org) by Wednesday, December 12, 2018.**



# *Music at Westminster*

presents

## CHRISTMAS MUSICAL CELEBRATION 2018

**Sunday, December 9  
4:00 p.m.**

One can't help but get in the Christmas spirit when hearing a live performance of some of the great music of the season. And we have just the thing for you! Thrill to the sounds of our Westminster Choir and soloists, organ, and 14-piece orchestra, joining forces to present this annual festive musical celebration.

Featured on this year's program are selections from Handel's beloved *Messiah*, sparkling arrangements of traditional Christmas tunes by Neil Harmon, and a beautiful work by Randol Bass, *A Savior Is Born*. Of course, we'll also lead you, the audience, in singing majestic arrangements of some of your favorite carols. Bring your friends, and share the joy that is Christmas at Westminster.

FREE ADMISSION • OFFERING RECEIVED

IT'S THE MOST ~~WONDERFUL~~ *hectic*

TIME OF THE YEAR!

Take a break from the hectic pace of the Christmas season and join us for a time of prayer and reflection, silence and song, inspired by the worship of the Taizé Community in France. All are welcome!



WEDNESDAY EVENING  
**TAIZÉ**

A SERVICE OF PRAYER AND REFLECTION

Wednesdays  
December 5, 12, and 19, 2018  
6:30 p.m.



WESTMINSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

Westminster Presbyterian Church  
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