



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship Christ the King Sunday November 26, 2017 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, Faith Formation through Music
and Arts, Teaching Artist in Residence,
Kevin Flaherty, Assistant Director, Children's Music
Soloist/Section Leaders: Sharon Babcock, Elizabeth Holmes
Christian Sanders, Travis Lucas

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 Community Hall, offers free coffee, tea, and fellowship. Breakfast items are available for one dollar per item.

Deacon Team of the Month

Liz Bacon, Beatty Chadwick, Tammy Daley, Nancy Diver, Laura Holmes, Sandy White

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

9:00 – 9:55 a.m. Worship 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 |
| ➤ Love Gives Celebration | Community Hall |
| ➤ 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

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

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in gratitude for Westminster's amazing staff and volunteers, given by the Thomas-Suarez Family.

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 date is December 31.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND PRAYER

Please remember in your prayers:

- ❖ **Recently hospitalized:** 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** Jeanne Butz and Polly McPheeters at Foulk Manor North, Nancy McFadden at Simpson Meadows, Hal Schonhans at Crosslands, Frank Pickering at The Summit; and at Cokesbury Dottie Heldt, Bob Kline and Margie Lounsbury.
- ❖ **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.
- Thank you for your prayers for Brian Gorman, grandson of Art and Barbara Gorman, who has returned to the United States.

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

Craig Checkel

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Mighty God, you hold the heavens in your hands and all the stars rejoice in your glory. You come in the sunrise and the song of morn and bless the splendor of the noonday. The stars in their courses magnify you, day and night tell of your glory. Your peace blows over the earth and the breath of your mouth fills all space. Your voice comes in the thunder of the storm and the song of the wind whispers of your majesty. You satisfy all things living with your abundance and my life resides in you. Amen.

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

Praeludium in C major

Johann Christoph Kellner

CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted from Psalm 100

Serve the Lord with gladness;
come into God's presence with joy.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

Know that the Lord is God.

We are the cherished sheep of our Creator's pasture.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

With thanksgiving, enter the gates of the Most High;

Come into God's courts with songs of praise.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

*HYMN NO. 267

"Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

MADRID

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Adapted from a prayer from *Many Voices*

**God of Mercy,
you have called us to walk humbly with you
and to show compassion toward the least of these.
Yet we have failed to live up to this call.
Today, we come before you
asking your Spirit to empower us
to be agents of transformation in the world.
Make us fountains of grace,
from which all who suffer
can find the living waters of God –
the one who calls us to lives of service, of humility,
and of reconciliation
with you, with creation, and with the world. Amen.**

At the asterisk (), please stand as you are able*

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

“The Lord is good!
God's steadfast love endures forever;
God's faithfulness blesses all generations.” (Psalm 100:5)

Believe the good news: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Give thanks to the Lord; bless God's holy name!

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

Greg Jones

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

ANTHEM

“Crown Him King of Kings”

J. S. Bach

Crown Him King of Kings, and Lord of Lords. Shout and sing to God, the mighty Lord. Shout to God, the Lord, O sing His praises. All ye heavens, all the earth, shout and sing to God, the mighty Lord. Truth, unchanging is His law. In His justice we rejoice. Praise His name in joyful voice. Sing to God, the mighty Lord. Shout and sing to God, the mighty Lord with joyful heart and voice. In humility we bow in thanks for all His tender love.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 25:31-46

New Testament, page 25
Suzie Hurlock, Lay Reader

SERMON

Sudie Niesen Thompson

*HYMN NO. 761

“Called as Partners in Christ's Service”

BEECHER

OFFERING

“Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.”
~ Psalm 96:8

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“My Eternal King”

Jane Marshall

My God, I love Thee;
not because I hope for heav'n thereby,
Nor yet because who love Thee not
Must die eternally.

Thou, O my Jesus, Thou didst me
Upon the cross embrace;
For me didst bear the nails and spear,
And manifold disgrace;

Why, then why, O blessed Jesus Christ,
Should I not love Thee well?
Not for the hope of winning heav'n,
Or of escaping hell;

Not with the hope of gaining aught,
Not seeking a reward;
But as Thyself hast loved me,
O ever-loving Lord!

E'en so I love Thee, and will love,
And in Thy praise will sing;
Solely because Thou art my God,
And my Eternal King.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Christ the King

Dom Paul Benoit

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 is 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 Community Hall after the service.
Ask someone to show you the way!**

SERMON SERIES: WHY CHURCH?

The Golden Age of the church has passed. Or has it? The church will never regain its place of importance. Or will it? The Christian Church in the West has been on a downward slide for decades. Belief in God remains high among Americans, but church membership is on the decline. Is this the long, slow death of Christianity, or is it the long, slow death of the church as we know it today? Are we living in the final days of the church or could this be the beginning of the reformation of the church?

On seven Sundays this fall, Dr. Jones will lay out the reasons that the church is absolutely crucial to the state of the world.

October 8 The Church Plays a Critical Role in Society

November 19 Serving the World, Finding Our Soul

October 15 Where Community is Built

December 3 A Prophetic Voice

November 5 Can the Church Revive Our Sense of Enchantment with the World?

December 10 Where We Find Hope

November 12 Shaping Character

Previous sermons are available on the literature table and on the church website.



Reflections on A Christmas Carol

Today, November 26 and December 10, 17

Classroom 6

Presenter: Bob Cox

Advent is a time to celebrate the coming of Christ into our lives. Join Bob Cox and explore Charles Dickens' "little ghost story" of Ebenezer Scrooge's salvation. Bob will weave his extensive collection of adaptations of *A Christmas Carol* together to highlight our journey from sin to redemption.



"Love Gives" Event

TODAY

10:10 a.m. in Community Hall

Join us in Community Hall as we celebrate the spirit of love and generosity that resounds throughout our congregation! We will share fun and fellowship, filled with gratitude for our amazing community of faith. Celebrating with music, images, special refreshments and more, we will rejoice that our faithful generosity – in spirit and in action – transforms so many lives. See you there!

Christmas Boxes Project Is Under Way!

Every year, Westminster fills more than 125 boxes at Christmas with food and gifts for those 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 10.**
- Donate boxed cereal, stuffing mix, canned sweet potatoes, corn, green beans, and/or cranberry sauce. Bring your donations to church **by Sunday, December 10** and place them in a collection bin.

You can find more detailed information and additional ways to help in the October/November 2017 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.



WEDNESDAY EVENING

TAIZÉ

A SERVICE OF PRAYER AND REFLECTION

Wednesdays
December 6, 13, and 20
6:30 p.m.

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. You are welcome!