



Service of Worship
1st Sunday after Christmas Day
December 30, 2018
10:00 a.m.

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

1502 West 13th Street ♦ Wilmington, DE 19806 ♦ 302-654-5214 ♦ www.wpc.org

This Morning at Westminster

Deacon Team of the Month

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

9:45 – 11:15 a.m. Nursery Care

10:00 a.m. Worship

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. Sunday School for Preschoolers Preschool Suite C

11:00 a.m. Fellowship with Coffee and Tea Rodney Chapel/Meeting Room

Later Today

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 in gratitude for the amazing support of our Westminster family by Rick Suarez and Josh Thomas and their sons Alejandro and Leonardo.

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 for available dates. The next available dates are January 13 and 27.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND PRAYER

Please remember in your prayers:

- ❖ **Recently hospitalized:** Margaret Hodges and Joyce Ruston.
- ❖ **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 Margie Lounsbury at Cokesbury and Kay Johnson at Millcroft.
- ❖ **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.

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.

This week we pray for 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 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

As we gather this joyful morning, let our Alleluias rise from willing lips, from lives opened to your gift, and from hearts filled with your love. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, and Amen!

From a prayer by Ann Siddall

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

Variations on a French Noël:
Joseph est bien Marié

Claude-Bénigne Balbastre

CALL TO WORSHIP

Hope has come –
awakening us to new possibilities;
Peace has come –
inviting us to be agents of reconciliation;
Joy has come –
turning our hearts from fear to wonder;
Love has come –
transforming our lives, transforming our world.
We have come –
**amazed and humbled by God's grace,
to worship the newborn king!**

*HYMN NO. 143

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

REGENT SQUARE

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Adapted from a prayer by the Rev. Anne Fraley

**We come to adore you, little one –
with hopeful heart,
and waiting arms,
and eyes stretched wide with wonder and awe.
The gentleness of your gaze
draws us into the mystery of all that lies beyond,
and in that place of falling into joy
we yield all that we are to you.**

**Bless us, O Lord, whom we adore,
and turn our faces ever toward you.
For peace,
for mercy,
for the sake of all that is holy.
We come to adore you, O Christ. Amen.**

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

Children Preschool thru 2nd grade may leave for Sunday School in Preschool Suite Classroom C.

RESPONSE #115

“Away in a Manger”

MUELLER

**Be near me, Lord Jesus;
I ask thee to stay
close by me forever
and love me, I pray.**

**Bless all the dear children
in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven
to live with thee there.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 2:22-40

New Testament, page 51
Lilly Coleman, Lay Reader

SERMON

Sudie Niesen Thompson

* HYMN NO. 112

“On Christmas Night All Christians Sing”

SUSSEX CAROL

OFFERING

*What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him: give my heart.*

Christina Rossetti, “In the Bleak Midwinter”

OFFERTORY

“The Birthday of a King”
Roger Atkins, soloist

W. H. Neidlinger

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

*HYMN NO. 136

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Postlude on *Adeste Fidelis*

Eric Thiman

GOING FORTH

If you are visiting with us and wish to learn more about our church family, we invite you to meet today’s ambassadors, Ralph Lewis, at the back of the center aisle following the service. He is happy to share information about our many programs for children, youth and adults.

Growing Up Under Occupation in Gaza

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6
10:10 A.M. IN CLASSROOM 6



Mohammed Eid, a 29 year old Palestine refugee, will share his story of growing up in Gaza under Israeli occupation. Schools are safe havens for young people during conflicts, and Mohammed will talk about the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestine Refugees and how it provides education, food assistance, health and job programs, for over one million people struggling to survive. A graduate of UNRWA schools and a former UNRWA employee, Mohammed is now a Rotary Peace Fellow pursuing a master's degree in Global Studies and International Development through a joint program at the UNC-Chapel Hill and Duke University in North Carolina.

RSVP to: delawarephr@gmail.com

New to Westminster?

Welcome! We are so glad you are here.

Here is some information you might find helpful:

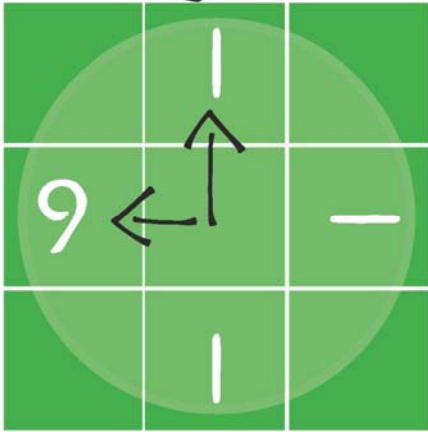
- Hymnals are located on a shelf under the pew in front of you, or at the ends of the pew. Please join us in singing!
- A red Friendship Pad at the end of the pew will be passed during the service. We hope you will sign it and let us know how we can welcome you with a follow-up contact.
- There will be an Ambassador 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) or contact the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson at sniesenthompson@wpc.org or (302) 654-5214 ext. 103.



Please join us for coffee or tea in Rodney Chapel after the service.
Ask someone to show you the way!

Come Out and Play! 9-Square-A-Thon

9-SQUARE



A-THON

Sunday, January 20, 2019

1:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Community Hall

Our 180° youth will be playing 9-Square to raise money for the Chad Miller Youth Mission Fund, and everyone is welcome! Want to play? For a minimum donation of \$5.00, you can join the fun anytime from 1:00 to 7:00 p.m. Can't play but want to support the cause? Go to www.wpc.org, click the "Donate Now" button, and select the Chad Miller Youth Mission Fund. Or, drop your donation in the offering plate on Sunday. Write Chad Miller Mission Fund in the memo line! Thank you for your support!

The Chad Miller Youth Mission Fund was created in memory of The Rev. Chad Miller after his tragic death in 2009. Chad served as our Associate Pastor for Mission and Youth. During that time, he became an integral part of our church and community. He believed in the transforming power of mission work for teenagers and their families who share in the experience with them.

PASTORAL STAFF

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

DIRECTOR OF PRESCHOOL MINISTRIES: Teisha Fooks

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

SUPPORT STAFF

Susan Alexander, Reception Area Supervisor
Mary Clark, Office Assistant for Data and Archives
Paul Crothamel, Director of Facilities and Security
Colleen Falasco, Director of Financial Operations
Nicole Hughes, Director of Marketing and Communications
Jerry Hunter, Financial Assistant
Suzie Hurlock, Administrative Assistant
Cathy Lang, Administrative Assistant
Sextons: Thomas Carter, Robert King, Joan Truitt, John Young
Nursery: Beatrice Taylor, Kristen Wolanski

SESSION

Jen Barrington, Karen Beer, Ty Burns, Sally Buttner, Chad Chandler, Jeanne Checkel, Joe Daley, Karen Dietz, Rich Diver, Michael Enderle, Peter Gildner, Cathy Higgins, Carol Hogue, Barbara Jobe, Kelly McCulloch, Mark Mosher, Margo Reign, Carrie Saathoff, Kent Smith, Janet Steinwedel, Barb Stratton, Mary Vane, Susan Williamson, Helen Zumsteg

BOARD OF DEACONS

Jeff Argus, Roger Atkins, Liz Bacon, Don Beddie, Amy Bickhart, Kyle Carrick, Beatty Chadwick, Diane Chandler, Barry Cobb, Nancy Diver, Teisha Fooks, Nicole Fox, Laura Holmes, Louis Horton, Hillary King, Cathy Lang, Kris Marvel, Luke Mathé, Dan McAllister, Sally McBride, Debbie McCullough, Blair McConnel, Mary Lou McDowell, Carol Neff, Ann Shadduck, Lisa Stoddard, Josh Thomas, Sharlym Torres, Jennifer Trickey, Hugh Underhill, Lois Underhill, Lowell Underhill, Jennie Wagner, Gen Wallace-Roe, Sue Weissinger, Pam White, Sandy White, Debbie Wise

TRUSTEES

Charley Babcock, Gary Bryde, Jim Carter, Denison Hatch, Bobbe Hoy, Fred Iobst, Mary Lu Pamm, Bob Ridout, Tom Preston, Barbara Steen, Bruce Weber, Dan Weintraub

PARTNERS IN WORLDWIDE MINISTRY

Congo – PCUSA Mission Co-workers: John and Gwenda Fletcher, Jeff and Christi Boyd,
Larry and Inga Sthresley, Cecilé de Sweemer, MD; Kananga Presbytery and Members of Kamulumba-Ditalala Parish
Iran, Iraq, Syria and Lebanon – PCUSA Mission Co-workers: the Reverends Elmarie and Scott Parker, Dr. Mary Mikhael
Ibillin and Haifa, Israel/Palestine – Peace Drums Steel Band
Guatemala - CEDEPCA, Rosario Diaz and the Association of Mam Christian Women for Development