



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

February 23, 2025



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

9:15 – 11:45 a.m. **Nursery Care** for infants and toddlers in Preschool Suite D

9:30 – 10:30 a.m. **Worship** in the Sanctuary

Time with Our Children (approximately 9:45 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 (9:45 – 10:30 a.m.)

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

10:30 – 11:15 a.m. **Holy Toast Café!** Join us for complimentary coffee, tea, treats, and time with new and old friends in Rodney Chapel.

10:40 – 11:30 a.m. **Adult Education (see page 6)**
Coffee/tea available in Classrooms

Children and Youth Programming

- Nursery Care: Age 4 and under in Preschool Suite D
- Kids Zone Sunday School: Kindergarten–Grade 5 in Classrooms 1 and 2

3:00 – 4:30 p.m. **Bryan Anderson Organ Recital** (see page 7)

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

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COMMUNITY OF
FAITH!



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The Music: We are honored to have Bryan Anderson sharing his gifts in worship today. The Atlanta native is the Pierre S. du Pont First Prize Winner of the 2023 Longwood Gardens International Organ Competition and the Director of Music at Saint Thomas' Episcopal Church and School in Houston. Bryan completed his undergraduate studies at the Curtis Institute of Music and received his master's degree in organ performance from the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University in 2018. Please join us for his solo recital this afternoon at 3 p.m., which is co-sponsored by the Delaware Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. See p. 7 for more information.

The chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Anna Mae Robinson by Charlie Ingersoll and Dick Jolly. Consider giving the flowers for Sunday worship to remember or honor loved ones or to celebrate an event. Currently available dates are March 9 and 16, and April 6 and 13. Please contact Linda Watson at (302) 571-6719 or lwatson@ycst.com.

You can contribute 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

Timothy Ohmart

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Please sign and pass the friendship pads.)

Gregory Knox Jones

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRELUDE

Prelude in G Major, BWV 541
Bryan Anderson, organ

J.S. Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

We have come to worship the living God;

who creates heaven and earth.

Let us celebrate the gift of life;

and give thanks for the wonders of God's world.

*HYMN NO. 5

God the Sculptor of the Mountains

JENNINGS-HOUSTON

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Randall T. Clayton

**Creator of the cosmos, you have given us an amazing planet
thriving with all the things that sustain life.**

**The handiwork of your majestic creation leaves us in awe
and grateful for the gift of life.**

**Inspire us to care deeply for what you have created and what you continue to create,
and help us to learn how to walk reverently upon the earth. Amen.**

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN (See "Today at Westminster" on page 2 for more information.)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 104, selected verses

Old Testament, pages 517-518

CHORAL RESPONSE

Bless the Lord

Taizé

SERMON

*HYMN NO. 14

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Bless the Lord, My Soul and Being!

C. Hubert H. Parry

Bless the Lord, my soul and being! Lord my God, you have such might.
Cloaked with honor, grand and glorious, you are clothed with purest light.
Stretching out the heavens like tent cloth, you are chambered on the deep.
Riding on the wings of wind-storm, flame and fire your bidding keep.

Lord, you laid the earth's foundation that it would be always sound.
By the word of your commanding, you set forth each ocean's bound.
Springs gush forth at your own bidding, giving drink to every field.
Bird and beast and all your creatures in that coolness find thirst healed.

Grass you cause to grow for cattle, plants for us to cultivate.
Food you bring forth from our labor, wine for you and bread for plate.
Trees you give the birds for shelter, mountain rock and care for beast.
Sun and moon both mark the seasons; in their light we work and feast.

Lord, how great are all your workings; wisdom marks them through and through.
All the earth is your possession; great and small belong to you.
Food you give in each due season; at your hand come all good things.
By your Spirit you create us; Lord, your breath renewal brings.

May your glory reign forever. Lord, rejoice in all you make!
As you look on your creation, mountains smoke, foundations shake.
May these words and thoughts be pleasing, for in you my joy is found.
Bless the Lord, my soul and being! With this song let praise abound.

—Fred. R. Anderson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE 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.**

*HYMN NO. 15

All Creatures of our God and King
(Vv. 1-3 and 6)

LASST UNSERFREUEN

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Let All Things Their Creator Bless

Alfred V. Fedak

NEW TO WESTMINSTER? Welcome. We are glad you are here. We hope that you will join us following worship in Rodney Chapel for refreshments and fellowship. There will be a member standing near the blue "Welcome Visitors" sign at the entrance of Rodney Chapel who can answer any questions you might have about Westminster. The Friendship Pad will be passed during the service. We hope you sign it and give us your email or home address so that we might welcome you with a follow-up contact. A gender-neutral, accessible restroom is located between the pulpit transept and the tower entrance.

Please see the "I'm New" page of our website at wpc.org for more information about us.

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Bless the Lord, My Soul and Being! Fred R. Anderson.
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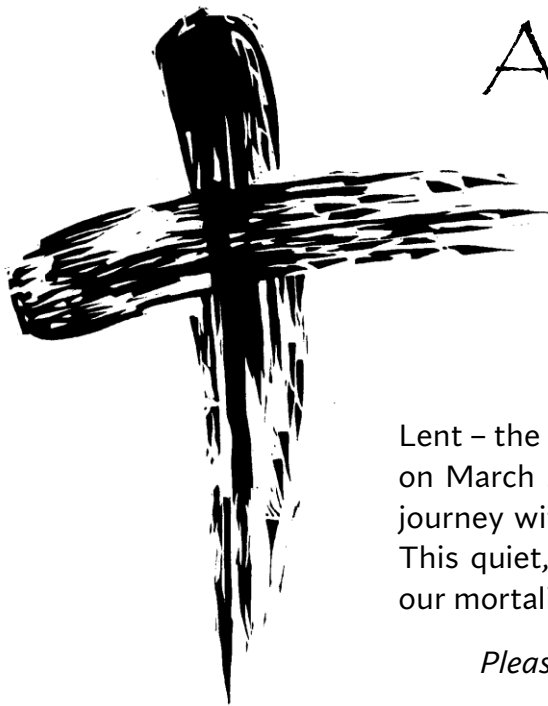
Let All Things Their Creator Bless, Alfred V. Fedak.
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Sermon Series on Seven Psalms

Dr. Jones is preaching a sermon series on seven psalms that cover a variety of topics and moods: praising God, declaring trust, lamenting hardship, pleading with God, confessing sin, grappling with mortality, voicing doubt, and expressing gratitude. Here is the schedule:

February 23	Psalm 104	God is Creator of the world
March 2	Psalm 46	God is our stronghold in times of trouble
March 9	Psalm 88	Does God care that I'm hurting?
March 23	Psalm 51	Forgive me
March 30	Psalm 90	Teach us to number our days
April 13	Psalm 22	Why has God forsaken me?
May 4	Psalm 150	Thanks and praise to God



Ash Wednesday Service and Soup Supper

Wednesday, March 5
6 p.m. | Sanctuary

Lent – the 40-day season during which we prepare for Easter – begins on March 5. Please join us as we mark the beginning of the Lenten journey with our Ash Wednesday service at 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary. This quiet, reflective, and meditative service includes a reminder of our mortality with the imposition of ashes.

Please join us for a soup supper in Walton Community Hall immediately following worship.

Interested in Learning More About Westminster or Considering Membership?

Sundays, March 9 and 16 | 10:40 – 11:30 a.m. | Ruth Christie Room
(access through Rodney Chapel or the Ruth Christie Hallway)

Are you interested in learning more about this community of faith? Please join us for a two-session Membership Exploration Series on March 9 and 16 to discuss the Presbyterian tradition, 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 the second session on March 16 for those who desire to do so. Questions? Please contact the Rev. Randall Clayton at rclayton@wpc.org.

ADULT EDUCATION

TODAY, FEBRUARY 23

Detentions and Disappearances in Palestine

10:40–11:30 a.m. | Classroom 6 and Zoom

Zoom link (case-sensitive): bit.ly/wpc-adult-ed-zoom

Zoom Meeting ID: 839 8151 0163 | Passcode: 999506



We will examine the cruel practices of detention, involuntary disappearance, and mass graves which are occurring in the West Bank and Gaza. We will situate these practices within history, within the current political climate, and regionally – shedding light on challenges faced by families and communities reckoning with these issues.

“The Way” by Adam Hamilton

Presented by the Rev. Jill Getty

10:40–11:30 a.m. | Classroom 5

Join us for Hamilton’s engaging six-session DVD study, *Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus*, where he explores the life and ministry of Jesus Christ in the Holy Land. This unique experience includes on-location video footage.

NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 2

The Mission of the Church and the Role of Advocacy

Presented by Sonya Starr, Director, Housing Alliance of DE

10:40–11:30 a.m. | Classroom 6 and Zoom

Zoom link (case-sensitive): bit.ly/wpc-adult-ed-zoom

Zoom Meeting ID: 826 0894 0704 | Passcode: 999506



Christian advocacy seeks to bring justice to those facing violence, poverty, and discrimination, and help more of God’s children experience life in all its fullness. How do we learn to advocate effectively?

Join us as Sonya shares her experience and expertise to guide us in this essential work.

Bible Study: Women in the Bible

“Where Are the Women?” presented by Bob Cox

10:40–11:30 a.m. | Classroom 5

Join us for an engaging class series exploring the lives of women in the Bible – women whose names are known and women with names unwritten.

ONGOING/WEEKLY

Online Bible Studies

Midweek Manna Bible Study

Wednesdays | 12 p.m. | Zoom

Contact: Robin Rosser (rlrosser@aol.com)

Thursday Evening Bible Study

Thursdays | 6–7 p.m. | Zoom

Facilitators: Randy Williamson

(randywilliamson1@comcast.net)

and Mary Anne Peters

Peace and Justice Thursday Evening Education Event

What is DEI and

Why Is It Dividing America?

With Sue Linderman

Learn about DEI’s origins, it’s successes and challenges, and the focus on dismantling them.

February 27 | 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](#).

UPCOMING CONCERTS

AT WESTMINSTER



BRYAN ANDERSON, ORGAN

Today, February 23
3 p.m. | Sanctuary

In person and livestream at wpc.org/watch

Free-will offering.

Suggested contribution: \$20.00



DELAWARE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA BRASS

Tuesday, February 25
7:30 p.m. | Sanctuary

In person only | Tickets: delawaresymphony.org

\$45.00 for WPC Members (discount code:
45forWPC) or \$75.00 at the door.



COPELAND STRING QUARTET

Sunday, March 2
3 p.m. | Sanctuary

In person and livestream at wpc.org/watch

Free-will offering.

Suggested contribution: \$20.00

PASTORAL STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Gregory Knox Jones, Head of Staff
The Rev. Dr. Randall T. Clayton, Bridge Associate Pastor
The Rev. Jill Getty, Pastoral Care Assistant

MUSIC STAFF

Dr. F. Anthony Thurman, Director of Music/Organist
Rebecca Hughes; Margaret Mezzacappa; Teddy Austin; Jerry Polman, Section Leaders
Marjorie Eldreth, Director of Music for Children and Youth
Madelyn Testa, Choral Assistant for Children and Youth

VIDEOGRAPHERS

Deanna Sparling (lead videographer), Rich Albert, Chip Pfleegor,
Roger Reinicker, Aaron Wemhoff and Sophia Wolff

COMMUNION STEWARDS

Dan Weintraub and Jenn Barrington

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES STAFF

Kathleen Kennan, Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministry
Stephanie Burris-White, Director of Preschool Ministries
Ava Herring and Beatrice Taylor, Nursery Caregivers

SUPPORT STAFF

Susan Alexander, Reception Area Supervisor
Beth Bouchelle, Dave Brinkley, Mary Clark, Administrative Assistants
Paul Crothamel, Director of Facilities and Security
Colleen Falasco, Director of Financial Operations
Doug Gerds, Manager of Accounting and Reporting
Nicole Hughes, Director of Marketing and Communications
Delilah Gainey; John Jordan; Robert King; Joan Truitt, Sextons
Craig Checkel, Office Support and Security

SESSION

Brud Bacon, Brenda Bilous, Adam Blackford, Michelle Butler, Sally Buttner, John Carpenter, Clark Collins,
Bob Cox, Sara Dubberly, Mike Gnade Jr., Chris Hickey, Laura Holmes, Carla Krupanski, Tara Lee, Daniel Malzhan,
Jen Máthé, KC Morrison, Dave McBride, Susan McPheeters, Carol Neff, Chip Pfleegor,
Roger Reinicker, Dan Weintraub, Helen Zumsteg

BOARD OF DEACONS

Liz Bacon, Susan Baddorf, Lisa Bianchi, Russ Butler, Beatty Chadwick, Diane Chandler,
David Cole, Tammy Daley, Erin Downing, Beth Emmons, Ellie Furry, Sara Gavenonis,
Jamie Hickey, Rick Holmes, Charlie Ingersoll, Barbara Jobe, Elaine Lunardi, Sarah Mentzer, Pattie Miller,
Gathoni Murugi-Jenkins, Lynne Perkins, Rachel Psaros, Patti Ridout, Robin Rosser,
Carrie Saathoff, Robin Shaeffer, Zora Stevens, Carol Tatnall, Claudia Van Lenten, Sue Weisinger,
Barbara Welch, Grace Wermus, Sandra Wermus, Linda Williams, Kathy Wissner, Jill Zehner

TRUSTEES

Rich Albert, Dave Brinkley, Tom Brooks, Gary Bryde, Matt Fischer, Nancy Fleming,
John Gavenonis, Lou Hering, Sue Linderman, Laura Scanlan, Craig Stabler, Stan Stevenson

PARTNERS IN WORLDWIDE MINISTRY

DR Congo – PC(USA) Mission Co-workers: Jeff and Christi Boyd, Larry and Inge Sthreshley;
Kananga Presbytery and Members of Kamulumba-Ditalala Parish, Conserv Congo: Adams Cassinga
Middle East (Syria, Lebanon, Palestine) - Fellowship of Middle East Evangelical Churches (Syria, Lebanon)
PC(USA) Mission Co-Worker Elmarie Parker (Syria, Lebanon);
Wi'am Palestinian Conflict Transformation Center in Bethlehem (Palestine)
Guatemala - CEDEPCA, AJPU, the Association of Mam Christian Women for Development,
and PC(USA) Mission Co-worker Joseph Russ