

An abstract painting featuring a central, winding path of white and light yellow paint. This path is surrounded by thick, expressive brushstrokes in vibrant colors including red, orange, blue, and purple. The overall composition is dynamic and textured, with the path leading the viewer's eye through the colorful chaos.

First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2024

On the cover:
Awake My Soul by
Mike Moyers, Mike
Moyers Fine Arts

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 Advent

"Advent" means "coming" or "arrival." The season of Advent begins with an emphasis on final things (eschatology). We watch and pray with expectant hope for the establishment of God's justice and the return of the Prince of Peace. As the weeks of Advent progress, the focus shifts to thanks and praise for the birth of the one who has already come - Jesus Christ our Savior.

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.

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645

J.S. Bach

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

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

HYMN 88

VENI EMMANUEL

**O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.**

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Let us worship God!

(Those who are able may stand.)

As we prepare our house for the coming Christmas season,
we would also prepare our hearts for the returning Christ.

**You came once for your people,
O Lord, and you will come for us again.**

Though there was no room at the inn
to receive you upon your first arrival,
**we would prepare you room here in our hearts
and here in our home, Lord Christ.**

Our wreath and ribbons and colored lights,
our giving of gifts, our parties with friends -
these have never been ends in themselves.

**They are but small ways in which we repeat
that sounding joy first proclaimed by angels
in the skies near Bethlehem.**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

**Lord, how can we not be moved
to praise and celebration
in this Christmas season?**

**As we decorate our tree,
and as we feast and laugh and sing together,
we are rehearsing our coming joy!
We are making ready to receive the one who has already,
with open arms, received us!
We would prepare you room here in our hearts
and here in our home, Lord Christ.
Now we celebrate your first coming, Emmanuel,
even as we long for your return.
O Prince of Peace, return soon. Amen.**

*The Cross and Bible lead the procession,
symbolic of the centrality in worship of
Jesus Christ—the Living Word, and the Bible—the written Word.*

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 348

HELMSLEY

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

CALL TO CONFESSION

In Advent, we prepare for the coming Christ,
full of grace and truth.
Trusting in God's unfailing grace,
let us tell the truth about ourselves,
joining in our prayer of confession.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Lord, we have not kept watch for you.
We have occupied ourselves with our own concerns.
We have not waited to find your will for us.
We have not noticed the needs of the people around us.
We have not acknowledged the love
that has been shown to us.
Forgive us for our lack of watchfulness.
Help us to wait to know your will.
Help us to look out for the needs of others.
Help us to work and watch for your coming.**

(Silent confession)

About Hymn 348

Despite unclear musical origins, the result here is a characteristic early Methodist hymn tune, notable for its breadth and range. It sets a text of similarly mixed sources, one that Charles Wesley regarded as related to "Thy kingdom come" in the Lord's Prayer. TEXT: stanzas 1, 3, Charles Wesley, 1758, alt.; stanza 2, John Cennick, 1752, alt.; MUSIC: Thomas Olivers, 1763; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906.

Call to and Prayer of Confession

A call to confession expresses God's initiative in calling for repentance and promising forgiveness in Christ. As members of Christ's body, we confess the reality of sin, captivity, and brokenness in personal and common life and ask for God's saving grace.

About the Kyrie

The Kyrie (Greek "kyrios" [Lord]) is a corporate musical prayer for grace.

Kyrie

James MacMillan

(Sung responsively by the choir and congregation)

Choir: Congregation:
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have
mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Christ,
have mer - cy. Lord, have
mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Assurance of Pardon

A declaration of forgiveness proclaims the good news of God's mercy and offers the assurance of pardon in Jesus' name. The liturgist pours water into the font, which reminds us of the grace and cleansing of our Baptism, and the baptismal call to new life in Christ.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Believe the Good News:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

*The Peace

Since God in Christ has forgiven us,
let us also forgive one another.

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

*(Please exchange the peace with the words,
"The peace of Christ be with you.")*

Act of Praise

The Act of Praise brings together the choir and congregation to sing God's praise in response to the Assurance of Pardon as the last phrase.

*ACT OF PRAISE

WINCHESTER NEW

**All praise to You, eternal Son,
Whose advent has our freedom won,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Holy Spirit, evermore.**

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

INTERLUDE

Nun komm der Heiden Heiland BWV 599

J.S. Bach

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Hear the Word of God! **Our ears are open.**

Jeremiah 33:14-16

(Old Testament, page 738 in your pew Bible)

Choir: Lord Jesus, come soon!

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

Psalm 25:1-10

To You, O Lord

Marty Haugen

Refrain



Lord, make me know Your ways, teach me Your paths,
and keep me in the way of Your truth,
for You are God, my Savior. ***Refrain***

For the Lord is good and righteous,
revealing the way to those who seek God,
gently leading the poor and the humble. ***Refrain***

To the ones who seek the Lord, who look to the Word,
who live God's love, God will always be near;
God will show them true mercy. ***Refrain***

Luke 21:25-36

(New Testament, pages 85-86 in your pew Bible)

SERMON

“A New Old Perspective”

Ashley Higgins

(A moment for meditation)

LORD JESUS, COME SOON! “Lord Jesus, come soon!,” which we sing responsively in our worship services during Advent, comes directly from 1 Corinthians 16:22. It is one of the oldest prayers of the Christian Church. It expresses the deepest longing of the Christian – that the Lord will come to us and to our world, bringing the fullness of the peace, joy and healing that God has promised.

The Sermon

The sermon, based on the scripture read in worship, proclaims the good news of the risen Lord and presents the gift and calling of the gospel. Through the sermon, we encounter Jesus Christ in God's word, are equipped to follow him more faithfully, and are inspired to proclaim the gospel to others through our words and deeds.

Affirmation of Faith

Responding to the word proclaimed, we affirm our faith in the holy, triune God. The affirmation of faith is drawn from sentences of scripture or the creeds, confessions, and catechisms.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth,
I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated on the right hand of the Father;
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.**

(The Apostles’ Creed)

Offering

The collection of tithes and offerings takes place as a response to the Word. These actions are signs of our gratitude for the grace of God proclaimed in the gospel.

To GIVE, please scan the QR code below:



THE EUCHARIST

OFFERING

Anthem (8:30 a.m.)

Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God G.F. Handel

Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God, come.
Holy Son of God, Thy truth unseal.

Thy love reveal, Thy truth unseal, Thy love reveal.

Lord, hear Thou in mercy our prayer to Thee,
Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God, Come in Thy might.
Send forth Thy light, come in might, Come send forth Thy light.

Lord, hear Thou in mercy our prayer to Thee.
Come, Jesus, O holy Son of God. For Thee we long.
Hear Thou our prayer. O hear Thou our prayer.
To Thee be glory now and evermore.
Lord, hear Thou in mercy our prayer to Thee.
Come, Jesus Holy Son of God.
To Thee be glory, To Thee be glory evermore.

(11:00 a.m.)

Keep Your Lamps

André Thomas

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, Keep your...
 the time is drawing nigh.
 Children don't get weary, Children don't...
 'til your work is done.
 Christian journey soon be over, Christian journey...
 The time is drawing nigh.
 Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, Keep your...
 the time is drawing nigh.

***DOXOLOGY**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
 Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
 Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

A short hymn of praise to the triune God (God, Jesus Christ, Holy Spirit).

***PREPARATION OF THE LORD'S TABLE**

***INVITATION**

***GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

About Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
 Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Following the offering and preparation of the table, the pastor invites worshipers to the Lord's Supper using scripture, leading the people in a prayer to the triune God: giving thanks for God's creative power, providential care, and covenant faithfulness, along with particular blessings of the day; remembering God's acts of salvation through Jesus' birth, life, death, resurrection, ascension, and promised return; calling on the Holy Spirit to draw worshipers into the presence of the risen Lord, nourish them in the body and blood of Christ, unite them with Christ in the communion of saints and Church in every place, and send them in mission to the world. The prayer ends with praise to the triune God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy...
 and peace shall reign over all the earth.

Therefore we praise you,
 joining our voices with the celestial choirs
 and with all the faithful of every time and place,
 who forever sing to the glory of your name:

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

(The congregation may be seated.)

You are holy, O God of majesty...
dedicated to your service.



Gracious God...
in the joy of your eternal realm.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God,
now and forever.



THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Praying together)*

**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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Music during Communion

Anthem

All Earth Is Waiting

Alberto Taule

All earth is waiting to see the Promised One,
and the open furrows, the sowing of the Lord.
All the world, bound and struggling, seeks true liberty;
it cries out for justice and searches for the truth.

Breaking of the Bread

At the table, in full view of the people, the pastor breaks the bread and pours the cup. The use of one loaf and one cup expresses the unity of the body of Christ and the communal nature of the sacrament.

Communion

The Presbyterian Church (USA) practices "open Communion" without regard to denominational affiliation. All who seek to become more faithful to Christ are welcome at the Lord's Table.

Thus says the prophet to those of Israel,
“A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel,”
for his name is “God with us,” our brother shall be,
with him hope will blossom once more within our hearts.

Mountains and valleys will have to be made plain;
open new highways, new highways for the Lord.
He is now coming closer, so come all and see,
and open the doorways as wide as wide can be.

In a lowly stable the Promised One appeared,
yet, feel his presence throughout the earth today,
for he lives in all Christians and is with us now;
again, with his coming he brings us liberty.

(11:00 a.m.) Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence Gustav Holst

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded, For with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth, Our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, As of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords in human vesture, In the Body and the Blood,
He will give to all the faithful His own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven Spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of light descendeth From the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish As the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph; Cherubim, with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence, As with ceaseless voice they cry,
“Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord Most High!” Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

*HYMN 82 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus HYFRYDOL

*BENEDICTION

Choir: Lord Jesus, come soon!

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

POSTLUDE Gottes Sohn ist kommen, verses 1 and 2

J.G. Walther

About Hymn 82

With its opening “Come,” this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = “coming”). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future. TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1744; MUSIC: Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1830; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906.

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.

The *Postlude* is considered the final Alleluia of worship.

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

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 Rev. Heidi Hudnut-Beumler by email at hhudnutbeumler@nashvillewpc.org or 615.292.5526 in the church office.

TODAY@ WESTMINSTER

Worship Leaders

Preaching

Rev. Ashley Higgins
Associate Pastor for Young Families

Liturgist

Rev. Dr. Donovan Drake
Pastor and Head of Staff

Communion Preparation

Suzie and Richard Lane

Advent Wreath Lighters

8:30 AM The Keiper Family
11:00 AM The Zimmerman Family

Lay Liturgists

8:30 AM Steve Sullivan
11:00 AM Suzie Lane

Music

Emily Harrison Zapata, Cantor
8:30 AM Richard Lane, Guitar; Laudate Youth Choir
11:00 AM Westminster Choir

Dr. John Semingson
Director of Music Ministries

Dale Nickell
Organist and Associate Director of Music Ministries

POINSETTIAS



Poinsettias will once again grace our Sanctuary for Christmas Eve worship services. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in memory of or in honor of a friend or family member, please place your order online, complete a form available at the Information Desk or email Terri Eckert at teckert@nashvillewpc.org.

A donation of \$10 per name is requested. ***The deadline for submitting names to be included in the Christmas Eve bulletins is next Sunday, December 8, 2024.***



SANCTUARY AND PARLOR FLOWERS

Reserve your date now to provide arrangements in the Sanctuary or Parlor in 2025. Celebrate your friendships and honor your loved ones with arrangements provided by our talented Flower Guild members. Email or call Terri Eckert to select your special Sunday. *Please note that reservations for flowers do not carry over from year-to-year. (teckert@nashvillewpc.org or 615.292.5526)*

Mask Policy

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

Hearing Assistance

We offer personal FM Receivers with an ear-piece, located in the Narthex and in the Parlor on the Welsh dresser. Instructions can be found at each location.

Large Print Hymns

Looking for large-print hymns? They can be found in the Narthex at the Sanctuary entrance or in the Parlor on the Welsh dresser.

Recorded Worship Services

To watch a service at a later time, go to www.nashvillewpc.church and scroll down to the Worship Service Archive. Click on the service you would like to view.

Dial-a-Sermon

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

Childcare

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

Nursery - Room 146

Toddlers - Room 152

2s and 3s - Room 151

Copyright Information

The music used in the service this morning is copyrighted under Christian Copyright Licensing International, Inc., No. 1121525.

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)



TODAY @ WESTMINSTER



**LIVING
OUT THE
WORD**

LOVE
RECONCILE
SHINE
TRANSFORM

What are you longing for in this season? Who/what are you looking to for fulfillment?

Luke 21:28 says, "Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." How will you raise your head this week to the redemption drawing near in your life?



Each year at Thanksgiving, as we reflect on our blessings, our community of faith at Westminster is at the top of our lists. We are deeply grateful that we are a congregation who, through Christ, live with joy, even on life's hardest days. We are a people who, through Christ, marshal our resources—our time, talent, and treasure—to give life to the ministries of our church, reach deeply into the communities we serve, and prayerfully discern how best to steward new resources that flow to us, through us, and on to others.

As we continue our Generosity campaign, let us remember that our giving is rooted in the abundance of God's provision. It is easy to succumb to a fear of scarcity—the worry that there will not be enough to meet the needs before us. Yet, the Apostle Paul reminds us that in Christ, and through God's great love, we will always have more than enough. This assurance is our strength, as Paul writes, in all things. Because of this promise, we are empowered to be a light, to live with confident joy and generosity in every season. And Isaiah reminds us that God is doing a new thing—right here in our midst. And look at what we have already accomplished together—\$2,903,226 from 373 families. That is the power of generosity in action! Through your faithful giving, Westminster continues to grow, thrive, and move forward in faith as part of the family of Christ. It is a testament to God's work among us, placing us together to support one another on this journey. What a precious gift.

Westminster is a thriving community of faith, brimming with new life and energy that reflects God's goodness. Each of us is called to give as we are able, in faith and gratitude. Every gift matters, because what we can do together is far greater than what any of us could accomplish alone. It is often through this shared ministry that God's love and strength become tangible in our lives. Thank you for your careful and prayerful attention to this year's campaign.

"Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"
Isaiah 43:19

With gratitude and blessings,
Generosity Committee



TODAY @ WESTMINSTER

Adult Education Classes start at 9:45 AM



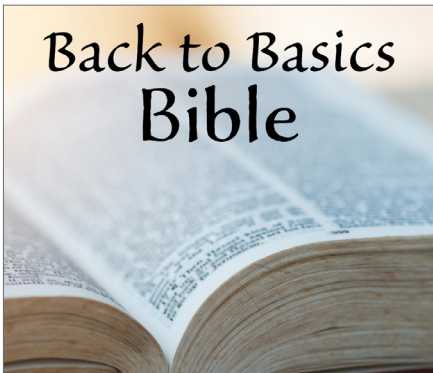
Covenant Class • Fellowship Hall

Against the Tide: With Luke Through Advent

Led by Lucas Waweru Mburu

Lucas, a native of Kenya, is a husband to Eunice and father to Grace and Timothy. He is an ordained minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, serving with the Presbyterian Church of East Africa in Kenya. Lucas earned his Master of Arts (Theological Studies) degree from Columbia

Theological Seminary in the spring of 2021. He is pursuing a Ph.D. program in New Testament and Early Christianity at Vanderbilt University.



Back to Basics: Bible • Goodpasture Hall

Westminster is launching a new series of Sunday School classes to help us get back to the basics! This fall, we'll start with an introduction to the Bible. We'll explore what exactly the Bible is including its structure and history as well as spend time learning about and interpreting various texts together. Attendees will become familiar with the Bible and its contents and develop the skills and understanding so they can comfortably read and interpret Scripture. This class

is great for anyone who is new to the faith all the way to seasoned Bible readers who would like a refresher—all are welcome! If you have any questions, please contact Will, wwellman@nashvillewpc.org.



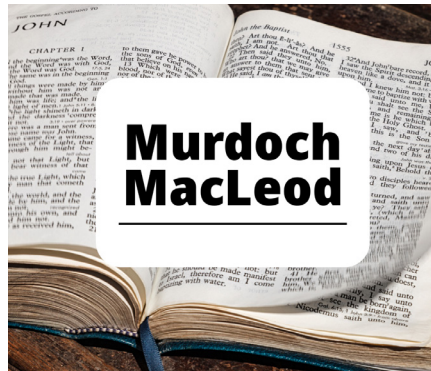
TODAY @ WESTMINSTER

Adult Education Classes start at 9:45 AM



Faith & Fellowship • 214

We will be exploring A.-J. Levine's new book *The Gospel of John*.



Murdoch MacLeod • Library

We will discuss this week's gospel lesson.



Young Families • Overlook Room

No class this Sunday



Sunday School • 9:45 AM

No Youth Sunday School or Youth Group this Sunday.



Children & Youth Choirs

4:00 PM Rehearsals

Gloria
Alleluia
Jubilate
Tintinnabulation

5:00 PM Rehearsals

Laudate Choir
Chiming Children



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

8:30 & 11:00 AM • Worship Services

Children and Worship

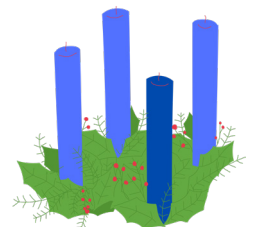
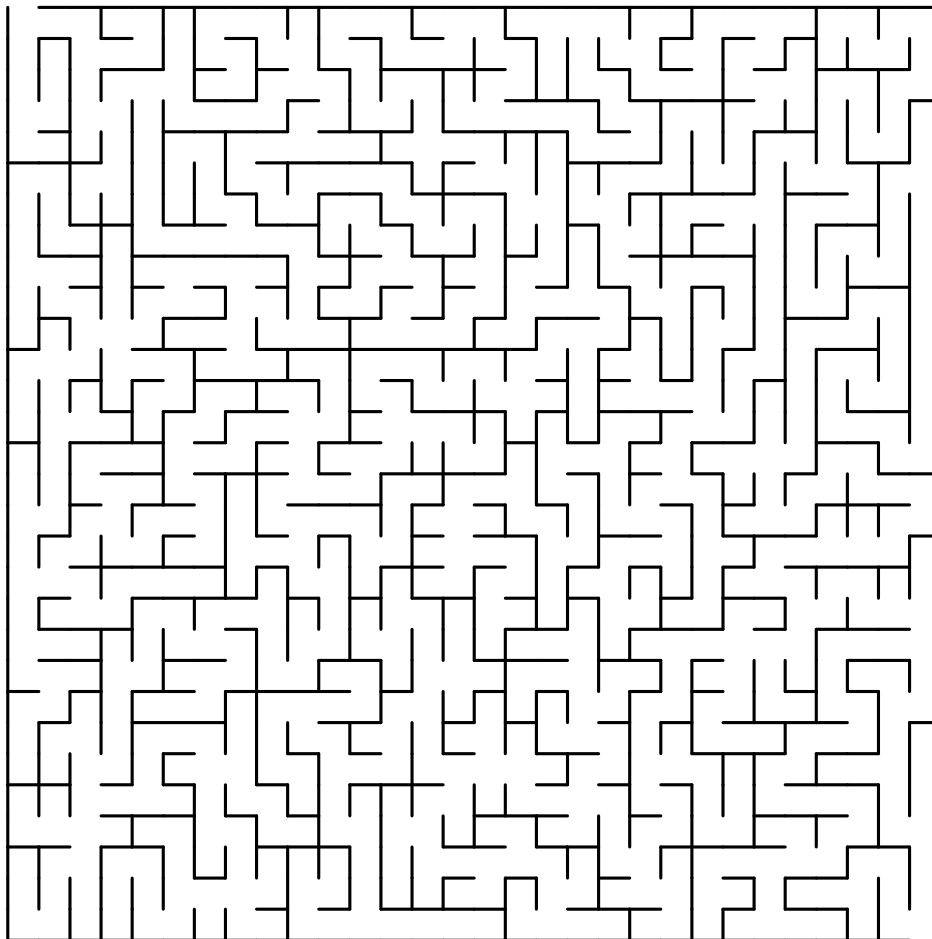
Childcare is available for children who are infants through kindergarten during both services. While childcare is available, children are always welcome in worship. There are quiet toys and worship bags for children. They may be found in baskets in the Parlor and in the back of the Sanctuary. The bags have plain paper, crayons, a pencil and a children's bulletin.

9:45 AM • Sunday School

No Sunday School this Sunday.

Nursery is available for both services.

Today, we begin a brand new year. Our new year starts with Advent, the four Sundays before Christmas. Can you help the mom and child find the way to light the first candle?





ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, December 8

Service of Hope and Healing

7:00 PM • Sanctuary

(and via Livestream, see the on-line bulletin for setting up a worship table at home)

As we enter the Advent/Christmas season, many feelings well up in us. Joyful Christmas carols seek to bring good cheer, yet for many experiences of grief and loss, anxiety and health concerns, depression and painful relationships are on our hearts.

Through scripture and prayers, candlelight and music, this service is for all people seeking hope and healing during this season. We invite you to bring a photo or other symbol of whatever is on your heart to this service, and place it in the candlelit windows, or hold it in the pew.

All are welcome to join us as we claim the promises of God in Emmanuel, God-with-us, and for Christ's peace to make us whole.

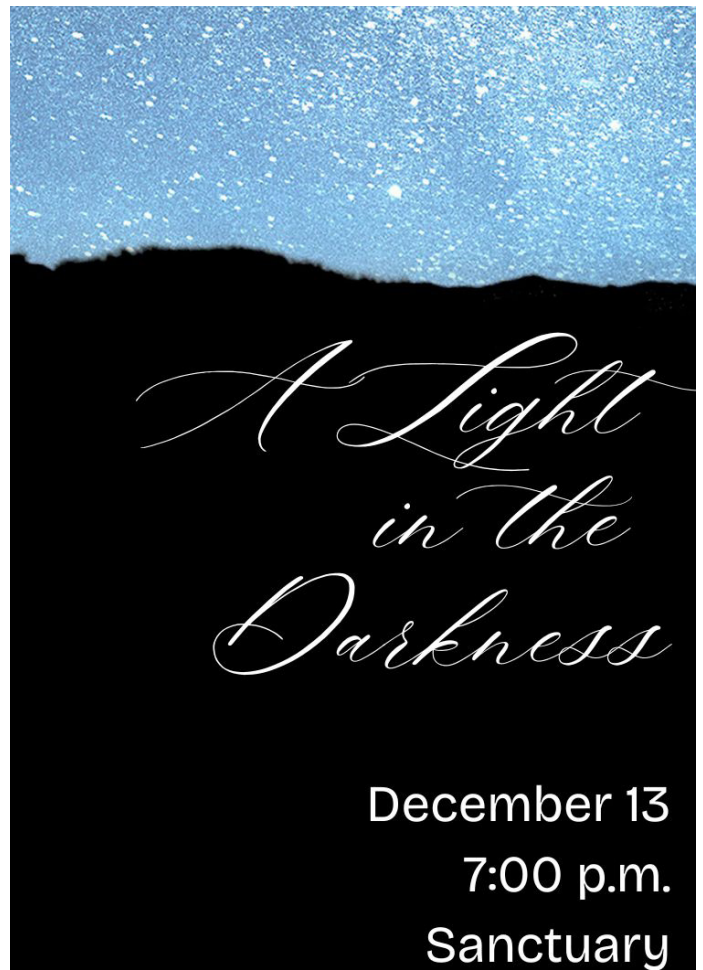
A Light in the Darkness

**An Advent & Christmas Concert
with Westminster Choir, Chamber
Orchestra, Phillip Keveren, Pianist,
and tenor soloist, Jordan Haas
Dale Nickell, Associate Director
of Music and Organist; Dr. John
Semingson, Conductor**

December 13

7:00 PM • Sanctuary

Plan now to join us for this concert featuring beautiful music of the season and bring a friend! We offer this concert to be a light in the darkness of December filled with hope and promise as we hear in word and music the promise that Christ's coming brings to all of creation. ALL ARE WELCOME! Please join us.





ANNOUNCEMENTS



December 4, 2024
PJs and Breakfast for Dinner
5:30 PM • Fellowship Hall

Join us for Wednesday night dinner in December! Wear your pajamas (kids and grownups alike) and join us for breakfast (Troy's cooking!) and advent wreath making for our homes. We'll also read the Christmas Story! Hope to see you there.

Theme: Making advent wreaths to take home

Costs this year will be:
\$10 per individual
\$40 family max

Scan the QR code to register.



December 11, 17
Salvation Army Bell
Ringers - Green Hills
12:00 - 6:00 PM

The Salvation Army will serve more than 25 million people across America. Scan the QR code to register for a two-hour shift at Green Hills Kroger.



December 15
Community Caroling &
Dinner for Families
5:00 PM

Join us for some old fashioned caroling in the neighborhood.

More info to come.

December 8, 15, 22
Alternative Christmas
Gift Market
Parlor

Give Christmas gifts to friends and family while also giving to those in need – visit us at the market in the Parlor.

SAVE
THE
DATE

December 8
Youth Bake Sale
Parlor

Parents, Students, Friends of the Youth Ministry: We need your best bake goods for our Bake Sale Fundraiser. You can drop off your items at the church on Saturday, December 7 between 10:00 AM and 1:00 PM during our Bake Sale Prep Day.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



December 9
Women's Covenant Group
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM
Goodpasture Hall

For our meeting on December 9th, the Women's Covenant Group is celebrating the Christmas season by hosting a luncheon. We will serve a light lunch, including chicken casserole, salad, and bread, along with various desserts. Instead of a program, we hope to enjoy pure celebration of the season, with singing, possibly games, getting to know each other better, and catching up with new and old friends. As it is a difficult time of year for so many people, it will be nice to enjoy time with church friends and sisters in Christ.

Please RSVP to Kris Pardue, kpardue@nashvillewpc.org.

Also, if you are willing and able to help us prepare for the luncheon, please let us know.

In addition, we suggest that members bring small gifts to benefit the Oasis Center and homeless youth. The

Oasis Center is a nationally recognized organization that helps young people in Middle Tennessee through a broad spectrum of programs and services designed to help them reach their full potential.

Suggested gifts include cold weather accessories such as weatherproof blankets, hand warmers and toe warmers, all-weather gloves, winter beanies, scarves, and coats. Additional needs include underwear for all genders and sizes (new); thermal underclothes (new), long-sleeved T-shirts, sweatshirts/hoodies, sleeping bags; solar lanterns/light source; and \$15 fast food gift cards. All of these items can be purchased via Amazon wishlist. Scan the QR code to access the list. We will deliver them to the Oasis Center on behalf of the Women's Covenant Group.



We are excited to celebrate and hope you and your guests will join us for this gathering!

Lisa Atkinson, lbas1958@gmail.com
Frances Baird, fbaird@yahoo.com
Suzanne Allen, sallen2009@gmail.com



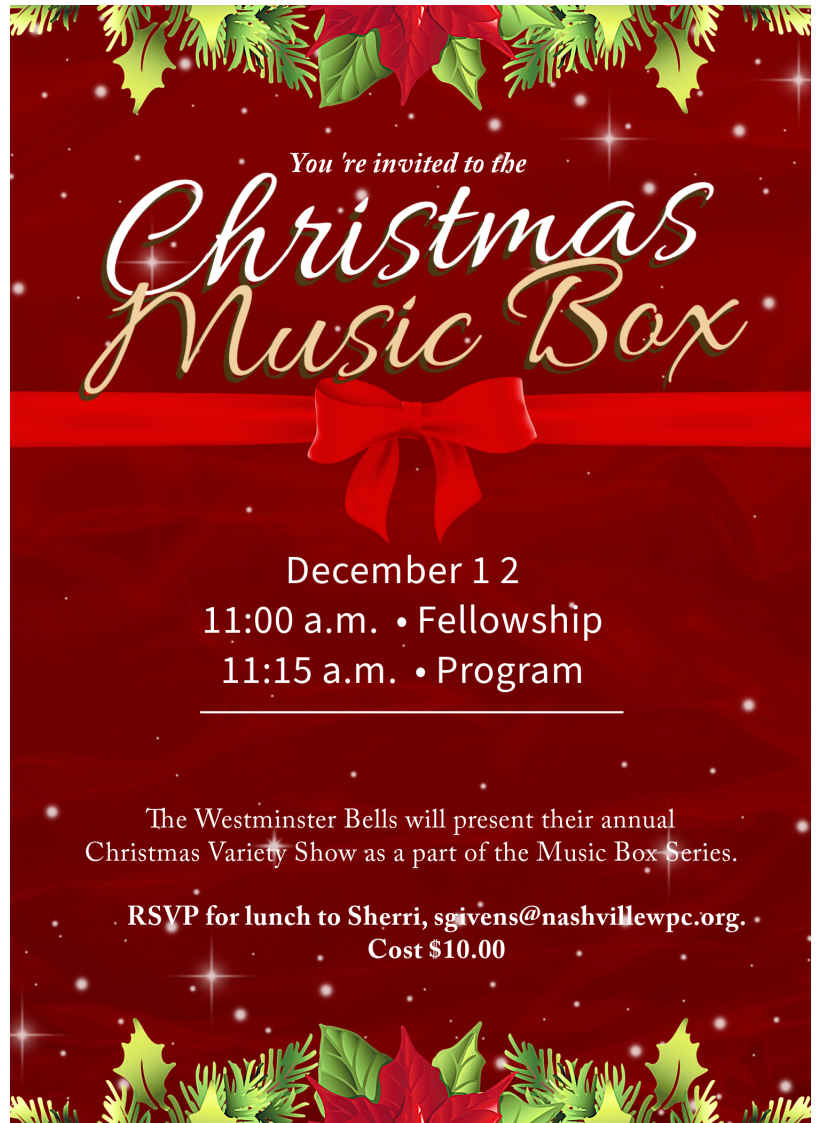
ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Westminster Bells will present their annual Christmas Variety Show as a part of the Music Box Series on Thursday, December 12 in Goodpasture Hall. We will gather at 11:00 AM. The program will begin at 11:15 AM. Following the program a Box Lunch will be served. Please call the church office to place your lunch order.

Returning once again to join the Bell Choir will be Susan and Neal Ramsay, Susan with her Hammered Dulcimer and Neal with several saxophones. They will play two selections, "Riu Riu Chiu" and "Linus and Lucy". Hearing Susan and Neal is always quite a treat. Neal is the arranger for their selections being as there are probably no other arrangements for this particular instrumentation!

The Bell Choir will play three selections. "Advent Carol", arranged by Hal Hopson, former Minister of Music here at Westminster. Back by popular demand, "T'was the Night Before Christmas" with our very own Audrey Campbell narrator. We commissioned John Arnn to write this piece several years ago. We will end the program with "Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer".

Members of the Bell Choir are, Barbara Sullivan, Jane Kirchner, Audrey Campbell, Debbie Fritz, Janet Salyer, Meg Zimmerman, Leslie Higgins, Kelly Christie, Jill Sink, Shirlee Davidson, Frank Kirchner and Cecile Settle. The Choir is directed by Sally Mae Arnn.





The Downtown Presbyterian Church

The 100th Waffle Shop
December 5, 2024
11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

All proceeds go to benefit the church's homeless ministries.

This year marks the centennial celebration of The Downtown Presbyterian Church's Waffle Shop. What started in 1924 as a fundraiser for The Downtown Presbyterian Church, quickly evolved into a holiday tradition. In its early days, downtown was the center of Nashville's retail and Waffle Shop marked the beginning of the Christmas shopping season. In recent years, as Nashville's need for homeless outreach has increased, the church has expanded its mission. Funds raised from Waffle Shop are now used to provide a free breakfast and essential items to anyone in need each Saturday morning.

Waffle Shop tickets can be purchased on the website at dpchurch.com.
The \$15 ticket includes:

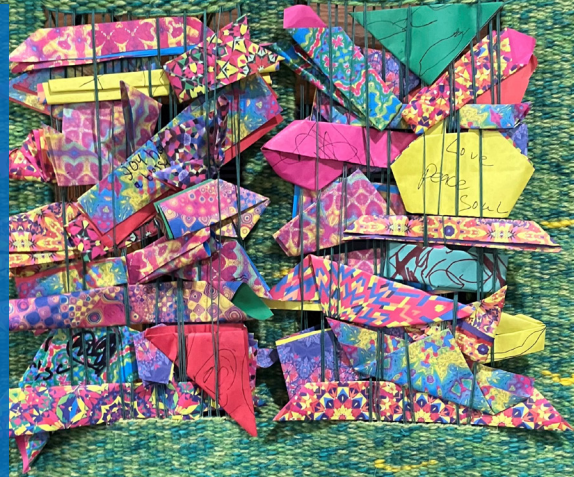
- A waffle breakfast which includes waffles, grits, a choice of Hattie B's Hot Chicken or Puckett's country bacon, or turkey hash made from the original Waffle Shop recipe, and a choice of Frothy Monkey Coffee or spiced tea
- A free guided tour of the church's beautiful historic Egyptian Revival sanctuary
- An organ recital and an opportunity to participate in singing Christmas carols
- The opportunity to shop at the church's gift shop which includes homemade baked goods, vintage antiques, and other holiday merchandise





JOY IN LEARNING

Joy in Learning creatively shares God's gifts of play through the arts and other activities. As we gather in community, we promote connection, understanding and caring relationships. This is a welcoming environment for all ages as well as those from diverse cultural, ethnic and economic backgrounds.



Tuesdays Pottery

January 7-February 25
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
\$50 per person
Limit: 8 participants

From hand-building to glazing, create your own pottery items with the help of our fabulous pottery team. Items are microwavable, oven-safe, and dishwasher-safe.

All skill levels are welcome. Scan the QR code to register.



Tuesdays Songwriting Class

Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4
10:00 a.m.-Noon
No fee

The Craft of a Nashville Songwriter:
This is a four-week introduction led by Steve Leslie. Scan QR code to register.



Wednesdays February 5, 12, 19, 26 4:00-5:30 p.m. Limit 24 children

Each group will attend two weeks of pottery and two weeks of recreation in the gym! Classes are for K through 4th graders, church members and community friends. Grandparents, bring your grandchildren. Scan QR code to register.





CAFÉ ACTIVITIES



Tuesday - Friday
8:00 AM - Noon

Be our guest! Enjoy specialized coffees, various teas, and cold drinks along with homemade yummys. High chairs available for our little guests.

Refugees The Road to Citizenship

December 6



Friday
10:00 AM to Noon

Come join Chris Lovingood, Executive Director of Nations Ministry, as he shares the knowledge and experiences he's gained over many years serving as Executive Director of Nations Ministry. Scan QR code to register.



A Special Evening of Music & Art

December 10



Tuesday
6:00 - 8:30 PM

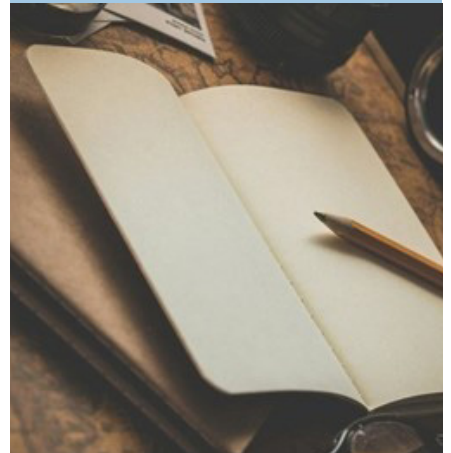
Join us for an art show featuring paintings from Joy in Learning classes and songwriters singing their own Christmas songs and lead us in Christmas Carols.
Cost: \$10

Scan QR code to register.



Writing Our Faith Stories

Starts January 8



Wednesdays
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

One of the most helpful ways to increase our awareness of God's presence with us is to write about our spiritual journeys and to share insights gained from that practice with our companions along the way. Led by Janet Salyer. Scan QR code to register.





MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Environmental Footprint

Want to Know What you Can Do to Reduce Your Environmental Footprint?

Members of the Earth Care Task Force have been approached several times about ways to reduce one's greenhouse gas and environmental footprint. Scan the QR code to reach our list of things you can do around your household. Contact Curtis Baysinger, cbaysinger2@gmail.com, for more info.



Climate News

There are so many good climate and environmental newsletters, it's difficult to choose just one. Anna Robertson's *The Cool Down* (TCD) is full of well-researched articles on how climate change is affecting our lives and what people are doing about it. Scan the QR code to learn more.



Helping Students

Third - Fifth Grade Math Tutors Needed at Cockrill Elementary School

Math tutors are needed to help 3rd-5th graders starting in January. Training is provided. A background check is required. Please contact Jennifer Anderson, andersonjl2001@yahoo.com, for details.



MINISTRY TEAM



Donovan Drake
Pastor
ddrake@nashvillewpc.org



Sophie Maness
Executive Director of Children's
& Community Life Ministries
smaness@nashvillewpc.org



Guy D. Griffith
Associate Pastor for Adult
Education & Spiritual Nurture
ggriffith@nashvillewpc.org



Adam DeVries
Parish Associate for Youth
adevries@nashvillewpc.org



Ashley Higgins
Associate Pastor
for Young Families
ahiggins@nashvillewpc.org



Hannah Norris
Interim Associate Director of
Senior High Youth
and College Ministries
hnorris@nashvillewpc.org



Heidi Hudnut-Beumler
Associate Pastor for
Congregational Care, New
Members, & GET*connected*
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nashvillewpc.org



John Semingson
Director of Music Ministries
johns@nashvillewpc.org



Stephanie Boaz
Parish Associate for
Congregational Care
sboaz@nashvillewpc.org



Dale Nickell
Associate Director of Music
Ministries and Organist
dnickell@nashvillewpc.org



Will Wellman
Parish Associate for
Adult Education
wwellman@nashvillewpc.org

ADVENT SCHEDULE

December 4

5:30 PM • Fellowship Hall
Wednesday Night Dinner
PJs & Breakfast for Dinner

December 8

9:45 AM • Parlor
Youth Bake Sale

December 8, 15, 22

9:45 AM • Parlor
Alternative Gift Christmas Market

December 8

6:05 PM • Abe's Garden
Youth Caroling

December 8

7:00 PM • Sanctuary
Hope & Healing Service

December 10

6:00 PM • Westminster Café
A Special Evening of Music and Art

December 11, 17

12:00 - 6:00 PM • Green Hills Kroger
Salvation Army Bell Ringing

December 12

10:00 AM • Goodpasture Hall
Westminster Bells Christmas Variety Program

December 13

7:00 PM • Sanctuary
A Light in the Darkness

December 15

5:00 PM • North Parking Lot
Christmas Caroling in the Neighborhood
Followed by dinner at 5:45 PM
(reservations required)

December 24

Christmas Eve Services

2:00 PM – The Family Christmas Eve Service with the Children's Choirs

5:00 PM – Candlelight Service and Communion with the Westminster Choir

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

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

December 29

11:00 AM • Sanctuary
Sunday Morning Service
PLEASE NOTE: One service only

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.

December 1, 2024

348 Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

1 Lo, he comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
2 Now re - demp - tion, long ex - pect - ed,
3 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore thee,

once for our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand,
comes in sol - emn splen - dor near; all the
high on thine e - ter - nal throne; Sav - ior,

thou - sand saints at - tend - ing join to
saints this world re - ject - ed thrill the
take the power and glo - ry; claim the

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE →

December 1, 2024

sing the glad re - frain: Al - le -
trum - pet sound to hear: Al - le -
king - dom as thine own. Come, Lord

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
Je - sus; come, Lord Je - sus; come, Lord

lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
lu - ia! See the day of God ap - pear!
Je - sus. Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone!

December 1, 2024

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 82

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

