



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

St. Andrew's Sunday

Christ the King Sunday

26 November 2023 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Voluntary

Highland Cathedral

Roever and Korb

***Ringing of the Bell**

The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower Bell.

***The Little Entry**

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 100

Leader:

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

People:

Serve the Lord with gladness;

come into God's presence with singing.

Leader:

Know that we are God's and the sheep of God's pasture.

People:

Let us enter God's gates with thanksgiving

and courts with praise.

Leader:

Let us come to worship together, giving thanks to God
and blessing God's holy name.

People:

**For the Lord is good; God's steadfast love endures forever
and is faithful to all generations.**

***Processional Hymn 619**

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

Lauda anima

***Prayer of Confession**

God, the True Shepherd, you have called us by name, yet we have failed to respond to your calling. You guide us to good pastures, yet we have wondered. You have nurtured us with care and love, yet we have not extended the same to others around us. God of mercy, forgive us. Feed us and be our God that we may proclaim your love and hope for the world. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

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

***Declaration of Pardon and
Passing of the Peace**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.
People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**
Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Leader: Let us greet one another with the sign of peace. Amen.

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

Children's Sermon

Congregational Response God welcomes all, strangers and friends.
God's love is strong, and it never ends.

*Children in grades Pre-K-Grade 5 go to Sunday School
and Youth in Grades 6-7 go to Confirmation Prep
following the Congregational Response.*

First Scripture Reading Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 Pew Bible, OT page 803-804

Second Scripture Reading Ephesians 1:15-23 Pew Bible, NT page 192

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Immeasurable Greatness Rev. Christian K. Choi

Text: "So that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which God has called you, what are the riches of God's glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of God's power for us who believe..." Ephesians 1:18-19

Special Music Amazing Grace *Anglo-American Tune*

*Affirmation of Faith

Philippians 2:5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Church at Prayer

Choir: Surely the presence of our God is in this place,
I can feel God's mighty power and God's grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face;
Surely the presence of our God is in this place.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

The Presentation of our Gifts

*At this time all worshipers are invited to sign and pass
the Ministry of Friendship folders in the pew racks.*

Offertory

Celtic Laud

Craig Courtney

For the fruit of the vine, for the harvest of wheat,
for bread and for wine, the gift of your feast.
The cup of thanksgiving I gratefully raise,
O Lord of my living, my love and my praise.
For dove in the sky, for wind in the trees,
for coal in the fire, Your Spirit in me.
The cup of thanksgiving I gratefully raise,
O Lord of my living, my love and my praise.

For springtime's green earth, for morning's first light,
for every new birth, for grace and for life,
The cup of thanksgiving I gratefully raise,
O Lord of my living, my love and my praise.

***Offertory Response** Doxology Hymnal, 606

***Prayer of Dedication** You are the source of every good and perfect gift, O God.
May our lives, tithes, and offerings be used to restore the
brokenhearted, reconcile the lost, and bring all the praise
to you so that the world may witness your glory. Amen.

***Hymn 33** Praise the Lord! God's Glories Show *Llanfair*

***Charge and Benediction**

***March and Retreat** Scotland the Brave *Traditional*

(*) The congregation is invited to stand.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Chancel Flowers** are given in loving memory of Scott Hoff by his mother, Elaine Hoff.
- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer, Rev. Gerald Boutelle
- **Greeter:** Joyce King and Barb Stewart
- **Worship Leader:** Liam Kiszely
- **Acolytes:** Charlotte and William Affrunti
- **Bible and Cross Carrier:** Maria DeJong, James Maeda
- **Ushers:** Sabrina Holmes (Head Usher), Melanie Green, Chris Hickman, Richard Leary, Camille Massey, Coleman Moore, Jim Rigney, Erin Winn
- **Safety Team:** Jim Dolan
- **Music:** Westminster Choir, Dale Rogers, organist, St. Andrew's Pipes and Drums
- **Videographers and Sound:** Bob Fox, Krista Steller

EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY

- **9:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Nursery (lower level)** Infants and toddlers begin in the Nursery. Preschoolers begin in worship with their families and leave during the Congregational Response. Today's Bible Story: "Jesus Keeps Me Safe" *Caregivers: Millie McNutt, Aaron Berkowitz*
- **10:15 – 11:00 a.m. Sunday School (Third Floor Chapel) Sunday School (Third Floor Chapel)** Children Kindergarten – Grade 5 begin in worship with their families & leave during the Congregational Response Today's Lesson: "Judgement of the Nations" (Matt. 25:31-46). *Teachers: Sophia Choi, Meleah Berkowitz*
- **11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**
 - **Adult Education Forum (Parish Hall)** This Adult Education Forum is the second in a two-part series. It explores Reinhold Niebuhr, one of the great reformed theologians of the 20th century. *Led by Dr. Roy Wehrle*
 - **Youth Mission Team Informational Meeting (Second Floor Classroom)** Beginning plans for the 2024 Mission Trip to St. Charles Presbyterian Church in New Orleans, LA the week of June 15-22.

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, hearing 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.

The Library Committee has prepared a cart of books for checkout from both of our libraries in the West Narthex containing philosophy, psychology, and other research books and a wide variety of Christmas books. Please plan to stop and 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 at www.wpcspi.org. Please complete the Ministry of Friendship folder located on the end of each pew. If you are interested in joining Westminster, please speak to one of the pastors.

ADULT EDUCATION FORUM concludes a two-week session today on Reinhold Niebuhr at 11:15 a.m. in Parish Hall. Dr. Niebuhr was raised in Lincoln, IL, earned his Master of Divinity degree from Eden Theological Seminary and became one of the great reformed theologians of the 20th century. The two-session course will be led by Dr. Roy Wehrle.

2024 STEWARDSHIP THEME: GROWING IN GENEROSITY – ROOTED IN FAITH As of Tuesday, November 21, 2023, we have received 211 pledges for a total of \$819,778. This is 96% toward our dollar amount goal of \$850,000. Stewardship brochures and pledge cards are located in the pew pockets. You are also welcome to pledge online. Please pledge as soon as possible.



ADOPT-A-FAMILY GIVING TREE goes up **today**. Westminster will again sponsor nine families in the transitional housing of Contact Ministries. Families and their wish lists are posted on our website. Please sign up for gifts and return to the church and place under the Giving Tree unwrapped by Sunday, December 3. Please put a tag with the family and gift number on returned gifts. A wish list for our refugee family will be posted after the Contact Ministries lists are completed.

MITTEN GIVING TREE goes up **today**. Thirty mittens/gloves were delivered to Kumler Outreach Ministries last week by Sue Cull on behalf of K2P4. Members are invited to bring mittens/gloves and place them on the tree during Advent.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS go up **Monday, November 27** at 10:00 a.m. in anticipation of the first Sunday in Advent, December 3. If you would like to help, please contact Dale Rogers.

KNIT 2 PURL 4 MISSION AND FELLOWSHIP meets on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Classroom. Contact Mary Jo Jenkins at 217-622-8657



STEADFAST NEIGHBOR OPPORTUNITY - Westminster continues to invest in our neighborhood through the Steadfast Neighbor Endeavor. At their November meeting, Session approved a joint recommendation from the Strategic Planning and Property Committees to *evaluate the cost of renovating 518 S. Glenwood for the purpose of selling it. Proceeds will reimburse the Support and Endowment loan approved by the congregation in 2018.* At the time we purchased the home in 2018, we had not yet formulated the Site and Landscape Plan to expand our

parking lot. Both committees concurred we no longer have a need for the property and in keeping with our commitment to the neighborhood, improvements need to be made. Immediate projects include removal and replacing the garage roof and removing carpet and padding throughout the home. Ministry partners are invited to collaborate on these projects the weeks of November 27 and December 4. Teams will work Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon and 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. If you are willing and able, please call Jennie Alt or use SignupGenius directly found on the home page of our website.

LEGACY OF FAITH PLANNED GIVING RECEPTION on **Tuesday, November 28** from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. the Support and Endowment Committee, chaired by Todd Wise, will host a Legacy of Faith Planned Giving Reception at the home of Christy and Karl Pound (100 Pinehurst Drive, 62704). The purpose of the gathering is to thank those who have remembered Westminster in their will and to invite others to consider this opportunity. All are welcome. Please RSVP with Jennie Alt by November 26.



APOSTLES' READ LIBRARY BOOK GROUP on **Tuesday, November 28** from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Ziegler Library to discuss [Nine Black Robes: Inside the Supreme Court's Drive to the Right and Historic Consequences](#) by Joan Biskupic. Led by Dr. Aaron Berkowitz.

PASTORS BEGIN ELEVENTH YEAR OF PRAYER MINISTRY - Throughout the year, each member of our congregation is remembered in prayer by the pastors in the Chancel. A letter is mailed three weeks prior to the week members are being lifted in prayer to provide an opportunity to share prayer requests.

RUTH AND NAOMI CIRCLE meets on Wednesday, December 7 7:00 p.m. at the home of Judy Knox (2004 Maryknoll PL, 62704). Diane Rutledge will lead the devotional by Teresa of Avila: [Striving to Make Progress](#) (pgs. 163-169) from the book, [Devotional Classics](#), edited by Richard J. Foster and James Bryan Smith. RSVP to Judy at 217691-1057.

ADVENT AT WESTMINSTER

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: DECEMBER 3

ADVENT WREATH, CHILDREN'S MUSIC during 10:00 a.m. service

We begin the Season of Advent, the time of waiting and preparing, on Sunday, December 3 with the lighting of the Advent Wreath. Thank you to the O'Reilly, Capler, and Lafrenz families for leading us in this Westminster tradition this year.

The 10:00 a.m. service will include special music by the Children's Choir (Grades K-5) under the direction of Katie Moore, Director for Children's Music.

ADVENT CELEBRATION at 11:15 a.m. in Parish Hall

A reception in Parish Hall will follow worship and include a festive brunch, the singing of Christmas Carols, the creating of ornaments, and the decorating of Christmas cookies. Children who were not in Sunday School on November 26 will have the opportunity to create an advent wreath for home.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: DECEMBER 10

CHRISTMAS VESPERS at 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

On Sunday, December 10 at 4:00 p.m. in the afternoon, Westminster's Christmas Vespers program will include choral music and carols sung by the Westminster Choir and the St. Andrew's Sisters, with Dale Rogers, Organist. Vespers will include the seasonal music of Adelman, Friedell, Forrest, Purcell, Halls, Rawsthorne, Bach, Spirituals, and more.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: DECEMBER 17

SUNDAY SCHOOL PROCESSION during 10:00 a.m. service

The Sunday School children will recreate the Nativity in the Third Floor Chapel and process in their costumes during the closing hymn "Joy to the World" and conclude in the Chancel with the pastors for the Charge and Benediction.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT: DECEMBER 24

10:00 a.m. Children's Christmas Pageant

On Our Way to Bethlehem

The Confirmation youth and Bridges children will narrate the Christmas story in a more elaborate pageant with special music by the Children's Choir and Eleanor VanDeventer. We welcome Millie and John McNutt with newborn son James as our Holy Family. All children are invited to participate as shepherds, angels, and lambs.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC AND DECORATION FUNDS

Members and friends are invited to make a suggested donation of \$25 to support Westminster's decorations funds, which includes the poinsettias. You may send a check or go online at www.wpcspi.org to donate. Donations of \$25 or more to the Special Music Fund are also accepted at this time. Please submit your donations with your desired wording and dedications by Monday, December 12. Thank you for your generosity!

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Monday, November 27

- 9:30 PM King's Daughters Board Meeting
(3rd Floor Classroom)
10:00 AM Decorate for Christmas

Tuesday, November 28

- 10:30 AM Staff meeting (Pastor's Study)
1:00 PM Knit 2 Purl 4 (2nd Floor Classroom)
3:00 PM Compass for Kids
5:30 PM Legacy of Faith Planned Giving Reception
(Off site)
6:00 PM Apostles Read Book Club (Library)
7:30 PM St. Andrew's Sisters Rehearsal (Off site)

Wednesday, November 29

- 10:00 AM Pastors Pray in the Chancel (Sanctuary)
10:30 AM Worship Planning (Pastor's Study)
12:30 PM Reporter Mailing (2nd Floor Classroom)
4:00 PM Depression and Bi-Polar Support
(Conference Room)
4:00 PM Property Meeting (2nd Floor Classroom)
4:00 PM Bridges (Tower Classroom)
5:00 PM Children's Choir (Music Room)
5:15 PM Membership Meeting (Pastor's Study)
6:00 PM Adult Ed Committee (Pastor's Study)

Thursday, November 30

- 11:30 AM Concordia Worship Service (Off site)
4:00 PM Congregational Fellowship (Conference Room)
5:30 PM Dr. Kieffer's Bible Study (2nd Floor Classroom)
7:00 PM Choir (Music Room)

Friday, December 1

- 12:00 PM Women's Christmas Tea (Off site)

Saturday, December 2

Sunday, December 3

- Parish Nurse Ministries (Church Office)
10:00 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
10:15 AM Sunday School K – Grade 5 (Chapel)
10:15 AM Confirmation Prep (Conference Room)
11:00 AM Fair Trade Sale (West Narthex)
11:15 AM Advent Celebration (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

Mary Ray
Interim Director for Youth

Meleah and Aaron Berkowitz
Co-Directors for Children's Ministry

Katie Moore
Director for Children's Music

Millie McNutt, Erin Winn
Nursery Coordinators

Emily Rowley, Keri Tate
Cooperative Preschool Staff

Ellen Carpenter
Parish Nurse

Pat Hymans
Hospitality Coordinator

Lisa Runkle
Financial Administrator

Jennie Alt
Church Administrative Assistant

Krista Steller
Communications Coordinator

Gary Warnick
Building and Property Manager

**Peter Bysko, James Capler,
Terry Gietl, Bill Hibbert,**
Part-time Custodians