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WESTMINSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
First Sunday after Christmas Day  
Sacrament of Communion  
1 January 2023 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Voluntary

Adeste Fideles

Eric Thiman

**\*Ringing of the Bell**

*The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower Bell.*

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader:

God of all times and yet beyond time,

**People:**

**you call us into this new year still to be named.**

Leader:

Help us travel light in faith and expectation.

**People:**

**Guide us in this new venture of imagination.**

Leader:

Make us bold witnesses to the in-breaking of your future.

**People:**

**Let us rest our times in yours,**

**confident that we do not enter this new year alone.**

**\*Hymn 12**

Immortal, Invisible, God only Wise

*St. Denio*

**\*Litany of Confession**

Leader:

The new year is a time for taking stock of our life.

**People:**

**O Lord, you know us better than we know ourselves.**

**Help us to look at ourselves through your eyes.**

Leader:

Let us reflect on our use of time,

**People:**

**and resolve to deepen our experience of eternity.**

Leader:

Let us reflect on our investment of money,

**People:**

**and resolve to live our understanding of stewardship.**

Leader:

Let us reflect on our attitude toward work,

**People:**

**and resolve to strengthen our sense of vocation.**

Leader: Let us reflect on our regard for leisure,  
**People: and resolve to respect our need for renewal.**  
Leader: Let us reflect on our perception of friendship,  
**People: and resolve to broaden our definition of family.**  
Leader: The new year is a time for letting go and taking hold.  
**People: O Lord, you know us better than we know ourselves.**  
**Help us to let go of the things that pass away, that we**  
**might take hold of the things that endure.**

**\*Sung Response** Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us Hymnal, Back Cover

**\*Declaration of Pardon**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.  
**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

**\*Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.  
**People: And also with you.**  
Leader: Let us greet one another with the sign of peace.

**\*Response of Praise** Gloria Patri Hymnal, Back Cover

**Children's Sermon**

**Congregational**

I want to walk as a child of the light,  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world,  
The star of my life is Jesus.

*Children in preschool – Grade 5 go to Sunday School class following the Congregational Response.*

**First Scripture Reading** Isaiah 63:7-9 Pew Bible, OT page 693

**Second Scripture Reading**

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Pew Bible, NT page 2

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

**Meditation**

The Presence that Saves

Rev. Christian K. Choi

*Text: "It was no messenger or angel but the Lord's presence that saved them; in the Lord's love and pity it was the Lord who redeemed them; the Lord lifted them up and carried them all the days of old."*  
*Isaiah 63:9*

**Anthem**

Brightest and Best

Eric Thiman

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

*Brief from the Confession of Belhar*

**We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.**

**We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain.**

**The Presentation of Our Gifts  
and Prayer of Dedication**

*At this time all worshipers are invited to sign and pass the Ministry of Friendship folders at the end of each pew.*

**Offertory**

Gésu Bambino

Pietro A. Yon

**Offertory Response**

Doxology

Hymnal, 606

## Sacrament of Holy Communion Invitation to the Lord's Table

### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

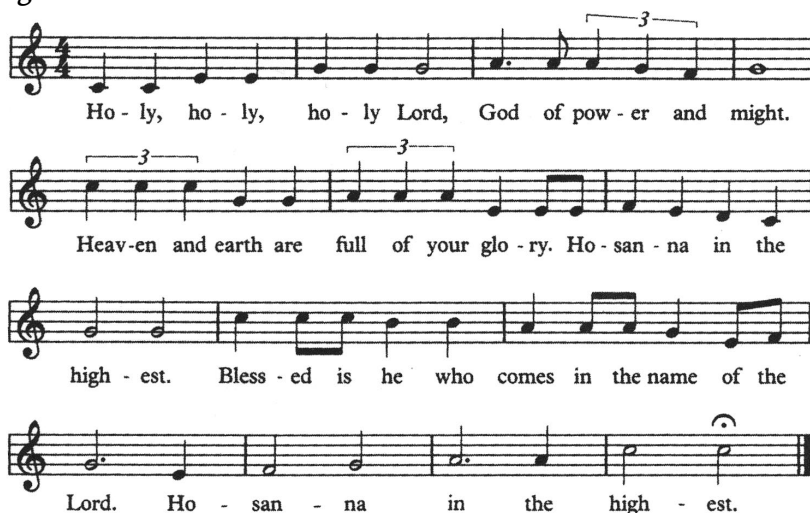
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise... Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

*The people sing:*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might.  
Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Pastor: You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord... Accept this, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen. Great is the mystery of faith:

People: **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pastor: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine... Hear now the prayer Christ taught us to pray, saying:

Words of Institution

Distribution of Elements

*The elements are served without interruption. Partake of the bread as you receive it and hold the cup until all have been served so that we may symbolize our unity in Christ.*

*Gluten-free bread is available in the center of the plate.*

\*Prayer after Communion

Loving God, there is nothing that can separate us from your providence or the love of Christ Jesus, your Son. Seasons pass, times change, but your care for us remains, transparent now and often in the strong, supportive love of friends. With your tender mercy, visit us, to guide our feet in the way of peace. Guard our lives, our going and coming, now and forever, Amen.

\*Hymn 691

Lord, When I Came into This Life

*Land of Rest*

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Choral Response

Heaven and Earth Are Ringing

Giovanni Gastoldi

\*Closing Voluntary

May God Send Us a Happy New Year

English Carol

(\*) The congregation is invited to stand.

**IN MEMORIAM**

Logan Hay Schlipf 06/07/1928 -12/22/2022  
United with Westminster 12/02/1956

## SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
- **Worship Leader:** Braden Barton
- **Acolytes:** Ned Moore and Juliana Eastvold
- **Bible and Cross Carriers:** Emily Brower and Mia Marcy
- **Greeters:** Cathy Allen
- **Music:** The Westminster Choir, Dale Rogers, organist
- **Ushers:** Jim Parker (Head Usher), Braden Barton, Sophia Choi, Melanie and Bud Green, Mia Marcy, Susan Shaw, Jess Weitzel
- **Today's Communion Bread** is banana bread and was lovingly baked by Pat Hyman.
- **Communion Prep Team:** Mary Ray, Carol Bloemer, Ann Collins, Bill Deemer, Priscilla and Tim Kluge, Elisabeth and Mark Luttrell
- **Elders Serving Communion:** Jim Kontio (Lead), Aaron Berkowitz, Emily Brower, Becky Huston, Tim Kluge, Lynn McMenamin, Michael Morthland, Mary Ray, John Stafford, Eleanor VanDeventer, Pete VanGieson, Bill Ward
- **Safety Team:** Marilyn Rigney
- **Videographers and Sound:** Bob Fox, Bill Deemer, and Bob Leffler

## EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **9:30 a.m. – 11: 15 a.m.** Infants, toddlers, preschoolers (Nursery) This week's Bible Story: "Jesus is the Best Gift" (Matthew 2:1-12). Caregivers: Leigh Milward, Caroline Haynor
- **10:00 – 11:00 a.m.** Children Kindergarten – Grade 5 will begin in worship with their families & go to Sunday school following the Congregational Response. The story is "A Refugee Family" (Matthew 2:13-23). Teachers: Cathy Brower, Karen Sherrick

The Library Committee has prepared a cart filled with Christmas books (both adults & children's) available for checkout from both of our libraries this Sunday in the West Narthex. Please plan to stop to peruse the books and resources.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WE WELCOME VISITORS!** Information about who we are is in our Welcome Brochure located in the pew pockets and on our website [www.wpcspi.org](http://www.wpcspi.org). Please complete the Ministry of Friendship folder located on the end of each pew. If you are interested in joining, please speak to a pastor.

**WI-FI HEARING ASSISTANCE SYSTEM** is available in our Sanctuary. A basket is located at each Sanctuary entrance with instructions to install the app for those with Bluetooth enabled hearing aids, lanyards, and hearing amplifier packets for those with regular hearing aids, earing amplifier packets and disposable earbuds for those without hearing aids. Please return the lanyards and hearing amplifier packets at the end of worship. For assistance, ask an usher.

**CHRISMON BOOKLETS** outline the history and meaning of the ornaments displayed on Westminster's Chrismon Tree located in the Chancel and can be found in the pew pockets.

**2023 STEWARDSHIP UPDATE** - As of Friday, December 16 we have received **223** pledges for a total of **\$828,496**. This is **98%** toward our **\$848,800** goal. Thank you to all who pledged. If you have not made a pledge, please do so soon. Pledges can also be made online at [www.wpcspi.org](http://www.wpcspi.org).

**K2P4 KNITTERS** The group will knit at home on January 3. Regular Tuesday sessions will resume on **January 10, 2023** with a brown bag lunch. Questions - call Mary Jo Jenkins at 217-622-8657.

**RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE** meets **Wednesday, January 4** p.m. at the home of Linda Purves (6 North Cotton Hill, 62712). Judy Knox will lead Lesson 4 "Sabbath and Surrender."

**CHURCH OFFICER RETREAT** - On **Saturday, January 7** members of the Session and Board of Deacons will gather from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon in Parish Hall for worship and team building.

**NEW OFFICER ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION** will be **Sunday, January 8** during the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

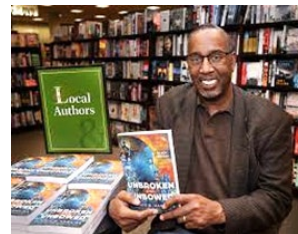
**ADULT EDUCATION FORUM** presents 1908 Springfield Race Riot on **Sundays, January 8 and 22** at 11:15 a.m.. in Parish Hall. These two sessions, led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz, will discuss the history of the riot, the way it was perceived at the time, research into the causes and motivations of the rioters and the long-term effects of the riot, which included the founding of the NAACP.

**ELIZABETH CIRCLE** meets **Monday, January 9** at 1:00 p.m. in the second-floor classroom. Lynne O' Shea will lead Lesson 5 "Sabbath and Servitude" and Lynn McMenamin will lead devotions.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST** meets **Thursday, January 12** at 8:00 a.m. Dr. Peter Kieffer will speak on the History and Theology of Bread. Jay Kennerly will provide breakfast and Tim Kluge devotions.

### **WESTMINSTER WELCOMES REV. JIMMIE HAWKINS**

Rev. Hawkins serves as the Director of the Presbyterian Church (USA) Office of Public Witness in Washington, DC and Director of Presbyterian Ministries at the United Nations. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Social Studies from North Carolina Central University (Durham, NC); a Master of Arts in Christian Education from the Presbyterian School of Christian Education (Richmond, VA); and a Master of Divinity from the Interdenominational Theological Center/Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary (Atlanta, GA).



### **MLK COMMUNITY GATHERING**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 10:00 A.M.**

Rev. Jimmie Hawkins, Director of the Presbyterian Church (USA) Office of Public Witness in Washington, D.C. will introduce his new book Unbroken and Unbowed: A History of Black Protest in America, highlighting the important work of Dr. King, and the impact of the Springfield Race Riots of 1908. We have invited Teresa Haley, President of the NAACP Springfield Chapter, who will join us. We are waiting for a confirmation from Senator Durbin's Springfield Office about his availability to be a part of a panel. Brunch will be served.

### **WORSHIP AND ADULT ED PRESENTATION**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 10:00 A.M.**

Rev. Jimmie Hawkins will preach at 10:00 a.m. and present an Adult Education Forum following worship from 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Rev. Hawkins sermon topic is "Jesus and Justice," and his forum will highlight the relationship between advocacy and spirituality. This will be geared toward Presbyterians as we learn more about Jimmie's role as Director of the PC (USA) Office of Public Witness.

We are grateful for Rev. Hawkins good work on behalf of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and anticipate our time together with great joy as we honor the ministry and life of The Rev. Dr. King.

## THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

### Monday, January 2

Church Offices are closed

### Tuesday, January 3

10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Conference Room)

### Wednesday, January 4

10:00 AM Pastors Pray in Chancel (Sanctuary)

10:30 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)

5:30 PM Mission & Community Service (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Classroom)

7:00 PM Ruth & Naomi Circle (Off-Site)

### Thursday, January 5

2:00 PM Memory Loss Graduate Group (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)

4:00 PM Personnel Committee (Pastor's Study)

7:30 PM Choir (Music Room)

### Friday, January 6

### Saturday, January 7

8:00 AM Church Officer Retreat (Parish Hall)

### Sunday, January 8

10:00AM Worship Service – Installation/Ordination of Officers

10:15 AM Sunday School PreK-5 (Sanctuary)

11:15 AM Adult Ed Forum (Parish Hall)

11:15 AM Confirmation Class (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)

5:00 PM Sr. High Youth Group (Parish Hall)

Westminster Presbyterian Church  
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<http://www.wpcspi.org>

## WESTMINSTER STAFF

**The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer**  
*Pastor and Head of Staff*

**The Reverend Christian K. Choi**  
*Associate Pastor for Parish Life*

**The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle**  
*Parish Associate*

**Dale T. Rogers**  
*Director of Music and the Arts*

**Katie Moore**  
*Director for Children's Music*

**Karen Sherrick**  
*Director for Children's Ministry*

**Leigh Milward**  
*Nursery Coordinator*

**Caroline Haynor**  
*Nursery Worker*

**Ellen Carpenter**  
*Parish Nurse*

**Pat Hymans**  
*Hospitality Coordinator*

**Emily Rowley, Keri Tate**  
*Cooperative Preschool Director*

**Lisa Runkle**  
*Financial Administrator*

**Jennie Alt**  
*Church Administrative Assistant*

**Krista Steller**  
*Communications Coordinator*

**Gary Warnick**  
*Building and Property Manager*

**Terry Gietl**  
**Bill Hibbert**  
**Eddie Hubbard**  
**Steve Stapleton**  
*Part-time Custodians*