



**Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
**December 22, 2024**

Cover photo by  
Donovan Drake.

### *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 Hymn 88*

These stanzas on the coming Christ appeared in daily Vesper antiphons sung during the week before Christmas; their roots date at least to the reign of Charlemagne. Both text and tune are the fruit of 19th-century efforts to reclaim Christian treasures from pre-Reformation sources. TEXT: Latin prose, pre-9th cent.; trans. composite; MUSIC: Plain-song; adapt. Thomas Helmore, 1852; arr. John Weaver, 1988.

### *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

How Great Our Joy

German Carol/arr. Moats

I Saw Three Ships

English Carol/arr. Raney

Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella

French Carol/arr. Cathy Moglebust

### 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.**

**O come, thou Wisdom from on high,  
who orderest all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show;  
and teach us in her ways to go.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice!**

**Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**O come, O come, thou Lord of might,  
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times didst give the law  
in cloud and majesty and awe.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice!**

**Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**O come, thou Root of Jesse,  
free thine own from Satan's tyranny;  
from depths of hell thy people save  
and give them victory o'er the grave.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice!**

**Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

## **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Let us worship God!

*(Those who are able may stand.)*

Out of Bethlehem comes one who is to rule in Israel.

**He shall be great to the ends of the earth.**

Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.

**God's mercy extends from generation to generation.**

**Holy is God's name!**

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

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

**Who are we, Lord God, that you should come to us?**

**Yet you have visited your people**

**and redeemed us in your Son.**

**As we prepare to celebrate his birth,**

**make our hearts leap for joy**

**at the sound of your word,**

**and move us by your Spirit**

**to bless your wonderful works.**

**We ask this through him whose coming is certain,**

**whose day draws near,**

**your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,**

**who lives and reigns with you**

**in the unity of the Holy Spirit,**

**one God, forever and ever. 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 104**

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

Prepare the way of the Lord!

Let us make our confession to God.

### *About Hymn 104*

Though many Advent hymns address Christ with entreaty and invitation, this more contemplative text considers how an individual prepares for and responds to Christ's coming. It also brings together a recollection of the First Coming with an anticipation of the Second Coming. TEXT: Paul Gerhardt, 1653; trans. Catherine Winkworth and others, 1863; MUSIC: Melchior Teschner, 1614; harm. William Henry Monk, 1861.

*Prayer of Confession*

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.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Holy God,  
we confess that we do not walk in your light.  
We choose what is evil and refuse what is good.  
We scorn our neighbors and laugh at others' troubles.  
Forgive us; deliver us; let your face shine on us,  
so that we may be ready to meet our Emmanuel,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.**

*(Silent confession)*

*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)*

The musical score for the Kyrie consists of four staves of music in 3/4 time. The lyrics are: "Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy." The first staff is for the Choir, the second for the Congregation, the third for the Choir, and the fourth for both Congregation and Choir.

*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.")*

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

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.

**CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

*(Everyone is asked to sign the Friendship pad,  
which is located on the center aisle end of each pew.)*

**THE WORD**

**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.

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE**

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

**Micah 5:2-5**

*(Old Testament, page 275 in your pew Bible)*

*Choir:* Lord Jesus, come soon!

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

**CANTICLE**

*(8:30 a.m.)* Hymn 100 *(All sing)* STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

*About Hymn 100*

*(11:00 a.m.)* Song of Mary Richard Shepherd

By employing an energetic Irish folk song for its melody, this ballad-like paraphrase of the *Magnificat*, Mary's song at her meeting with her relative Elizabeth (Luke 1:46-55), recaptures both the wonder and the faith of the young woman who first recognized what God was doing. TEXT: Rory Cooney, 1990; Music: Irish melody; arr. Rory Cooney, 1990.

My Lord and Saviour is my song,  
He fills my spirit with delight  
To raise me up his arm is strong,  
The lowly precious in his sight.

*Magnificat, Magnificat, Magnificat anima mea Dominum.*

My name shall live from age to age,  
And ev'ry tongue his servant bless,  
For mercy is their heritage  
Whose hearts the Holy One confess.  
*Magnificat, Magnificat ...*

The proud beguil'd by dreams of pow'r  
Divided and degraded lie:  
He casts them down from throne and tow'r  
And stoops to lift the humble high.  
*Magnificat, Magnificat...*

He feeds the hungry at his board  
And send the rich unfill'd away,  
And mindful of his promis'd word  
Has answer'd Israel's prayer today.  
*Magnificat, Magnificat...*

With all the elders of our race,  
And those unborn who seek this birth,  
I sing the glory of his grace  
Who brings eternity to earth.  
*Magnificat, Magnificat...*

*About Hymn 110*

Here is a chance to sing a familiar French carol tune with new words, the most important clearly being "Love." The senses "seen and Heard" (as in Acts 4:20 and elsewhere) organize the first two stanzas, while the third holds the summary statement: "Love is the gift of Christmas." TEXT: Ken Bible, 1996; MUSIC: French melody; arr. Eric T. Myers, 2012.

**Luke 1:39-56**

*(New Testament, page 57 in your pew Bible)*

**SERMON**

"Why me?"

Donovan Drake

*(A moment for meditation)*

**\*HYMN 110**

Love Has Come

BRING A TORCH

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

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

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**Jesus, the long-expected Savior,  
came into the world as a child,  
descended from David,  
conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of Mary, a virgin.**

**He lived as a Jew among Jews.**

**He announced to his people  
the coming of God's kingdom  
of justice and peace on earth.**

**The coming of Jesus was itself  
the coming of God's promised rule.**

**Through his birth, life, death, and resurrection,  
he brings about the relationship  
between God and humanity  
that God always intended.**

*(From A Declaration of Faith)*

*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.



## THANKSGIVING

### OFFERING

Anthems

(8:30 a.m.)

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Stephen Paulus

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary and, gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.

O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

(11:00 a.m.) I will light candles this Christmas

Kim André Arnesen

I will light Candles this Christmas;  
Candles of joy despite all sadness,  
Candles of hope where despair keeps watch,  
Candles of courage for fears ever present,  
Candles of peace for tempest-tossed days,  
Candles of grace to ease heavy burdens,  
Candles of love to inspire all my living,  
Candles that will burn all year long.  
When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
The work of Christmas begins:  
To find the lost, To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry, To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations, To bring peace among others,  
To make music in the heart, in the heart.

(Howard Thurman 1899-1981)

### 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:**



*Doxology*

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

*Prayer of Thanksgiving*

God's grace elicits our heartfelt gratitude. We respond to the good news of forgiveness with joyful acclamations of praise!

*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.

*About Hymn 93*

Beginning as a paraphrase of Psalm 24:7-10, this text then applies the door imagery to the singer's heart, and concludes with the individual's welcome of the approaching Savior. It is set to a very effective anonymous 18th-century English tune that has served many texts. TEXT: Georg Weissel, 1642; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1855; MUSIC: *Musica Sacra*, c. 1778.

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

**\*DOXOLOGY**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**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!**

**\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

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

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

**You deliver us, O God,  
from exile, separation, and despair  
into communion with each other,  
with you, and with your good news.  
We thank you for all that draws us close,  
astounding us with lives  
transformed by gratitude. Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**SENDING**

**\*HYMN 93** Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates TRURO

**BENEDICTION**

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

**POSTLUDE** In dulci jubilo, BWV 608 and BWV 729 J.S. Bach

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



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## 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 to [hhudnutbeumler@nashvillewpc.org](mailto:hhudnutbeumler@nashvillewpc.org) or 615.292.5526 in the church office.

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## TODAY@ WESTMINSTER

### Worship Leaders

#### Preaching

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

#### Liturgist

Rev. Ashley Higgins  
*Associate Pastor for Young Families*

#### Advent Wreath Lighters

8:30 AM The Bailey Family  
11:00 AM The Felch Family

#### Lay Liturgists

8:30 AM Suzie Lane  
11:00 AM Lynne Trost

#### Music

Harvard Handbells  
8:30 AM Laudate Youth Choir  
11:00 AM Westminster Choir

Dr. John Semingson  
*Director of Music Ministries*

Dale Nickell  
*Organist and Associate Director of Music Ministries*

The Anthem "***I will light candles this Christmas***" is given to the glory of God for Franklin Merriman Staggs by Lisa and Steve Staggs, Christmas 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](mailto:teckert@nashvillewpc.org) or 615.292.5526)*

### RED ROSE

The red rose in the Chancel is given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for the birth of a daughter ***Clara "Claire" Louise McLean Tate*** on December 12, 2024 to Taylor and Samantha Tate. Big brothers Bennett and James, Aunt Cacky and Uncle Parker Brown, and grandparents Debi and Bill Tate are thrilled to welcome her to the family!

### Mask Policy

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nashville is mask optional.

### 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](http://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



## Last Sunday Alternative Christmas Gift Market 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.

The Alternative Christmas Gift Market offers a different way to give gifts to friends and family while also giving to those in need. Nineteen non-profit agencies and WPC missions have provided “shopping lists” that offer gifts to enhance the quality and faith-based nature of gift-giving this holiday season. You can “purchase” gifts from the participating groups in honor of family members and friends. Scan to connect to order form.



As we move further into this season of gratitude, reflecting on the miraculous good news of the Gospel, we are filled with hope by the outpouring of your gifts - your expressions of generosity of the heart and spirit. They reflect a deep desire to embody God’s love and extend Christ’s light to others, especially at a time when the world so desperately needs it. Isaiah reminds us, “See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?” (43:19) God is indeed moving among us, calling us to something greater: to be Christ’s hands and feet, and to illuminate the lives of others with compassion, kindness, and action. The results of our generosity campaign so far reflect this faithful call. We still need \$550,000 to meet our 2025 goal.

We are not simply meeting goals—we are participating in something sacred, a renewal of spirit and purpose. This holiday season, let us continue to be the light of the world to our neighbors, both near and far. Let us allow our generosity to flow from a place of love, moving us toward new possibilities for ministry, mission, and care. Thank you for sharing your gifts and for helping us witness the “new thing” that God is doing in our midst.

Generosity Committee



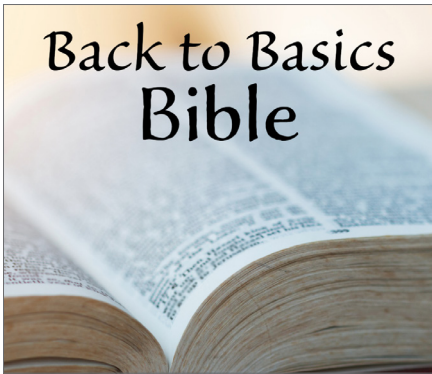
# TODAY @ WESTMINSTER

Adult Education Classes start at 9:45 AM

**Covenant Class • Fellowship Hall**

No class December 22 or 29.

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***Starts January 12***

**Back to Basics: Christian Belief  
Room 10**

Westminster is continuing our new series of Sunday School classes to help us get back to the basics! This Spring we'll continue with an introduction to Christian Beliefs. We'll explore how Christians understand their faith, the doctrines of the church, and our own Reformed tradition. Attendees will become familiar with the beliefs of the church, why they matter now, and how they shape and form our lives as contemporary Christians. This class is great for anyone who is new to the faith all the way to seasoned theologians who would like a refresher—all are welcome! Email Will Wellman with any questions, [wwellman@nashvillewpc.org](mailto:wwellman@nashvillewpc.org)



# TODAY @ WESTMINSTER

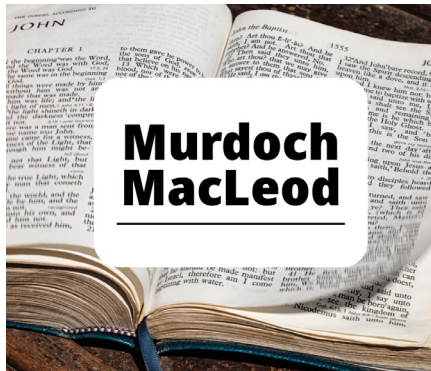
Adult Education Classes start at 9:45 AM



**Faith & Fellowship • 214**

What is in Your Manger?

We will be examining the Nativity Story and our hopes for the Starry Night.



**Murdoch MacLeod • Library**

We will discuss this week's gospel lesson.



**Young Families • Overlook Room**

No class today December 22 or 29.



## Youth

Enjoy the holiday break. We will not have Sunday School or Youth Group December 22 or 29.



# TODAY @ WESTMINSTER



## Children & Youth Choirs

4:00 PM Rehearsals

Gloria  
Alleluia  
Jubilate

5:00 PM Rehearsals

Laudate Choir  
Chiming Children



## Winter New Member & Inquirer Class To Begin January 12

The winter New Member and Inquirer Class will begin Sunday, January 12, and runs through February 16, with the opportunity to join on March 2 for those who feel called into membership. The class runs during the Sunday School hour, 9:45 – 10:45 AM.

To sign up for the class please contact Sherri Givens, [sgivens@nashvillewpc.org](mailto:sgivens@nashvillewpc.org). For questions or more information please contact co-chairs Kathleen Simcoe ([kathleenmsimcoe@gmail.com](mailto:kathleenmsimcoe@gmail.com)) and Ken Larish ([klarish@mainlandcompanies.com](mailto:klarish@mainlandcompanies.com)), or pastoral staff Heidi Hudnut-Beumler ([hhudnutbeumler@nashvillewpc.org](mailto:hhudnutbeumler@nashvillewpc.org)).



# 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

2s are in room 149

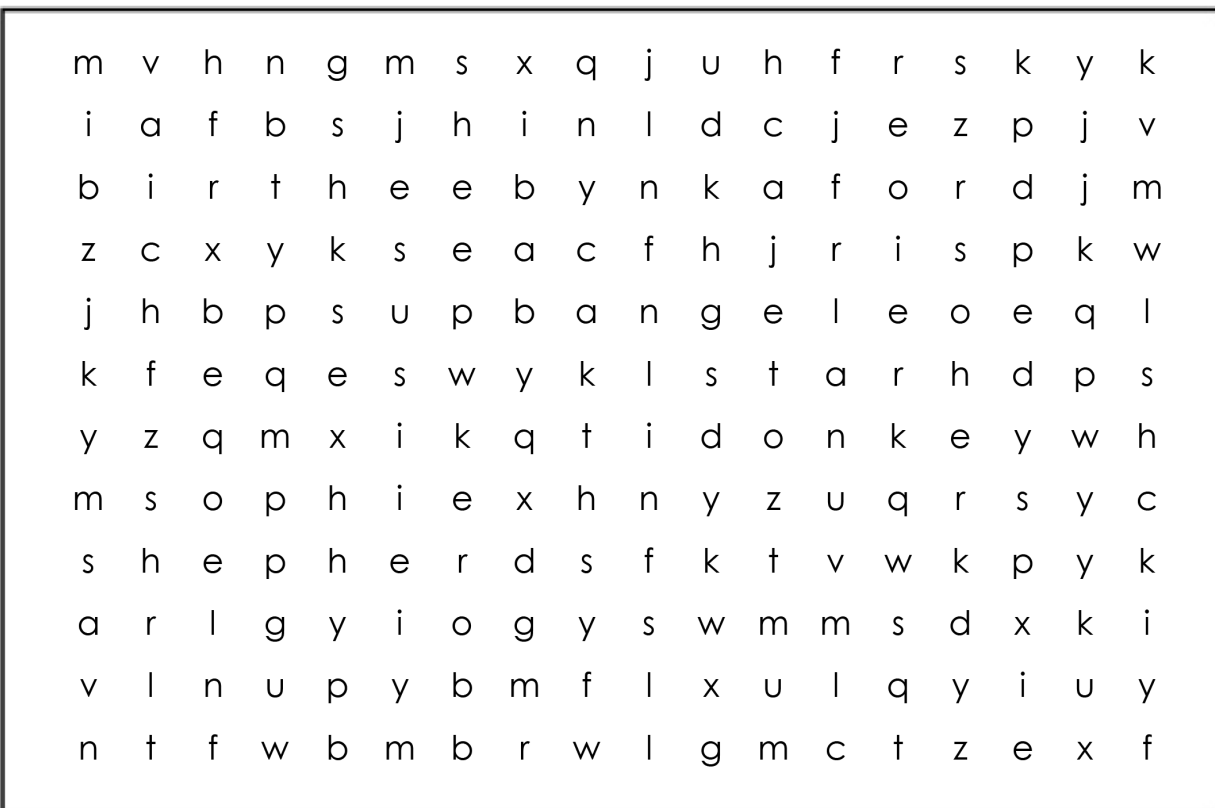
3s are in room 161

4s are in room 163

Godly Play/Kindergarten in 183

4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade in room 292

1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapel first and then will be picked up in rooms.



## Word Search

See if you can find these words in the puzzle on the left.

angel  
Mary

baby  
sheep

birth  
shepherds

donkey  
sky

Jesus  
star

Joseph



# 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. Scan the QR code to access this list.

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).



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# CONGREGATIONAL CARE

## THE MANY MINISTRIES OF CONGREGATIONAL CARE AT WESTMINSTER

***Do you have a need?***

***Or,***

***Do you want to help with care ministry?***

We are the body of Christ, a congregation that shares one another's burdens and rejoices in each other's joys. Whether you are in your later years and would welcome visits, are in the hospital, are recovering and would welcome help with rides to PT or medical equipment or meals, are in need of meals while you experience the demands and joys of a new baby, or have a request for prayer, whatever your need might be, we are here to help and support one another. If you are feeling called to join one of our fourteen care ministry teams, we would love to have you! In our 2,200-member congregation the needs are many and growing all the time, and our care responses seek to be broad and deep.

In our Congregational Care brochure, all fourteen care ministries are outlined. This brochure is available on the Parlor and Narthex tables, as well as on the website. In it the following care ministry teams are described:

- Worship Flower Delivery Ministry
- Pastor's Aides Ministry
- Special Meals Ministry
- Medical Equipment Lending Closet Ministry
- Special Care Ministry
- Prayer Blankets Ministry
- Bereavement Ministry
- Families with Young Children Ministry
- Adjunct Meals Team for New Baby Families & Other Young Families in Times of Need
- Communion@Home Ministry
- Independent Living Ministry
- Hospital Care Ministry
- Caring Connections Rehab Ministry
- Memory Loss Outreach
- Prayer Ministry

If you have a need, are anticipating a need, or want to serve on a care ministry team, please contact: Emily Coleman – Chair, Congregational Care Steering Committee, emilyandersonart32@gmail.com; 615-579-0870.

Pastoral staff for Congregational Care: Heidi Hudnut-Beumler, hhudnutbeumler@nashvillewpc.org; 615-481-0666 or Stephanie Boaz, sboaz@nashvillewpc.org; 614-578-8130.



# 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.



## Special Christmas Edition

*Stories by the Joy in Learning  
Telling Your Story Writers*

### Telling Your Story Christmas Edition Booklets

Pick up a copy of the Telling Your Story Christmas Edition Booklet featuring stories from the participants in the latest class. Copies are available in the Parlor and the Café.



**Thursdays**  
**January 9, 16, 23, & February 6, 13, 20**  
**9:30-11:30 a.m.**  
**\$50 for all supplies**

Instructors: Jillian Morse and Vivian Bauman

This class is mainly for beginners, but all levels are welcome! If you are an experienced oil painter, please email [beth@westminsterjoy.org](mailto:beth@westminsterjoy.org). We have a place for you!



Special Open Studio for Experienced Oil Painters!

Tuesdays  
January 7-February 25  
9:00 a.m.-Noon  
Coordinator: Jackie Shrago

Wednesdays  
January 8-February 26  
9:00 a.m.-Noon  
Coordinator: Susan Holt

Scan QR code for more info and to register.







# CAFÉ ACTIVITIES



**Tuesday - Friday**  
**8:00 AM - Noon**

The Westminster Café is closed the weeks of Christmas and New Year's. (Dec. 24-Jan. 3). We will reopen January 7. Have a beautiful Christmas!

## Songwriting Class

**Starts January 14**



**Tuesdays**  
**10:00 AM - Noon**  
**No fee**

The Craft of a Nashville Songwriter:

This is a four-week introduction led by Steve Leslie. Steve has had a professional songwriting career for more than 30 years with songs recorded by Kenny Rogers, George Strait and many more.

Scan QR code to register.



## Weaving

**Ongoing**



**Thursdays**  
**10:00 AM - Noon**  
**No fee**

Community Tapestry Project

This is a tapestry project that begins with the creation of a tapestry structure. Community members will develop and write messages on strips of ribbon that convey their hopes and prayers for the community. Scan QR code to register.



## The Joy of Jazz

**January 16**



**January 16**  
**The Joy of Jazz**  
**Westminster Café**

Playing songs from the 40s and later that make up the Great American Songbook.

6:00 PM | Café Opens  
6:30-6:50 PM | Sam Levine leads a discussion on mainstream jazz  
7:00-8:15 PM | Jazz  
Cost \$20; benefitting flood relief in TN and NC.



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# MINISTRY TEAM



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# THIS WEEK @ WESTMINSTER

## Sunday, December 22

8:30 AM Worship  
9:45 AM Sunday School  
Alternative Christmas Gift Market  
11:00 AM Worship  
4:00 PM Children's Choir Rehearsal  
5:00 PM Laudate Choir Rehearsal  
Chiming Children

## Monday, December 23

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

## Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Eve Schedule to the right

## Wednesday, December 25

- church campus closed -

## Thursday, December 26

- church campus closed -

## Friday, December 27

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study  
12:00 PM Church Office Closed

## Saturday, December 28

11:30 AM AA

## Looking ahead...

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

## Christmas Joy Offering

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we lift up past, present, and future leaders of the church. 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 provides support for Presbyterian church workers and their families in their time of need and leadership development and education for communities of color at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.



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Nashville, Tennessee 37205-1899  
615.292.5526 | [www.nashvillewpc.church](http://www.nashvillewpc.church)

## O Lord, How Shall I Meet You 104

1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how wel-come you a - right?  
 2 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you down to me;  
 3 You come, O Lord, with glad - ness, in mer - cy and good-will,

Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light!  
 your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro-cured my lib - er - ty.  
 to bring an end to sad - ness and bid our fears be still.

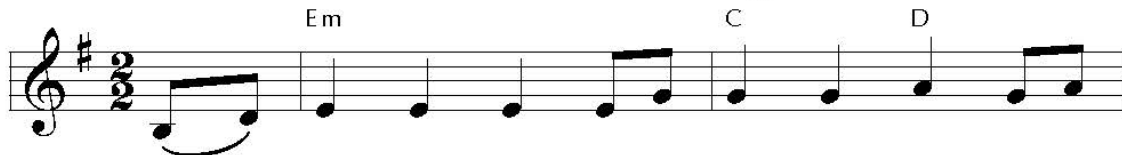
O kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, a lamp with-in my breast,  
 O love be-yond all tell - ing, that led you to em - brace  
 In pa - tient ex - pec - ta - tion we live for that great day

to do in spir - it low - ly all that may please you best.  
 in love, all loves ex - cel - ling, our lost and fal - len race.  
 when your re-newed cre - a - tion your glo - ry shall dis - play.



# 100 My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

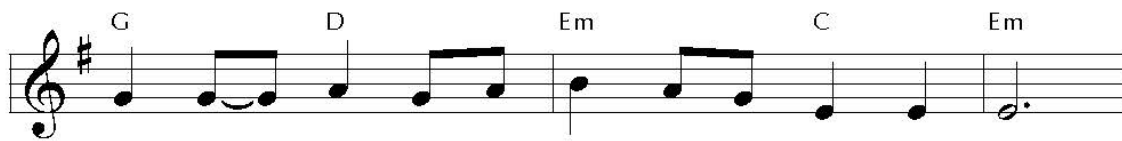
## Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
 2 Though I am small, my God, my all, you  
 3 From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a  
 4 Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



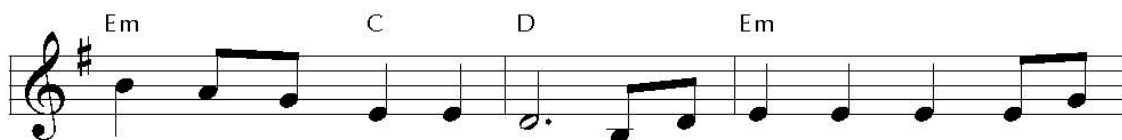
God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
 work great things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
 jus - tice tears ev - ery ty - rant from his throne.  
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



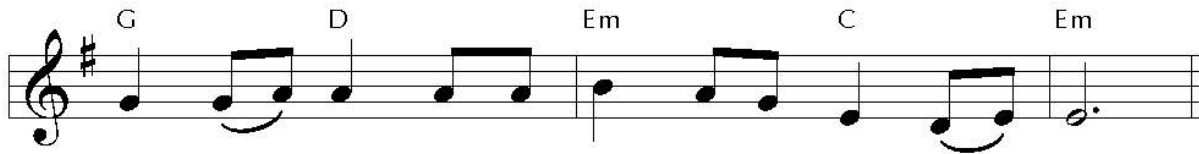
You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
 The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the  
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread; ev - ery  
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



# December 22, 2024

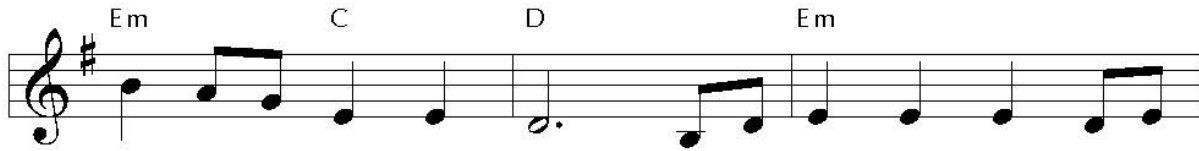


name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

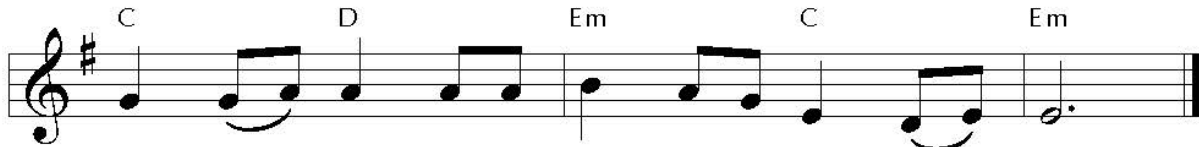
## Refrain



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the



fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the



dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

# Love Has Come

110

Capo 3: (D) (Bm7) (Em7) (A)  
 F Dm7 Gm7 C

1 Love has come: a light in the dark - ness!  
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der.  
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us!

(D) (Bm7) (Em) (A7) (D)  
 F Dm7 Gm C7 F

Love shines forth in the Beth - le - hem skies. See, all  
 Love is God now a - sleep in the hay. See the  
 Love is life ev - er - last - ing and free. Love is

(A) (D) (Bm) (D) (A) (G) (D)  
 C F Dm F C B<sup>b</sup> F

heav - en has come to pro - claim it; hear how their song of  
 glow in the eyes of his moth - er; what is the name her  
 Je - sus with - in and a - mong us. Love is the peace our

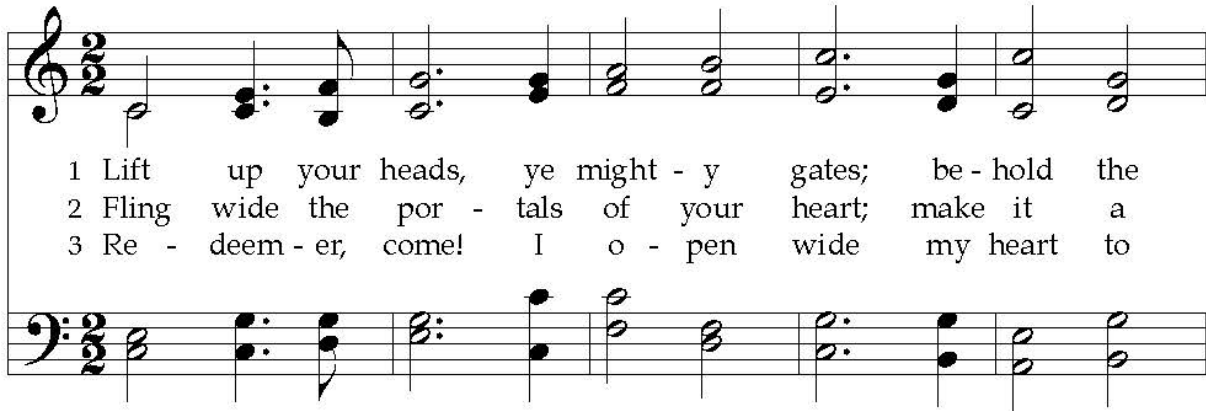
(Em7) (F#7) (G) (A) (Bm) (A7)  
 Gm7 A7 B<sup>b</sup> C Dm C7

joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to you, a  
 heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the name she  
 hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the gift of

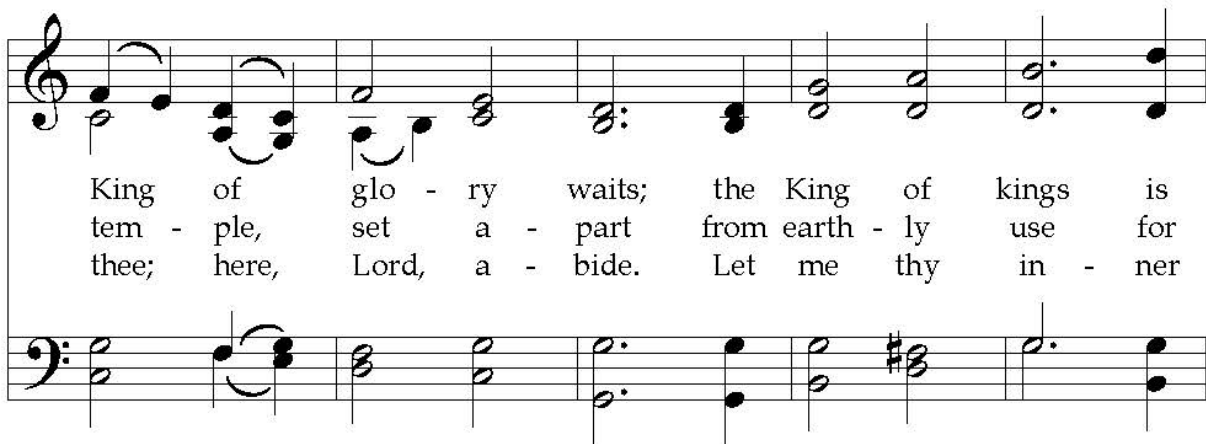
(D) (A) (G) (A) (D) (A) (A7) (Dsus) (D)  
 F C B<sup>b</sup> C F C C7 Fsus F

Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.  
 whis - pers. Love! Love! Je - sus, Em - man - u - el.  
 Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

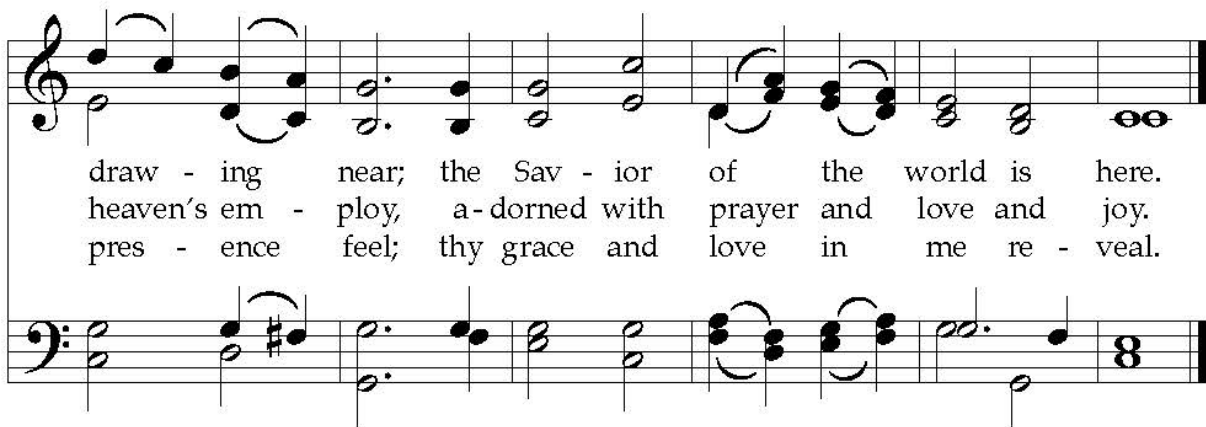
## Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates 93



1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the  
 2 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a  
 3 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to



King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is  
 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for  
 thee; here, Lord, a - bide. Let me thy in - ner



draw - ing near; the Sav - ior of the world is here.  
 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.  
 pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in me re - veal.