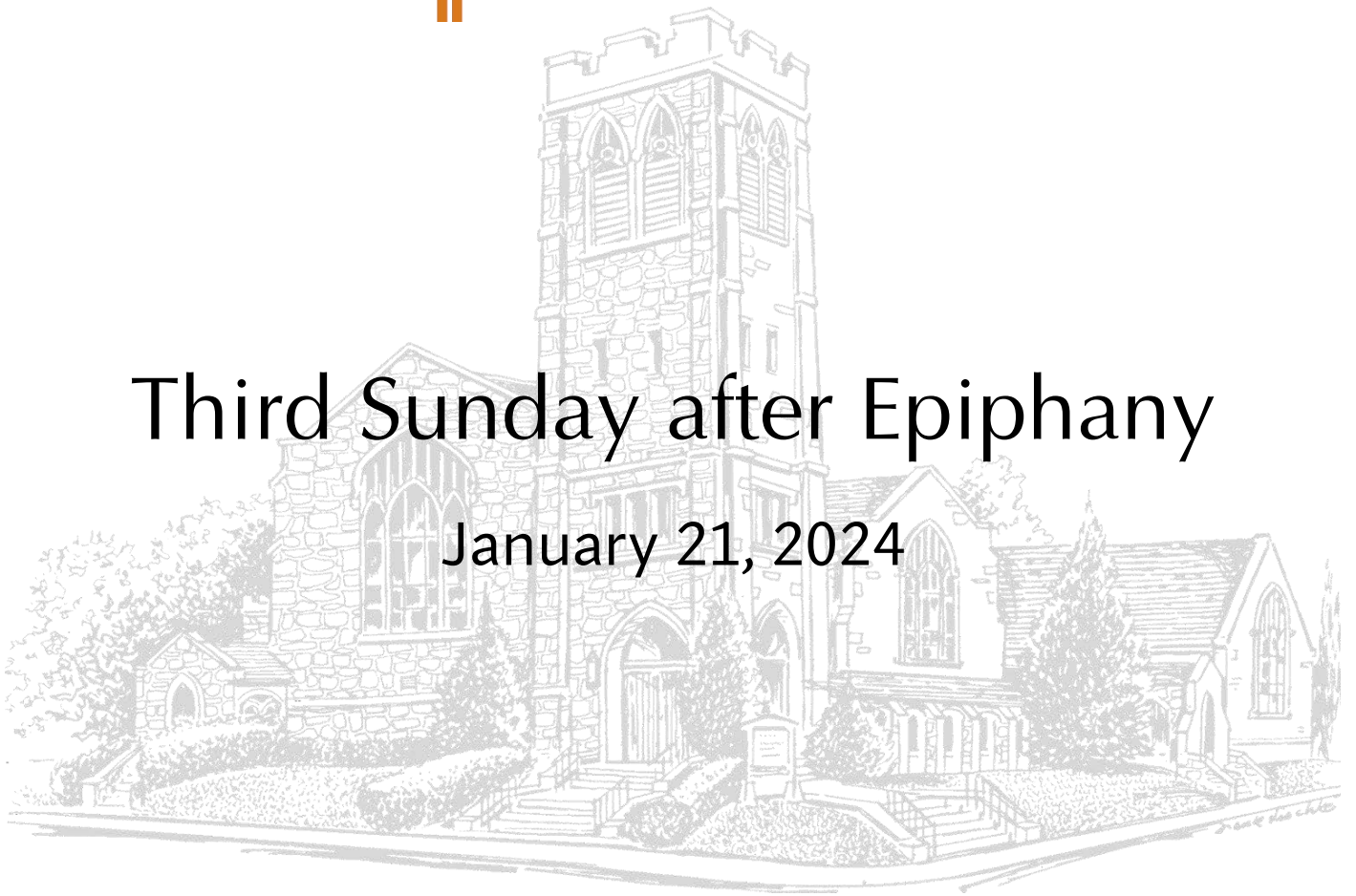




WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 21, 2024



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 (U.S.A.)
An Earth Care Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
A Matthew 25 Church of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
A Stephen Ministry Congregation

TODAY AT WESTMINSTER

8:45 – 12:15 p.m. **Nursery Care** for infants and toddlers in Preschool Suite D

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

Time with Our Children (approximately 9:15 a.m.)

The young and young-at-heart are invited to join the worship leader at the front of the sanctuary. Following the TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN, young ones through fifth grade may be escorted to Children's Programming or they are welcome to remain in worship.

Children's Programming (9:20 – 10:00 a.m.)

- Preschool Sunday School: Ages 3 and 4 in the Preschool Suite Room C
- Joyful Noise Choir: Kindergarten–Grade 5 in the Youth Music Room

10:00 – 10:45 a.m. **Holy Toast Café** in Walton Community Hall

Enjoy free coffee, tea, and fellowship. Breakfast items are available for one dollar.

10:10 – 11:00 a.m. **Children and Youth Programming**

- Nursery Care: Age 4 and under in Preschool Suite D
- Kids Zone Sunday School: Kindergarten–Grade 5 in Classroom 1
- Middle School Zone: Grades 6–8 in Classroom 3
- High School: Grades 9–12
 - Confirmation Class in Classroom 7
 - Small Groups in the Library (for already confirmed youth)

Adult Education (see page 6)

- The Innocence Project in Classroom 6
- Feeling Good Again: From Fear to Freedom in Classroom 5

11:15 – 12:00 p.m. **Living Mosaics worship** in Rodney Chapel

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For descriptions of our programs for children and youth, visit wpc.org/children-youth.

The Music: Our service includes music by living composers written within the last two decades. Thurman's choral introit, composed for The First Presbyterian Church in Germanton, has been updated for today's service. Aaron David Miller is Director of Music and Organist at House of Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Paul, Minnesota. He has dozens of sacred choral works in print, including our offertory anthem. John S. Dixon's *Postlude on WESTMINSTER NEW*, a hymn tune composed by Westminster's former Director of Music and Organist, John Thoms, was given its world premier performance last Sunday afternoon here at Westminster.

The sanctuary flowers are given to the Glory of God and in celebration of Jim Carter's 70th birthday by his family. Consider giving the flowers for Sunday worship to remember or honor loved ones or to celebrate an event. Please contact Linda Watson at (302) 571-6719 or lwatson@ycst.com. Dates available are February 4, 18, and 25.

Westminster's Prayer Team prays for the needs of our community. Please submit your prayer request to wpcprayerlist@gmail.com or online at wpc.org/care-support.

You can make a contribution to Westminster Presbyterian Church by visiting our website at wpc.org and clicking the "Donate" button or scan this QR code on your smart phone. → We accept donations by bank withdrawal, credit card, and debit card.



ORDER OF WORSHIP

~ Passages in **bold** print may be spoken by all. At the asterisk (*) please stand in body or rise in spirit. ~

TOWER CHIME

Susan Spilecki

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHORAL INTROIT

Softly and Tenderly, Jesus Is Calling

Thurman

CALL TO WORSHIP

From the demands of daily labor, Jesus calls us:

“Come and follow me.”

Through song and sacred story, the Spirit whispers:

“Come and follow me.”

Come, let us worship God together

and follow Christ into the world.

*HYMN No. 309

Come, Great God of All the Ages

ABBOT’S LEIGH

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**On the bustling shores of Galilee,
Jesus called Simon and Andrew, James and John.
Immediately, they dropped their nets.
Immediately, they abandoned their boats.
Immediately, these fishermen-turned-followers
set out to fish for people.
Christ, you also call to us.
But we are slow to set aside
the mundane tasks that shape our lives,
slow to abandon the weak excuses
we recite to drown out your voice,
slow to drop the daily demands
that compete for our attention.
Call to us again, we pray,
and summon us to lives of gracious service.
Fashion us into faithful followers
who hear Christ’s commands
and respond with courage and compassion,
so that we might proclaim the reign of God. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

(See “Today at Westminster” on page 2.)

Gregory Knox Jones

Softly, tenderly Jesus is calling to you.
See, on the portals he's waiting and watching for you and me.
Come home, you who are weary.
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling sinners to come home.
Time is now fleeting, moments are passing from you and me;
Shadows gathering, nighttime is coming for you and me.
Oh, for the wonderful love he has promised for you and me.
Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon for you and me.

COMMISSIONING OF THE GUATEMALA PARTNERSHIP TEAM

Morgan Miller, Cathy Higgins, Carrie Saathoff, and Peggy Brown

SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE

Lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called,
making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

**There is one body and one Spirit,
just as we were called to the one hope of our calling,
one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
one God and Creator of all,
who is above all and through all and in all.** (From Ephesians 4:1-6)

QUESTIONS FOR THE GUATEMALA PARTNERSHIP TEAM

In accepting God's call to serve as partners in mission to Guatemala,
do you promise to share God's love with those you meet?

Will you open your heart so that you may be enriched by what the people of Guatemala
will share with you?

QUESTION FOR THE CONGREGATION

Do you, the members of our church family, promise to pray for and support the
Guatemala Partnership Team during their travels? **We do.**

COMMISSIONING PRAYER

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.**

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HELPING HANDS (AND FEET!) COLLECTION

Throughout the Month of January



Winter is a particularly difficult time for those who are, or are at risk of becoming, houseless or homeless. Our annual Friendship House “Helping Hands” project is back for its 8th year, collecting NEW gloves, mittens, hats, scarves, and socks for all ages.

We are collecting these items in Walton Community Hall this morning between services (10–11 a.m.). There will also be collection boxes inside the 13th Street entrance and by the front desk throughout the month.

Thank you for your support! Questions? Email sandyking@verizon.net.

ADULT EDUCATION

TODAY, JANUARY 21



The Innocence Project

Presented by Claudia Trupp, Executive Director, The Innocence Project

10:10–11:00 a.m. | Classroom 6 and Zoom

Zoom link: bit.ly/wpc-adult-ed-zoom

Since 1989, over 3,000 people in the United States have been exonerated for crimes they did not commit. In this presentation, Ms. Trupp will explain the factors contributing to wrongful conviction, provide a brief history of the innocence movement, and discuss how issues involving race infiltrate the legal system at every stage.

Feeling Good Again:

From Fear to Freedom

Presented by Janet Steinwedel, Ph.D.

10:10–11:00 a.m. | Classroom 5

Rather than fear the new year with the anxiety that comes with commitments and the expectations of others, we'll look at how we create some freedom for ourselves by attending to the kinds of actions that will truly bring us a better life and a more joyful existence.

NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

Annual Meeting and Chili Luncheon No Adult Education

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Montreat Informational Session

Presented by Susie Burns, Director of Church Relations, Montreat Conference Center

10:10–11:00 a.m. | Classroom 6 and Zoom

Zoom link: bit.ly/wpc-adult-ed-zoom



Susie will discuss the importance of the Montreat Youth Conference experience and answer any questions that you might have about Montreat and its programming.

Let's Talk About It

10:10–11:00 a.m. | Ruth Christie Room

We are happy to bring back this beloved series. Join folks for a lively discussion of a timely topic that is current that week/month.

ONGOING/WEEKLY

Online Bible Studies

Midweek Manna Bible Study

Wednesdays | 12 p.m. | Zoom

Facilitator: The Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson

Contact: sniesenthompson@wpc.org

Thursday Evening Bible Study

Thursdays | 6–7 p.m. | Zoom

*Facilitators: Randy Williamson
and Mary Anne Peters*

Contact: randywilliamson1@comcast.net

Peace and Justice Thursday Evening Education Event

Cumulative Impacts Legislation – Environmental Justice in Delaware

*With Willie Scott, Environmental Justice
Chair, Sierra Club Delaware*

January 25 | 7 p.m. | Zoom

Zoom link: bit.ly/peace-justice-zoom

Hosted by our Peace & Justice Work Group.

zoom.us/join | Meeting ID: 860 2752 1655

For full descriptions of our programs and more adult education and small group opportunities, visit WPC.ORG/ADULTS or check our events calendar at WPC.ORG/EVENTS. Select adult education programs are available as a livestream/recording on our [YouTube channel](#).



SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

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

10:10 a.m. – Annual Meeting in Walton Community Hall

The annual congregational meeting of Westminster Presbyterian Church will be held in person on Sunday, January 28, 2024, 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 2023;
4. To receive the budget report for 2024;
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 Jan Patrick, Clerk of Session

11:15 a.m. – Chili Luncheon follows the Annual Meeting!

The deacons will provide a variety of delicious homemade chili, salad, cornbread, and cookies.

Music at Westminster

COPELAND STRING QUARTET

Sunday, January 28 | 3 p.m.



Westminster's 2023–2024 Concert Series continues with the Copeland String Quartet. The Delaware Symphony Orchestra's premiere ensemble will present works by Beethoven, Higdon, and Tomlinson Griffes. All are invited! This concert is open to the public and there is no admission fee. A free-will offering is requested.

**Please join us in person or livestream at
wpc.org/watch or directly on WPC's
[YouTube channel!](#)**

Westminster Members Travel to Guatemala – Follow Along!



On Monday, a delegation of 13 people from six churches in New Castle Presbytery will travel to Guatemala for a week. Peggy Brown, Morgan Miller, Cathy Higgins and Carrie Saathoff are representing Westminster. Be sure to sign up for our travel blog at ncpguatemala.com/blog to receive daily trip reports in your inbox, and then attend our fun and lively trip presentation during 10:10 on February 18. Hot chocolate will be served! You can [read more](#) about our itinerary.

**Thank you for praying for our safe travel and return.
Vaya con Dios! Go with God!**

PASTORAL STAFF

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

MUSIC STAFF

Dr. F. Anthony Thurman, Director of Music/Organist
Emily Haas, Director of Music for Children and Youth
Cole Walker, Choral Assistant for Children and Youth

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES STAFF

Kathleen Kennan, Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministry
Sydney Walker, Associate Director of Youth Ministry
Stephanie Burris-White, Director of Preschool Ministries
Beatrice Taylor, Nursery

VIDEOGRAPHERS

Tanner Freeman, Deanna Sparling, Rich Albert, Drew Holmes, George McAllister, Chip Pfleegor, Roger Reinicker, Aaron Wemhoff, Sophia Wolff

DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

Colleen Falasco

DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES AND SECURITY

Paul Crothamel

Visit wpc.org/staff-leadership for a full listing of Westminster's staff and leadership.

309 Come, Great God of All the Ages

1 Come, great God of all the a - ges; make your earth - ly
 2 Come, Christ Je - sus, flesh and spir - it, sure foun - da - tion,
 3 Come, great Spir - it, in and with us, tune our ears to
 4 Come, O come, in cel - e - bra - tion, house - hold of the

mis - sion known; speak through ev - ery deed and per - son;
 cor - ner - stone; help us form the church e - ter - nal;
 hear your call; through the mov - ing of your pres - ence,
 one true God; in com - mit - ment and re - joic - ing

let your way and will be shown. Guide the church to true com -
 may your vi - sion be our own. Send a mes - sage to each
 let re - deem - ing love re - call min - is - try in ded - i -
 let us go where Christ has trod; as we act in faith and


mit - ment; give di - rec - tion now, we ask; fit us for the
 fol - lower; lead all peo - ple to your way; urge us to strong
 ca - tion, love em - bod - ied in our deeds; chal - lenge us to
 rev - erence, let us, Lord, the fu - ture see; place us in the

This text was written in 1987 for the capital cornerstone campaign of the National Presbyterian Church in Washington, DC. It is set here to a mid-20th-century tune created in wartime England to replace a Haydn tune tainted by Nazi associations.


THE CHURCH

work of build-ing; ded - i - cate us to the task.
 faith and ac - tion as we build the church to - day.
 do your bid - ding, see your pur - pose, fill all needs.
 church tri - um - phant, now and for e - ter - ni - ty.


You Walk along Our Shoreline 170




1 You walk a - long our shore-line where land meets un-known sea.
 2 You call us, Christ, to gath - er the peo - ple of the earth.
 3 We cast our net, O Je - sus; we cry the king-dom's name;



We hear your voice of pow - er, "Now come and fol - low me.
 We can - not fish for on - ly those lives we think have worth.
 we work for love and jus - tice; we learn to hope through pain.



And if you still will fol-low through storm and wave and shoal,
 We spread your net of gos - pel a - cross the wa - ter's face,
 You call us, Lord, to gath - er God's daugh-ters and God's sons,



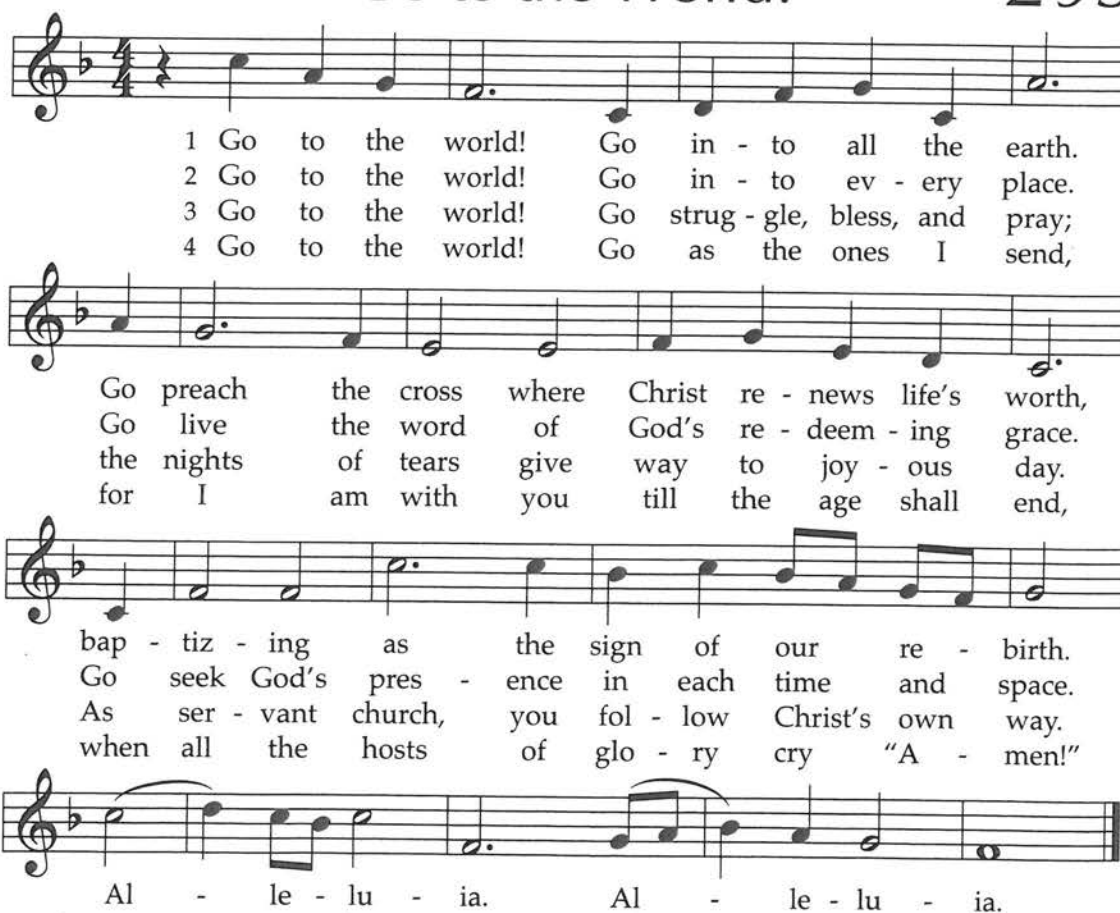
then I will make you fish - ers but of the hu - man soul."
 our boat a com - mon shel - ter for all found by your grace.
 to let your judg - ment heal us so that all may be one.

Based on Jesus' calling of the disciples (Matthew 4:18-22/Mark 1:16-20/Luke 5:4-11), this hymn notes that their mode of fishing involved nets requiring the participation of more than one person. Likewise, in our work of love and justice we are called to bear witness in community.

THE CHURCH

Go to the World!

295



1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.
 2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - ery place.
 3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;
 4 Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,

Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,
 Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.
 the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.
 for I am with you till the age shall end,

bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.
 Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.
 As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.
 when all the hosts of glo - ry cry "A - men!"

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Based on Christ's great commission (Matthew 28:19-20), this text was written for a Convocation of Emmanuel College in Toronto, the largest theological school of the United Church of Canada, a denomination formed by the union of Methodists, Congregationalists, and Presbyterians.