

Westminster Presbyterian Church

A Telling Presence in the City

2nd Sunday of Advent, December 9, 2018

*Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.*

*Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.*

Luke 3:4b-6

Welcome to Westminster

We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in our worship, mission, and programs. Large-print hymnals, hearing assistance devices, and Hearing Loop information available from ushers.

If you are new to Westminster

Parking On Sundays, if you are able to walk, please park at Orchestra Hall to leave space in the underground parking for visitors, families with young children, and those who have walking difficulties. At Orchestra Hall, take a ticket as you enter; get a parking voucher at Westminster; use the ticket and voucher to exit. Westminster underground parking is accessed from Alice Rainville Place between Marquette and Nicollet, and there is a drop off area on Marquette Ave.

Nursery Care is available for infants through age 3 during worship and Education Hour.

Coffee Hour Join us for fair trade coffee and refreshments after worship in the Commons.

Education for all ages, Sundays at 9:15 am Church School (ages 3–high school), Family Matters, Adult Education, Social Justice Forum, Virtues & Values. Children’s Church for ages 4-1st grade during 10:30 worship.

Interested in membership? To learn more, visit westminstermpls.org/membership or contact Rev. Meghan Gage-Finn, mgage-finn@wpc-mpls.org, or Janice Teliczan, jteliczan@wpc-mpls.org. The next new member class is January 13.

If you seek to deepen your involvement

Faith in Action Get involved in serving and seeking justice. Contact Rev. Alanna Simone Tyler, at Tyler@wpc-mpls.org.

Families, Youth, and Children Connect with children’s choirs, parent offerings, and special events. Contact Rev. Matthew Johnson, mjohnson@wpc-mpls.org. For youth activities, contact Jim Cochrane, jcochrane@wpc-mpls.org.

Fellowship Enjoy fellowship with other members of the church. Contact Rev. Sarah Brouwer, sbrouwer@wpc-mpls.org.

Other worship and prayer opportunities

Prayer Companions Sundays, 11:30 am, Prayer Rm, Share your concerns and joys with a prayer companion.

Gathered at Five, Sundays, 5 pm, Westminster Hall

Centering Prayer Wednesdays, noon, Bates Rm

The Clearing Wednesdays, 6 pm, Westminster Hall

Quiet Worship 3rd Saturday of the month, 9 am, Bushnell Rm

Westminster Cares

Births, Adoptions, Baptisms Contact Janice Teliczan, jteliczan@wpc-mpls.org.

For Pastoral Care Notify Deb Wagner of hospitalization, illness, death, or prayer requests, dwagner@wpc-mpls.org.

Blood Pressure Screenings 3rd Sunday, 9-10:30 am, Bushnell Rm; 10:30-noon, Bates Rm

The Westminster Counseling Center offers pastoral counseling for individuals, couples, families, and children. Visit westminstercounseling.org or call 612.332.7743.

December 9, 2018

10:30 am

Preparing for the Word

Our service begins with the Prelude, inviting us to prepare for worship.

Welcome

Prelude

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

People, Look East

Variations on 'Greensleeves'

Gerald Near

Kristina Langlois

arr. Peter Crisafulli

Karen Wasiluk, flute; Melanie Ohnstad, organ

Advent Greeting

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

As the morning greeting is offered, please complete the friendship folder found in your pew, and pass it to your neighbor.

*Call to Worship (from Matthew 3)

One: A voice cries out in the wilderness:

All: Prepare the way of the Lord!

One: Let us worship God.

*Processional Hymn No. 87 *Comfort, Comfort Now My People*

Lighting the Advent Candles

Pat & Terry Hammink, Carla Djambibi, Bertrand Nomedj

Sung Response Hymn No. 347 *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* (vs. 2)

Advent Prayer (Unison)

Matthew Johnson

Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation. Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sin, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

* Please stand as you are able.

Listening for the Word

Anthem *O Magi*

Brad Ollmann

Cherub and Recorder Choirs, Seraphim Helpers, Brad Ollmann, conductor

A Time with Children

David Shinn, Rodney Allen Schwartz

There is no Children's Church today. Children are invited to remain in worship.

Hymn No. 137 *He Came Down*

Prayer for Illumination

Caroline Hardy

Before the reading of scripture we pray that God will illumine our understanding.

First Lesson Malachi 3:1-4

Anthem *Rocking Song*

Dave and Jean Perry

Seraphim and Chorister Choirs

Second Lesson Isaiah 11:1-10

Croix Wilde

Anthem *The First Noel*

English Christmas carol

Recorder Choir

Third Lesson Luke 3:1-6

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Meditation *Are We Prepared this Advent?*

Timothy Hart-Andersen

Responding to the Word

***Hymn No. 196** *On Jordan's Bank*

Pastoral Prayer and 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.

Offertory Sentences

Having heard the Word, we now respond in gratitude by giving. Please place your offering in the plate, give via the tithely app, or use the "I give to Westminster" card in recognition of your contributions made online or in another way.

Offertory Anthem

Nachito Herrera, piano

Prayer of Dedication for the Offering Received

***Hymn No. 105** *People, Look East*

***Charge and Benediction**

The people respond with "Amen."

***Passing of the Peace**

Since the earliest days of the Christian Church, worshippers have greeted each other with a sign of peace. All are invited to offer a verbal greeting, such as: "Peace be with you."

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Postlude *On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry (Puer nobis)*

Aaron David Miller

This Sunday

8:15-11:30 am Nursery care, infants to age 3

8:30 am Worship Service, Chapel

9:15 am Church School; Family Matters; Adult Ed; Social Justice Forum; Adult Choir; Virtues & Values; Nursery Lessons & Carols

10:30 am Worship Service, Sanctuary

11:30 am Prayer Companions, Prayer Rm

5 pm Gathered at Five, Westminster Hall;

Sr High House Group, off-site

Westminster Gallery *A Gospel Nativity.*

Contact Dr. Rodney Allen Schwartz,
rschwartz@wpc-mpls.org.

BIRTH

William Richard Gross, November 26, 2018

TODAY'S FLOWERS

In loving memory of

Chuck Hess

by Lee Hess

Marian Thomas

by the Thomas family

Coming Up

College Age Ministries

Contact Meghan Gage-Finn, 612.332.3421 or
mgage-finn@wpc-mpls.org.

Welcome home college students! Gather for Coffee, **Dec 19**, 2 pm at WPC; College/Sr High white elephant party, **Dec 22**, 7 pm

Congregational Care

Contact Deb Wagner, 612.332.3421 or
dwagner@wpc-mpls.org unless noted.

Gifts for Seniors Remember isolated seniors with a gift this holiday season. Beginning Dec 1, look for the blue gift donation barrel near the reception desk. Questions? Contact Angelique Kingsbury akingsbury@wpc-mpls.org.

Grief Support Group, Saturdays, 9:30 am, Hennepin Ave UMC, Dec 15: Ted Bowman, *Thankfulness*. More info, 612.317.3454 or
mplsgriefsupport.org.

Educational Ministries

Contact Carmel Tinnes, ctinnes@wpc-mpls.org unless noted.

Living the Faith in the 21st Century, Wed, 5:30 pm, Bushnell Rm, Favorite Bible Passages is the subject during Dec. Questions? Contact Chad Quaintance, 612.374.9410.

Dec 12: *Living the Faith* (5:30 pm) and *Confirmation through an Adult Lens* (6:30 pm).

Sun Adult Ed resumes Jan 6 with the all-church book read.

Faith in Action

Contact Alanna Simone Tyler, atyler@wpc-mpls.org unless noted.

Social Justice Forum resumes in January.

Nicollet Square holiday party Collecting Target and Amazon gift cards for residents. Leave gift cards at our reception desk marked "Nicollet Square" or send an Amazon eGift-card to Doris Wong. Want to bake two dozen cookies for the party? Please deliver to WPC, from Dec 16-18. Questions? Contact Doris Wong, wongwinter@mac.com.

Families, Youth & Children

Contact Matt Johnson, mjohnson@wpc-mpls.org unless noted.

Moms Group resumes Jan 9.

Dec 12 & 19, 6 pm Christmas sing-along, Children's Music Rm

Dec 15, 10am Middle school decorating & Christmas party

Fellowship

Contact Sarah Brouwer, sbrouwer@wpc-mpls.org unless noted.

Women's Annual Christmas Lunch and Awards, Wed Dec 12, 11:30 am Join us for lunch, carols, an Advent devotion, and Presbyterian Women Lifetime Achievement Awards. Suggested donation is \$10. RSVP to Deb Wagner, dwagner@wpc-mpls, by Dec. 10

Meisel Scholars

Contact Meghan Gage-Finn, 612.332.3421 or mgage-finn@wpc-mpls.org.

Meisel Scholar Alums, Sun, Dec 23, 5 pm
Attend *Gathered at Five* then gather at Brit's to reconnect and socialize.

Thin Places

The Advent/Winter issue is available on the information table and online.

Promise of Justice, Promise to Give

Did you know that 75% of Westminster's annual resources come from congregational giving? If you haven't done so, please pledge today, and add your thoughts to the JUSTICE WALL in Westminster Commons. Your support will help create a just world in which all people thrive.



Worship

Gathered at Five, Sundays, 5 pm, Casual service, Westminster Hall

The Clearing, Wednesdays, 6 pm,
Contemplative service, Westminster Hall

Sat, Dec 15, 8:30 am, 12th Annual Simulcast
Live-stream Christmas Service Bethlehem, Westminster's partner congregation
Christmas Lutheran Church, and Washington, National Cathedral.

Advent & Christmas Worship

Sun, Dec 16, 8:30 & 10:30 am

Christmas Festival Sunday

Tim Hart-Andersen preaching

Gathered at Five, Tim Hart-Andersen preaching

Sun Dec 23, 10:30 am

Tim Hart-Andersen preaching

Gathered at Five, Sarah Brouwer preaching

Christmas Eve

Pageant, 4 pm

Candlelight Services, 8 & 10 pm

Tim Hart-Andersen preaching

The Clearing, Wednesdays, 6 pm

Poinsettias for the Homebound



Will you help deliver flowers to homebound members and friends? Poinsettias and addresses are available in Westminster Commons for delivery.

Today's Worship Leadership

Rev. Dr. Timothy Hart-Andersen, *Senior Pastor*

Rev. Meghan K. Gage-Finn, *Executive Associate Pastor*

Rev. Matthew Johnson, *Interim Associate Pastor, Families, Youth, and Children*

Rev. David Shinn, *Associate Pastor, Congregational Care*

Dr. Melanie Ohnstad, *Minister of Music and the Arts/Organist*

Dr. Rodney Allen Schwartz, *Director, Westminster Gallery & Archive*

Cherub, Seraphim, Chorister, Recorder Choirs, Brad Ollmann, conductor

Karen Wasilik, flute

Nachito Herrera, piano

Pat & Terry Hammink, Carla Djambibi, Bertrand Nomedj, *Advent Candle Lighters*

Caroline Hardy, Croix Wilde, *Lay Readers*

For full Westminster staff listing and contact information, please visit westminstermpls.org.

Westminster Affiliated Boards

Westminster Camp Ajawah, ajawah.org

Westminster Counseling Center, westminstercounseling.org

Westminster Town Hall Forum, westminsterforum.org



Westminster Presbyterian Church
1200 Marquette Avenue
Minneapolis 55403

westminstermpls.org | 612.332.3421
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Daily Phone Devotions

612.332.7087

December 9 Luke 3:1-6
10 Psalm 126
11 Isaiah 19:18-25
12 Luke 7:18-30
13 Zephaniah 3:14-20
14 Isaiah 12:2-6
15 Philippians 4:4-7
16 Luke 3:7-18