



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship Baptism of the Lord January 7, 2018 9:00 a.m.

PASTORAL STAFF:

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

CHURCH EDUCATOR:

Susan Moseley

MUSIC STAFF

Paul Fleckenstein, Organist/Director of Music
Merideth Hite Estevez, Director of Faith Formation through Music
and Arts, Teaching Artist in Residence
Kevin Flaherty, Assistant Director of Children's Music
Soloist/Section Leaders: Sharon Babcock, Elizabeth Holmes
Christian Sanders, Travis Lucas

YOUTH LEADERS

Merideth Hite Estevez, Susan Moseley,
Josh Cox, Chris Hickey, 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.

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

Liz Bacon, Don Beddie, Tammy Daley, Nancy Diver, Hillary King, Sandy White

8:45 – 11:15 a.m. Nursery for babies and toddlers

9:00 – 9:55 a.m. Worship with communion in the Sanctuary

Children are always welcome in worship. We also provide additional opportunities for children to grow in faith.

- ❖ **Godly Care** – Children ages 2 through 4 begin in worship with their families. Following the Time with Our Children, they walk with a parent to the **Preschool Suite** where they are greeted by the morning coordinator and escorted into **Classroom A**. The children experience simple worship rituals and learn key stories in the Bible. They respond through crafts, songs and prayers.
- ❖ **Godly Play 1** – Children in Kindergarten through 2nd grade begin worship with their families. Following the Time with Our Children, they walk with their teachers to the Ruth Christie Room. The children learn the language of God’s people through sacred space, stories, parables and liturgical actions. You may pick up your children in the **Preschool Suite Classroom C**.
- ❖ **Sing-to-Praise Choir Program** – Children in grades 3 through 6 begin worship with their families. Following the Time with Our Children, they meet their leaders in the pavilion and walk together to the Youth Music Room

10:10 a.m.

Education for All Ages

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| ➤ Sunday School for Preschoolers | Preschool Suite D |
| ➤ Joyful Noise Choir Program for K – 2 | Youth Music Room |
| ➤ Godly Play 2 for Grades 3 – 5 | Classroom 4 |
| ➤ Middle Schoolers for Grades 6 – 8 | Classroom 8 |
| ➤ Senior High for Grades 9 – 12 | Classroom 7 |
| ➤ Sunday Seminars | see page 7 |

11:15 a.m.

Living Mosaics worship in Rodney Chapel. Children are always welcome.

12:00 p.m.

Fellowship Time

Meeting Room

Also Today

11:15 a.m.

Flying Solo brunch at Catherine Rooney’s

1616 Delaware Ave.

1:00 p.m.

Home Communion

Members’ Homes

5:00 p.m.

180° Youth Dinner and Fellowship

Classroom 6/Community Hall

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

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 February 2018.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND PRAYER

Please remember in your prayers:

- ❖ **Recently hospitalized:** Leonardo Kristian Suarez and Mary Young
- ❖ **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 Cornelia Cates, Cappy Hanke, Frances Kirkpatrick and Hans Krahrmer, all at Stonegates.
- ❖ **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

- The families of those from the U.S. who have died recently:
Sergeant 1st Class Mihail Golin, age 34, of Fort Lee, NJ.
- Those suffering from Traumatic Stress Disorder, whose scars may be deep and long-lasting.

WORSHIP NOTES

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 parent or an adult pre-approved by the parent. Thank you for your help.

Worship Resources – You can obtain large print hymnals and hearing devices from any usher. Worship bags for children ages 3-6 include a children's bulletin designed for them. Children's bulletins for ages 7-12 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

MUSIC OF THE TOWER BELLS

Sue Spilecki

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.*

*Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.*

*Melt me; mold me;
fill me; use me.*

*Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.*

~ *Spirit of the Living God* by Daniel Iverson (© 1935)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ORGAN PRELUDE

Préambule

Louis Vierne

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the beginning, when the Creator formed the heavens and the earth,

God's Spirit swept over the face of the waters.

At the beginning of Jesus' ministry of teaching and healing,

God's Spirit rested upon him as he emerged from Jordan's waters.

At the beginning of a new year, we gather 'round font and table.

God's Spirit hovers over us, stirring us to new expressions of praise.

*HYMN NO. 484

"Out of Deep, Unordered Water"

RUSTINGTON

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Grace – In baptism you claim us as your people and call us to follow you. But we do not always live out this calling. We stifle the gifts you have given us, rather than using them for your glory. We avoid opportunities to offer kindness, and speed past neighbors in need. We pretend we can do nothing to further justice in our world, and shy away from taking risks for the sake of the Gospel. Forgive us, God. Wash us again in the waters of baptism and transform us by your grace, that we may faithfully follow you. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who offers us new life.

SILENCE

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

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

RESPONSE (HYMN NO. 492)

“You Belong to Christ”

1st time: Choir

2nd time: All

**You belong to Christ,
in whom you have been baptized.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

Susan Moseley

*Children through Grade 6 may leave for Godly Care, Godly Play 1, and Sing-to-Praise Choir,
or they may remain in worship.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 1:1-11

New Testament, page 30
Mark Mosher, Lay Reader

SERMON

“Beginnings”

Sudie Niesen Thompson

OFFERING

*“Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said,
‘it is more blessed to give than to receive.’” (Acts 20:35)*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Christ, When You Came to Jordan”

Hal H. Hopson

Christ, when you came to Jordan
And asked to be baptized,
What was your vow and vision
Of love and sacrifice?
Was there a sudden splendor
Of prophets, priests, and kings,
A wind that stirred the waters,
A blur of mighty wings?

Was this God’s crowning moment
Of all you had become,
The Spirit’s pow’r and blessing:
“Go now, you are my son”?
Did scripture join with scripture
In words of sharp surprise:
“The true Messiah shall conquer,
Rejected and despised”?

Faith rests content with questions
Of when and why and how,
But craves the gift of seeing
What God is doing now.
Come, bring us to our Jordan
Of newly opened eyes,
Through love, immersed in living,
As you were once baptized.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

The Lord’s Supper is open to all who trust in Christ.

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

*HYMN NO. 490

“Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters”

BEACH SPRING

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

**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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*When you approach a communion server, please take a piece of bread,
the symbol of Christ's love for you, and dip it in the cup, representing the new life in Christ.
If you are unable to come forward, please tell an usher so that you may be served.*

Those sitting in the balcony will be served in their pews.

For those who have wheat allergies, we provide gluten-free rice crackers with the communion bread.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

“Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring”

J. S. Bach

Jesu, joy of our desiring,
Holy wisdom, Love most bright;
Drawn by Thee, our souls aspiring,
Soar to uncreated light.
Word of God our flesh that fashion'd
With the fire of life impassion'd.
Striving still to Truth unknown,
Soaring, dying, round thy throne.

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

Spirit of God –

**We rejoice that you have washed us in the waters of baptism
and filled us with the cup of new life.**

May we – whom you have nurtured at font and table –

pour out your grace,

until justice rolls down like waters

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream,

and all creation tastes and sees your goodness. Amen.

*HYMN NO. 475

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

NETTLETON

BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Toccata

Flor Peeters

GOING FORTH

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



Sunday Seminars

Spiritual Gifts Workshop

Community Hall

Presenters: Sudie Niesen Thompson and Susan Moseley

God calls us to serve one another using our spiritual gifts. In this workshop, participants will be invited to take a spiritual gifts inventory (questionnaire) to discover their personal gifts and what those gifts look like in practice. We will also examine the three major lists of spiritual gifts recorded in the New Testament and explore the general principles regarding the spiritual gifts. Join us to discover your gifts and learn how knowing your gifts can be a blessing both for you and for our church family.

WPC Networking Group

Classroom 5

Presenter: Craig Stabler

Interested in learning more about fellow WPC members and perhaps helping others with their careers or receiving help? Our congregation has members in all sorts of career fields: technology, sales, finance, medicine, law, operations, accounting, and so much more! Are you on LinkedIn? Did you know our church has a group on LinkedIn? Would you like to learn more? Then come to a session in Classroom 5 led by Craig Stabler, where we'll discuss a potential new networking group.

New to Westminster?

Welcome! We are so glad you are here.

Here is some information you might find helpful:

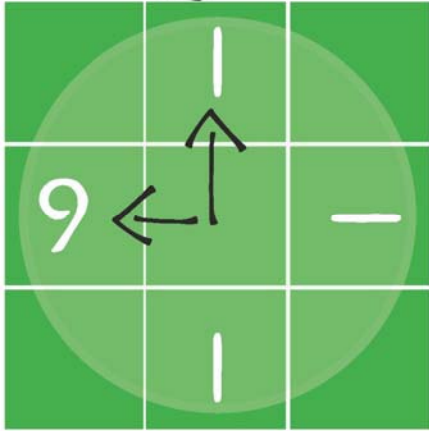
- Hymnals are located on a shelf under the pew in front of you, or at the ends of the pew. Please join us in singing!
- A red Friendship Pad at the end of the pew will be passed during the service. We hope you will sign it and let us know how we can welcome you with a follow-up contact.
- There will 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 Classroom 6 after the service.

Ask someone to show you the way!

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

9-SQUARE



A-THON

Sunday, January 14, 2018

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.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

9:00 a.m. – One Worship Service in the Sanctuary

10:10 a.m. – Call for Annual Meeting in Community Hall

The annual congregational meeting of Westminster Presbyterian Church will be held on Sunday, January 28, 2018, at 10:10 a.m. for the purpose of conducting the following business:

1. To receive the report of the Church Officer Nominating Committee and to elect elders, deacons, and trustees;
2. To elect congregational at-large members to the Church Officer Nominating Committee;
3. To receive the financial report of 2017;
4. To receive the budget report for 2018;
5. To consider changes to the calls of the pastors; and
6. To consider any other business which may properly come before the meeting.

By order of Session: Gregory Knox Jones, Moderator and Jeanne Checkel, Clerk of Session

Chili Luncheon follows the Annual Meeting!

Please join us for our annual Chili Luncheon hosted by the deacons directly following the Annual Meeting. The deacons will provide a variety of homemade chili, salads, cornbread, and cookies.