

**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**December 17, 2023**



# GATHERING

*(Silence during the Prelude is requested in preparation for worship.)*

## About the Prelude

The Prelude is a musical offering to help move the hearts and minds of the gathering community from the daily struggles of life to the worship of God.

## About the Advent Candles

The primary symbolism of the Advent candles has to do with light growing in darkness - leading up to the coming of Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

On this third Sunday of Advent, anticipation heightens and there is tension between celebration and hope for the fulfillment of God's redemptive plan.

## Worship on the Lord's Day

Worship begins as the people gather - greeting one another, praying in silence, or offering music to the glory of God. The act of assembling in Jesus' name bears witness to the Church's identity and mission as Christ's body in the world.

## PRELUDE

Harvard Handbells

Ukrainian Bell Carol arr. Cathy Moglebust

Twass in the Moon of Wintertime  
Huron Indian Carol, arr. Jason Krug

Ding Dong! Merrily on High  
French Carol, arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*As the light is brought into the Sanctuary,  
and the candles on the Advent wreath are lighted,  
the congregation is invited to sing the following:*

## HYMN 90

## WAIT FOR THE LORD

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God!

*(Those who are able may stand.)*

With open hands, we proclaim:

**God promises to bring good news to the afflicted, the disenfranchised, the oppressed, the tormented, the grieving, and the imprisoned.**

With open spirits, we shout with joy.

**God calls us to rejoice, pray, and give thanks constantly.**

With open minds, we gather in God's covenant.

**God sanctifies us so that we will be ready for the coming of the Lord. Amen.**

### **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

**Great God,  
when John the Baptist identified with Jesus,  
many regarded his testimony as insignificant.  
Yet he continued to witness to the light.  
When we feel unimportant to society,  
remind us that you have called us to fulfill  
the mission of Jesus.**

**You have asked us to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,  
and to proclaim liberty to the captives  
and release to the prisoners.**

**Help us to love justice, rejoice, and witness,  
that righteousness and praise might spring up. Amen.**

### **\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 804**

MARION

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

#### **I. LAMENT FOR SIN AND PERVASIVE INJUSTICE, THE "NEVERTHELESS" OF GOD'S PROMISE**

##### **Scripture Reading**

Isaiah 1:1-3, 11 and Isaiah 2:1-5  
*(Old Testament; pages 630 and 631-632 in your pew Bible.)*

*Choir:* Lord Jesus, come soon!

***Congregation:* Lord Jesus, come soon!**

### **\*HYMN 373**

O Day of Peace

JERUSALEM

#### *About the Prayer of the Day*

This prayer gives thanks and praise to God, expressing joy in the presence of Christ, and calls for the gifts of the Spirit to be poured out upon the gathered community.

#### *About Hymn 804*

These stanzas are drawn from a much longer hymn created for the processional at an English choir festival in 1865. The original text lacked the refrain that gives the hymn so much of its energy and interest. That feature was added by the composer of this tune in 1883. TEXT: Edward Hayes Plumptre, 1865; MUSIC: Arthur Henry Messiter, 1883.

## II. GOD'S PROMISE OF THE COMING OF THE PRINCE OF PEACE AND THE "KINGDOM OF RIGHTEOUSNESS"

### Scripture Reading

Isaiah 7:10-14; Isaiah 9:2-7

*(Old Testament; pages 636 and 638 in your pew Bible.)*

*Choir:* Lord Jesus, come soon!

***Congregation:* Lord Jesus, come soon!**

#### About Hymn 86

One of the great virtues of scriptural paraphrases is that they bring fresh understanding and appreciation to familiar passages. This adaptation of a customary Advent text, Isaiah 9:2-7, provides an effective example of how revisited verses can take on new life when recast. TEXT: Mary Louise Bringle, 2008; MUSIC: Sally Ann Morris, 2008.

**\*HYMN 86**    The People Who Walked in Darkness                      ISAIAH 9

Verse 1: Choir alone

Verse 2: Congregation and Choir treble voices

Verse 3: Congregation and Choir bass voices

Verse 4: Congregation and Choir treble voices

Verse 5: All sing

## III. THE PEACEABLE KINGDOM

### Scripture Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

*(Old Testament; pages 640-641 in your pew Bible.)*

### Anthem

Long ago, prophets knew

Piae Cantiones, 1582, arr. Malcolm Archer

Long ago, prophets knew Christ would come, born a Jew,  
Come to make all things new; Bear his People's burden,  
Freely love and pardon.

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring! Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!*  
*When he comes, when he comes, Who will make him welcome?*

God in time, God in man, This is God's timeless plan:  
He will come, as a man, Born himself of woman,  
God divinely human. *Ring, bells...*

Mary, hail! Though afraid, She believed, She obeyed.  
In her womb God is laid: Till the time expected,  
Nurtured and protected, *Ring, bells...*

Journey ends! Where afar Bethlehem shines,  
like a star, Stable door stands ajar.  
Unborn Son of Mary, Saviour, do not tarry!

*Ring, bell, ring, ring, ring! Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!*  
*Jesus comes! Jesus comes! We will make him welcome!*

#### IV. THE CALLING AND BLESSING OF THOSE WHO PROCLAIM GOD'S MESSAGE OF PEACE

##### Scripture Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

*(Old Testament; page 667 in your pew Bible.)*

*Choir:* Lord Jesus, come soon!

***Congregation:* Lord Jesus, come soon!**

##### Anthem

And the glory of the Lord G.F. Handel

And the glory; the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,  
and all flesh shall see it together,  
For the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it,  
and all flesh shall see it together.

#### V. ALL CREATION SINGS FOR JOY

##### Scripture Reading

Isaiah 55:6-13

*(Old Testament; pages 685-686 in your Bible)*

**\*HYMN 134** Joy to the World arr. John Rutter

##### **(Congregation and Choir sing)**

Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth receive her King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room, And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and heav'n nature sing.

##### **(Choir alone)**

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns: Let us our songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

##### **(Choir alone)**

Nor more let sins and sorrows grow,  
nor thorns infest the ground,  
he comes to make his blessings flow, far as the curse is found.

##### **(Congregation and Choir sing)**

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness, And wonders of his love,  
And wonders of his love, And wonders, wonders of his love.

## VI. ALL NATIONS SHALL COME TO CHRIST, THE TEMPLE OF GOD

### Scripture Reading

Isaiah 6:1-2, 6-8; Isaiah 60:1-3  
(*Old Testament; pages 686 and 690 in your pew Bible.*)

### Anthem

In the Bleak Midwinter

Gustav Holst/arr. G. Alan Smith

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.  
Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;  
Heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign;  
In the bleak midwinter A stable place sufficed  
The Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.  
Angels and archangels may have gathered there,  
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;  
But his mother only, in her maiden bliss,  
Worshiped the beloved with a kiss.  
What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;  
Yet what I can I give him: Give my heart.  
In the bleak midwinter.

## VII. GOD WITH US

### Scripture Reading

Isaiah 61:1-3, 10-11; John 1:1-5, 14  
(*Old Testament, pages 691-692;*  
*New Testament, pages 91 and 92 in your pew Bible.*)

### Anthem

His Light In Us

Kim André Arnesen

God's distant call flares in the night,  
so long expected, so longed for;  
and all my life, Christ called my name,  
and now at last I'll answer Him.

*Renewed, his hope, his light in us,  
incarnate, fragile, our Lord appears, alleluia, alleluia!  
Eternal, so perfect, his cry of changeless love.*

Alive, awake, His call is here:  
it is the crying of the Child;  
I know Christ's call, its hidden flame,  
it makes my spirit flare with hope.  
*Renewed, his hope...*

This root, this stem, this flowering Love,  
this mustard seed, it grows to the greatest tree,  
the birds of souls have nested there.  
The light of the night now blazes at dawn,

You've led me here, O little child,  
your being singing with God's life.  
The kingdom sings, it choirs with earth,  
all creation lives Christ's peace.  
*Renewed, his hope...*

#### **\*PRAYER**

Eternal God,  
you taught us that the night is far spent  
and the day is at hand.  
Keep us awake and alert, watching for the advent  
of your peaceable kingdom.  
**By power of your Eternal Spirit,  
make us strong in faith,  
so that when Christ comes in glory  
to judge the earth,  
we may joyfully give him praise who lives and reigns  
with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

#### **WELCOME AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP**

# THANKSGIVING

To GIVE, please  
scan the QR code  
below:



## OFFERTORY

### Anthem

The Angels and the Shepherds

Bohemian Carol, arr. Stephen Paulus

Shepherds, O hark ye, glad tidings we bring.  
Peace and good will to the world now we sing.  
See in the manger Christ the Anointed,  
Whom for your Savior God hath appointed. Alleluia.

In yonder manger behold now he lies,  
Whom angel voices foretold from the skies.  
Seeking Thy mercy, we kneel before Thee,  
Singing Thy praises, humbly adore Thee. Alleluia.

Still through the ages the song doth resound,  
Peace and goodwill on the earth shall abound,  
Bear we the tidings of every nation,  
Born is the Christ Child for our salvation. Alleluia!

## \*DOXOLOGY

CRANHAM

**What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;  
yet what I can give him: my heart.**

*(Christina Rossetti, 1872)*

## \*THE LORD'S PRAYER

*(singing together: see the inside back cover  
of your hymnal for text and music.)*



## SENDING

**\*HYMN 744**

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

FESTAL SONG

*About Hymn 744*

### **\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Rejoice always, praise without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of the prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. (*1 Thess. 5: 16-22*)

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this. (*1 Thess. 5: 23-24*)

### **POSTLUDE**

In Dulci Jubilo, BWV 608 and BWV 729

J.S. Bach

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*\*(Those who are able may stand.)*

Echoing imagery from Isaiah 1:1-2 and other passages, this text was created as an inclusive-language alternative to an older hymn using this late 19th-century tune. Because it is a song of encouragement rather than a song of praise, it is not directed to God but to people. TEXT: Ruth Duck, 1974; MUSIC: William H. Walter, 1894.

### *Service in the World*

Christian worship and service does not end at the conclusion of the Service for the Lord's Day; we go for the to love and serve the Lord in daily living. In so doing, we seek to fulfill our chief end: to glorify and enjoy God forever.

**COPYRIGHT INFORMATION:** The music used in the service this morning is copyrighted under Christian Copyright Licensing International, Inc., No. 11221525.

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# Our Mission

*Ordinary people testifying to the extraordinary light  
found in our Lord Jesus Christ.*

“For it is the God who said, ‘Let light shine out of darkness,’ who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.”

*(2 Corinthians 4:6-7)*

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## Today @ Westminster

### Worship Leaders

#### Liturgist

The Rev. Dr. Donovan Drake  
*Pastor and Head of Staff*

#### Lay Liturgists

8:30 AM Bob Cooper  
11:00 AM Bob Hines

#### Advent Wreath Lighters

8:30 AM The Schulze Family  
11:00 AM The Ward Eshelman and  
Osborne Families

#### Music

Jane Kirchner, flute  
Harvard Handbells  
Laudate Youth Choir  
Westminster Choir

The Anthem *His Light In Us* is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Doug MacCallum by the Westminster Choir, Advent 2018.

Dr. John Semington  
*Director of Music Ministries*

Dale Nickell  
*Organist and Associate Director of Music Ministries*

### Parlor Flowers

*The flowers in the Parlor  
are given to the glory of God  
and in celebration of the marriage of  
Meredith Jane Batey and  
Karson Alexander Corley  
on Friday, December 15 2023.*

### Red Rose

The red rose in the Chancel is given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for the birth of a son, *Wells Roberts*, on December 8, 2023 to *Meredith and Rob Leathers*. Big brothers Graham and Ford are very excited, along with happy grandparents Rowan and Myra Leathers, and Tim and Vickie Boyd!

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# TODAY @ WESTMINSTER

## WORSHIP

### Welcome

Westminster Presbyterian Church welcomes you to share our common journey to become more faithful disciples of Christ. Any who are interested in joining us in this journey are invited to contact:  
Heidi Hudnut-Beumler, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care, 615.292.5526; [hhudnutbeumler@nashvillewpc.org](mailto:hhudnutbeumler@nashvillewpc.org).

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### Mask Policy

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nashville is mask optional. The balcony will remain masks required.

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### Hearing Aides Now Available

For those needing hearing assistance for services, we offer personal FM Receivers with an ear-piece. These devices are located in the Narthex and the Welsh dresser in the Parlor. There are directions at each location. Ask an Usher for assistance if needed.

### Dial-A-Sermon

Dial 629.206.1073 after 10:15 AM each Sunday morning to listen to the sermon. The sermon is available all week.

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### Recorded Worship Services

To watch a service later in the day or the week, go to [nashvillewpc.church](http://nashvillewpc.church) and scroll down to the *Worship Service Archive*. Click on the service you would like to watch.

Looking for large-print hymns? They can be found on the Welsh dresser in the Parlor and by the window in the Narthex.

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### Childcare

Childcare is available on Sundays from 8:15 AM to 12:00 PM.

Nursery - Room 146  
Toddlers & 2s - Room 152  
3s, 4s, 5, & kindergarten - Room 151



### Alternative Gift Christmas Market

9:45 AM • Parlor

Give Christmas gifts to friends and family while also giving to those in need – visit us at the market or from the comfort of your own home.



### Update Your Membership Contact Info

Visit the membership table in the Parlor and talk with a member of the GET*connected* team to update your contact info.

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# TODAY @ WESTMINSTER



## **\$1.1 million in Gifts from 2022**

are being used to provide critical financial support and grants for current and retired Presbyterian church workers in their times of need.

## **223 Recipients**

Could afford to stay in their homes, assisted living, or long-term care.

## **272 Individuals Helped**

assisted retired church workers and surviving spouses.

## **621 Emergency Assistant Grants**

helped people facing economic hardship.

### **Christmas Joy Offering**

By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you honor God's gift of Jesus Christ by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

God has blessed the Church with incredible leadership in every time and place, but those leaders often need to be supported by their communities as well. This Offering addresses the support needed by some of our leaders, including supporting leadership development for communities of color, and providing support for Presbyterian church workers in their time of need.

Envelopes are also available in the pews.

Scan the QR code below to give.



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# TODAY @ WESTMINSTER

## Adult Education

Classes start at 9:45 AM



### **Covenant Class • Fellowship Hall**

Rev. R. Adam DeVries is a PC(USA) pastor, Nashville native, and founder of Crowded Table. Crowded Table is a new non-profit designed to increase and sustain the network of people who care for foster

children in Middle Tennessee by equipping churches to provide practical support to Davidson County foster families and their caseworkers.

In 2019, Adam and his wife Sara said yes to three foster children for one weekend. Eighteen months, two Christmases and one pandemic later, a permanent placement was finally found and the kids moved out. During that time, the three foster kids learned to ride bikes and tie their shoes. They went to their first movie theater. They attended school for the longest consecutive period in their lives. And the eldest got a job that paid more than he ever thought possible. Even though they had not planned on caring for two teenage boys and their little sister for 18 months and even though they had a revolving door of caseworkers from the Department of Children Services, today those three kids are a foster-care success story.

How did it happen? Short answer: the faith community.

Nashville churches as well as family,

friends and neighbors brought meals, donated bikes, connected them to therapists and foster care support organizations, fundraised for counseling, and provided mentoring. One friend sent Costco goodies on a monthly basis for over a year! Were it not for the sustained, tangible support of the community, we would certainly have burned out. At some point in those 18 months, Adam started to wonder:

What if every foster family in Nashville had a community of support like ours? What if every church in Nashville was paired with one foster family?

And, just like that, the seeds of Crowded Table were planted. This Sunday, Rev. DeVries will share his story of transitioning from full-time work in congregational ministry to launching Crowded Table as well as discuss the role of caring for vulnerable children in the scriptural narrative, the Christmas story, and the incarnation.

# TODAY @ WESTMINSTER



## Coffee and Conversation: Sunday School for Parents of Youth and Young Adults

We will meet in Fellowship Hall to hear Adam DeVries

teach about his Crowded Table ministry supporting foster care families.

Contact:

Fran Linley, [fran.linley@gmail.com](mailto:fran.linley@gmail.com)

## Murdoch MacLeods • Library

We will discuss this week's gospel lesson.

## Faith & Fellowship

Join us for a discussion on A.-J. Levine's book, *Sermon on the Mount*.

## Young Families • Overlook Room

Advent

Led by Chad Folk

## Spiritual Practices for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Led by Will Wellman

Liturgy and the Life of the Church: Advent and Christmas

## Children & Youth Choirs

4:00 PM Children's Choirs  
Tintinnabulation  
Intergenerational  
Handbell Choir

5:00 PM Laudate Choir

## Youth Ministry

**9:45 AM Sunday School**  
**Koinonia Youth Café**  
**(7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Grade)**

**12:30 PM • Youth Ministry Alumni Lunch**

Were you in the Westminster youth ministry? Maybe you're back home for the holidays? Well then come drop by the Youth Ministry Alum Lunch! Join T.J. at Five Points Pizza West (4100 Charlotte Ave) this Sunday at 12:30 PM to catch up and enjoy some delicious food on us! Reach out to T.J. with any questions you may have. We hope to see you there!

## Children's Ministry

**9:45 AM • Children's Sunday School**

These classes go directly to their rooms...

2s are in room 149, in the preschool hall

3s are in room 161, in the preschool hall

4s are in room 163, in the preschool hall

Godly Play/Kindergarten is in room 183, near the big cross on the corner

5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> are in room 292, upstairs on the Wilson Wing

1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> comes to the Chapel and then will be picked up on the first floor of the Wilson Wing

For info, contact Sophie Maness, [smaness@nashvillewpc.org](mailto:smaness@nashvillewpc.org).

# GENEROSITY

Beloved Community,  
As the year draws to a close, we are filled with gratitude for the unwavering support and generosity that emanates from this remarkable congregation. The light of God shines brightly through your generous hearts, enabling an 8% increase in pledges to help us navigate ongoing expenses and rising costs amidst inflation.

Together, we are fortunate to experience extraordinary leadership, exceptional music, a dedicated children's program, a growing young adult community, and worship services that inspire and uplift.

Our recent service of "Light in the Darkness" fed our souls and nourished our hearts as evidenced by the remarks from those in attendance who stated again and again... "We really needed this tonight." Many of you participate in one of our Congregational Care Teams which stand as a beacon of light and hope - providing comfort and assistance in a multitude of ways. Your efforts reflect the strength and resilience of our community, demonstrating the power of collective care as we serve in the Kingdom of God.

As we embrace the season of wonder, waiting and hopefulness of Advent, we pause to reflect on the abundance of gifts we receive from Westminster. We stand at the threshold of completing our annual generosity campaign, and every contribution brings us closer to the finish line. We have received pledges from 411 households for \$3,000,000 or 85% of our \$3,500,000 pledge goal. Wow. You are amazing!



In a spirit of gratitude, we invite those who have not yet pledged to help us reach our objective of increasing our budget over 2023 by \$300,000 and obtaining pledge commitments from 500 families. Every pledge contributes to the collective strength that defines our shared journey.

Your support is the backbone of our community, and we acknowledge that we could not make this journey without you.

In gratitude,  
The Generosity Committee

Please scan the QR code below to make your 2024 pledge.



For those who have not paid their pledge for 2023, we invite you to complete your pledge. To meet the total budget of \$3,100,000, we still need \$347,743.

Please note that to add your

contribution to your 2023 taxes, your pledge payment must be postmarked by December 31, 2023. Scan the QR code to make your payment.





Join us for

# *Café Carols and Cookies*

Thursday, December 21  
10:00-11:30 a.m.

Sing wonderful carols, decorate  
a cookie, and meet new friends!

Intergenerational





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# CONGREGATIONAL CARE



## Prayer Requests

In the pew racks are prayer request cards which can be filled out and placed in the offering plate. It is our privilege to "Live Out the Word" by praying by name for those who need our care. The Congregational Care Prayer Team and the pastors will be pleased to add their voices to yours in prayer. All requests are held in the confidence of the pastors and the Prayer Team. Believing in the power of prayer, we affirm our calling: "...in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."  
(Philippians 4:6)

## Support for Grief and the Holidays

This thoughtful guide with helpful support for those who are grieving during the holidays is available on the Parlor and Narthex tables.

Please also know that the pastoral staff and Bereavement Care Team are here for you as any needs arise.



## Mondays

### Centering Prayer

**11:45 AM • Chapel**

Are you searching for stillness? Looking for a way to calm your anxious mind? Craving the felt presence of God? Then Centering Prayer may be for you. Westminster holds a Centering Prayer gathering every Monday from 11:45 AM to 12:15 PM in the Chapel. The time begins with an opening prayer followed by 20 minutes of silence. It is open to all and no experience is necessary! Participants find it to be a refreshing start to the week and with practice, it can create deep peace. In the words of theologian Cynthia Bourgeault, "Centering Prayer trains practitioners to recenter themselves in God, become more aware of God's presence, let go of anxiety when it arises, and respond to life's struggles with composure."

For more information, email [elizabethtrabue@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethtrabue@gmail.com).

# Women's Retreat 2024



Special Guest Speaker  
**Kate Bowler**  
Author of  
**Have A Beautiful,  
Terrible Day!**

## February 9 & 10

Registration Now Open

Friday Night • 6:30 p.m.  
Dinner at Linley Home  
\$25

Saturday • 9:00 a.m.  
Conversation with Kate  
Lunch  
Discussion with  
Katherine Hande Smith  
\$60

Both Days \$75  
This includes a copy of her book.

## **WPC Women's Retreat Living in the Terrible Beautiful**

Retreat includes a conversation with Kate Bowler and her newest book, *Have a Beautiful, Terrible Day!*

Come away from your regular Saturday schedule for a time of inspiration, friendship, study, reflection, dialog, food, and rest as we wonder together how to live in this terrible, beautiful world.

Come for all or part of the retreat.

**Friday, February 9 | 6:30-8:30 PM:** Women's Dinner and Fellowship, address forthcoming. \$25

**Saturday, Feb 10 | 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM:** "Living in the Terrible Beautiful" A retreat for women. The day includes:

A Conversation with Kate Bowler, hosted by Katherine Hande Smith at WPC. This includes Kate's newest book, *Have a Beautiful, Terrible Day!*, lunch and time of fellowship with the Westminster's women.  
\$60

Special price for Friday evening + Saturday retreat \$75

***For those who would ONLY like to hear Kate speak:***

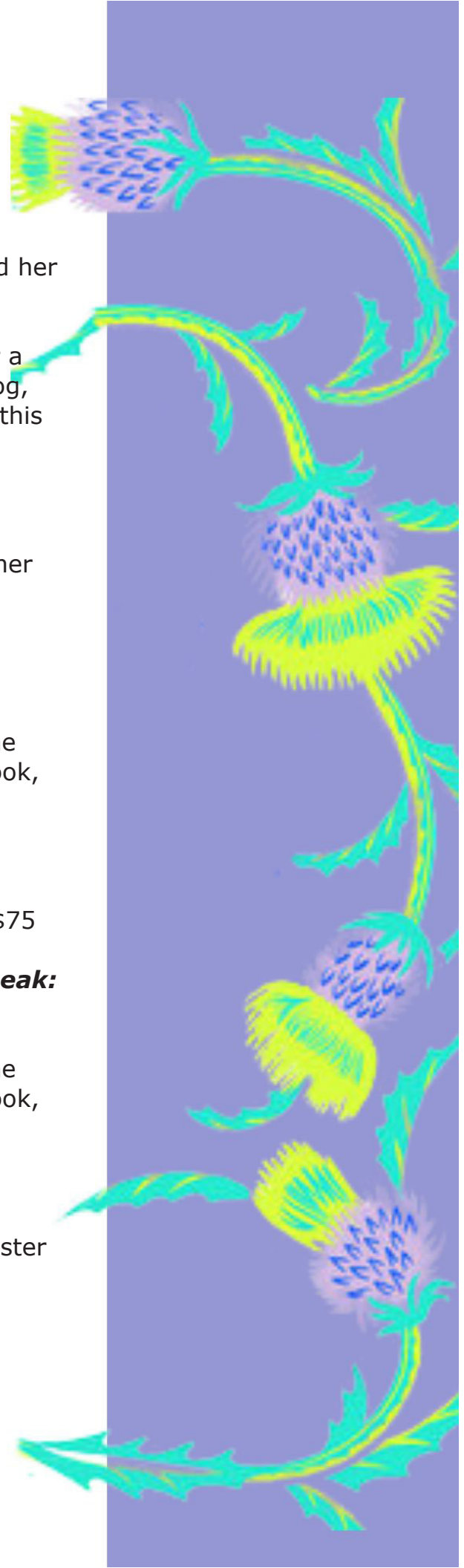
**Saturday, 9:30 – 11:30 AM:**

Open to Men and Women

A Conversation with Kate Bowler, hosted by Katherine Hande Smith at WPC. This includes Kate's newest book, *Have a Beautiful, Terrible Day!*

\$30

Please scan the QR code to register. Deadline to register 1/29/24.



# JOIN US



**Tuesday - Friday**  
**7:30 AM - Noon**

*Where you find that two or three are gathered... "I'm there!"*

Matthew 18:19-20



## Volunteer Opportunities

The Westminster Café is run by volunteer servers and bakers. If you are interested in helping with either/both of those needs, please contact Beth Drake. We have folks serving from 7:30 - 10:00 AM and 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM. It's a great way to meet new friends.

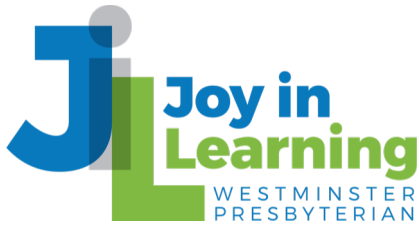
## Café Christmas Schedule

To give our volunteers a break, the Café will be closed from December 22 through January 1. Please come visit us on January 2. We hope you have a blessed and peaceful Christmas!



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# ANNOUNCEMENTS



**January 10, 17, 24, 31**  
**Pottery, Chess, and Crafts for kindergartners on up!**  
**4:00 - 5:30 PM**

Activities will include pottery, chess, beads, pom poms, legos, and more!

Westminster dinners at 5:45 PM with registration through the church.

Scan the QR code to register for the activities.



Did you know that our denomination's Presbyterians for Earth Care has many recent past seminars on how we can help sustain our planet? Or that Interfaith Power and Light has resources on how to help us reduce greenhouse gases?

Presbyterians for Earth Care has regular seminars on how we can help create a more livable world. One that we recommend is how older adults can help. Scan the green QR codes for this 2023, 45-minute seminar.



Interfaith Power and Light has a greenhouse gas calculator we can use to calculate your emissions and then a suggestion list of steps to reduce them. The calculator is located by scanning the blue QR code.



Steps you can take to reduce your emissions is located by scanning the brown QR code.



The Earth Care Task Force wishes everyone a wonderful Advent season and Merry Christmas.

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Thank you to all Westminster members** and friends who generously supported the Youth Bake Sale on Sunday December 3rd!

\$1,020 was raised and will be used to fund Youth Scholarships for upcoming fellowship and outreach/mission trips.

Also, a huge thank you to all the wonderful bakers who supplied the delicious goodies. Your donated baked items made this success possible!

Looking forward to next year!



**Sundays, January 22 – March 3**  
**Winter New Member & Inquirer Class**  
**9:45 AM • Goodpasture Hall**  
**Led by: New Member Committee,**  
**church leaders and staff**

This class series is for people exploring Westminster, those feeling ready to join, and recent new members. It offers a first small group experience, covers a wide range of topics, and includes a special class dinner. The opportunity to be received into membership is offered on March 3. The ethos and vision of Westminster, who we are as Presbyterians in our worship and beliefs, a church tour, and ways to become involved will be covered.

To sign up for this class, please contact:  
Sherri Givens, [sgivens@nashvillewpc.org](mailto:sgivens@nashvillewpc.org).

For questions, please contact Co-chairs:  
Ken Larish,  
[klarish@mainlandcompanies.com](mailto:klarish@mainlandcompanies.com),

Kathleen Simcoe,  
[kathleenmsimcoe@gmail.com](mailto:kathleenmsimcoe@gmail.com), or

Pastoral staff Heidi Hudnut-Beumler  
[hhudnutbeumler@nashvillewpc.org](mailto:hhudnutbeumler@nashvillewpc.org),  
615-292-5526.

# THIS WEEK @ WESTMINSTER

## Sunday, December 17

- 8:30 AM Worship
- 9:45 AM Sunday School  
Alternative Gift Christmas Market
- 11:00 AM Worship
- 4:00 PM Tintinnabulation  
Children's Choirs
- 5:00 PM Journey with Jesus  
Laudate Choir rehearsal

## Monday, December 18

- 10:00 AM Tai Chi
- 11:45 AM Centering Prayer
- 5:00 PM Pickleball

## Tuesday, December 19

- 7:00 AM Daybreak Believers
- 7:30 AM Bible Study  
Westminster Café
- 9:30 AM Harvard Handbells

## Wednesday, December 20

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study
- 7:30 AM Westminster Café
- 9:30 AM Westminster Bells
- 10:00 AM Tai Chi
- 6:00 PM Room In The Inn
- 7:00 PM Men's Basketball
- 7:00 PM Westminster Choir

## Thursday, December 21

- 7:30 AM Westminster Café

## Friday, December 22

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study
- 10:00 AM Tai Chi
- 5:00 PM Pickleball

## Saturday, December 23

- 11:30 AM AA

## Contacts:

If you have questions about a certain event listed on our calendar, please contact a member of our program staff.

Donovan Drake  
Pastor  
ddrake@nashvillewpc.org

Guy D. Griffith, Associate Pastor  
Adult Education  
ggriffith@nashvillewpc.org

Heidi Hudnut-Beumler, Associate Pastor  
Congregational Care, New Members,  
& GET*connected*  
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Sophie Maness  
Children & Young Families  
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John Semingson  
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Dale Nickell  
Music  
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T.J. Piccolo  
Youth  
tjpiccolo@nashvillewpc.org



# ADVENT SCHEDULE

December 17  
8:30 & 11:00 AM

## **Advent Choral Services with Choir, Soloists, and Instrumentalists**

December 21  
10:00 AM

## **Christmas Café, Carols & Cookies**

Join us in the Westminster Café and enjoy singing Christmas carols and decorating cookies.

December 24

## **Christmas Eve Services**

11:00 AM - Morning Worship Service  
This service will transition from the fourth Sunday in Advent to Christmas Eve.

December 24

## **Christmas Eve Services**

2:00 PM – The Family Christmas Eve Service with Children’s Choirs  
Children are invited up to the Chancel to participate in the telling of the Christmas story.

We will be taking donations for Second Harvest Food Bank. Please bring canned goods or a monetary donation and place in the manger.

5:00 PM – Candlelight Service and Communion with the Westminster Choir & Instrumentalist, Sam Levine

8:00 PM – Candlelight Service and Communion with the Westminster Choir & Sam Levine

10:30 PM – Candlelight Service and Communion with the Laudate Youth Choir & Alumni  
(9:15 PM rehearsal)

December 31

## **New Year's Eve Service**

11:00 AM  
Word and Carols



# 804 Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!  
 2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,  
 3 Yes, on through life's long path, still chant - ing as ye go,  
 4 At last the march shall end; the wea - ried ones shall rest;  
 5 Then on, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!

Your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.  
 send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.  
 from youth to age, by night and day, in glad - ness and in woe:  
 the pil - grims find their home at last, Je - ru - sa - lem the blest.  
 Your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.

*Refrain*

Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!

Re - joice! Re - joice!

# 373

# O Day of Peace

1 O day of peace that dim - ly shines through all our  
 2 Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the

hopes and prayers and dreams, guide us to jus - tice, truth, and  
 fierce de - vour the small; as beasts and cat - tle calm - ly

love, de - liv - ered from our self - ish schemes. May swords of hate  
 graze, a lit - tle child shall lead them all. Then en - e - mies

fall from our hands, our hearts from en - vy find re - lease, till by God's  
 shall learn to love, all crea - tures find their true ac - cord; the hope of

grace our war - ring world shall see Christ's prom - ised reign of peace.  
 peace shall be ful - filled, for all the earth shall know the Lord.

# 86 The People Who Walked in Darkness

Capo 3: (Em) (C/E) (Em) (C/E) (Em)  
 Gm Eb/G Gm Eb/G Gm

1 The peo - ple who walked in dark - ness a - wak - en to  
 2 For God has en - larged the na - tion, and pros - pered the  
 3 The yoke of de - spair and bond - age, the chains of the  
 4 For us now a child is giv - en, for all the de -  
 5 How vast is our God's do - min - ion! How far truth and

(D) (G) (B) (Em) (C/E)  
 F B<sup>b</sup> D Gm Eb/G

see a great light. The peo - ple who dwelt in the  
 fruit of its land. God's peo - ple are blest with the  
 slave mas - ter's rod are shat - tered and scat - tered like  
 spised and for - lorn. The rule of com - pas - sion shall  
 mer - cy ex - tend. The zeal of the Lord will ac -

(Em) (Bm) (Cmaj7) (Am7) (Bsus) (B)  
 Gm Dm Ebmaj7 Cm7 Dsus D

land of the shad - ow rise to a star shin - ing bright.  
 har - vest of vic - tory, gift from a boun - ti - ful hand.  
 dust in a wind - storm, loosed by the jus - tice of God.  
 rest on his shoul - der. God's own Mes - si - ah is born!  
 com - pish its pur - pose: jus - tice shall reign with - out end.

Refrain (E) (Am7) (D) (G) (C) (F<sup>#</sup>dim7) (B) (Em)  
 G Cm7 F B<sup>b</sup> Eb Adim7 D Gm

His name is Won - der - ful, Coun - sel - or, Al - might - y God,

(Cmaj7) (G) (Am7) (D) 1(G)  
 Ebmaj7 B<sup>b</sup> Cm7 F B<sup>b</sup>

Fa - ther for - ev - er, Prince of Peace.

2 (G) (B7sus) (B) Final (G) (C/G) (G)  
 B<sup>b</sup> D7sus D B<sup>b</sup> Eb/B<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>

Peace. (to stanzas) Peace.

# 744 Arise, Your Light Is Come!

1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;  
 2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;  
 3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,  
 4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God, which shines on you to - day.  
 pro - claim the cap - tives' lib - er - ty, good ti - dings to the poor.  
 bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.  
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.