

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN



DEC 14 AT 11AM

Joy

third sunday of advent

We Come Into God's Presence with Joy

Life of the Church

Prelude

*Angels We Have
Heard on High*

by Cindy Berry

Advent Candle Lighting

Marcia & Glen Anderson

Together, we affirm our joy in Christ.

**Today, we choose to live with joy,
trusting in the good news that God draws near
to heal, to comfort, and to renew all creation.**

Song of Response

A Candle is Burning

**A candle is burning, a candle of joy,
A candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy,
Our hearts fill with wonder, and eyes light and glow,
As joy brightens winter like sunshine on snow.**

* Hymn #105

People, Look East

BESANCON

Call to Confession

* *You are invited to stand as you are able.*

Unison Prayer of Confession

Holy and wonderful God, we confess that we have closed our eyes to what you are doing. We prefer to concentrate on problems, bad news and violence. When we do, we miss all the healing, freeing and helping you accomplish in our world. We pass up opportunities to participate in your Good News. We rob ourselves of so much joy. Forgive us and give us eyes to see, ears to hear, minds to understand, and hearts to treasure your mission in the world. Fill us with unquenchable joy at the coming of Jesus. Amen.

written by Tracey Davenport, Presbyterian Outlook

Silent prayers of confession.

Assurance of Grace

* Passing the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

* Song of Response

Gloria Patri

GLORIA

**Praise to God the Father be;
praise eternal Son to Thee.
With the Spirit we adore,
always and forevermore.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

We Hear God's Word

First Reading of The Word **Isaiah 35:1-4, 10**

Carole Franklin, liturgist

Anthem

Rejoice, Emmanuel

by Jeffrey A. Smith

Westminster Choir;

Gail Arnold, flute; Marcia Anderson, clarinet

O come! O come! O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lowly exile here, until the Son of God appear.

O come! O come! O come, Thou Lord of might,
who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times did give the law in cloud and majesty and awe.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, Emmanuel!
Rejoice and sing and shout a loud noel!
The Promised One that mortal tongue will tell shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by Thine advent here,
O drive away the shades of night
and pierce the clouds and bring us to light.

O come! O come! Thou King of David, come
and open wide our heav'n home
Where all Thy saints with Thee shall dwell.
O come! O come, Emmanuel!

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, Emmanuel!
Rejoice and sing and shout a loud noel!
The Promised One that mortal tongue will tell shall come to thee, O Israel!

Proclamation of the Word

To celebrate the joy of Advent, today's Moment to Wonder and Proclamation of the Word will be a participatory telling of the Christmas story. Children and youth have some designated parts, but all are invited to participate with joy, and follow along on the screens!

We Respond to God's Word

* Song of Response *Emmanuel*

† **Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
His name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us,
His name is called Emmanuel.**

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Invitation to the Offering

† *You are welcome to sign as you are comfortable and able.
We include this practice as a way to engage our whole selves in worship.*

Offertory

Bethlehem Pastorale
Marcia Anderson, clarinet

by Danel L. Rhone

* Song of Response

Doxology

IN DULCI JUBILO

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
With all the angels let us sing “Glory” to the coming king.
The word made flesh shall soon appear;
Prepare your hearts, the time is near.
Come Emmanuel, O Come Emmanuel!**

* Prayer of Dedication

* Hymn #93

*Lift Up Your Heads,
Ye Mighty Gates*

TRURO

We Go Forth to Serve

* Dismissal

*And let all God’s people say:
Alleluia! Amen!*

Postlude

*When the Savior
Jesus Christ*

by Jean Francois
Dandrieu

This Week's News

Caring for our community. Pick up a cloth grocery bag in the main entry today and bring it back next Sunday with nonperishable food and personal and household items, for Hope Clinic's food pantry.

Christmas Joy Offering: This yearly special offering is a cherished PC(USA) tradition. Gifts are distributed to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Visit Westminster's online giving page or give by check to Westminster with "Christmas Joy" in the memo line.

Deacon Christmas Baskets: Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this year's gift collection! If you signed up to provide a gift, please make sure to drop it off at Westminster by today, December 14. Your generosity will be making a difference for these families this Christmas!

Christmas Eve: Our Westminster Christmas Eve service will be Wednesday, 12/24 at 7pm. All friends, family, and neighbors are welcome to join us for this special service. Let us gather together and welcome the Advent of Christ!

Choir Cantata: Mark your calendars for our annual Christmas Cantata! Sunday, January 4, at 11am. This year, our Westminster Choir will present "Winter's Grace: A Cantata for Christmas" by Joseph M. Martin. This joyful morning of music will feature soloists from the choir as well as an accompanying chamber ensemble of musicians. All are welcome!

Grow in Faith and Friendship

Reading Through the Bible Group meets Sundays at 9:30am in Room 34 and via Zoom. Contact Marcia Anderson (hilden.anderson@gmail.com; 734-757-4305) for more information.

Sunday Morning Adult Ed meets in the fellowship hall at 9:30am.

Children and Youth Faith Formation meets on the second Sunday of each month at 9:30am. Contact Cathy Daniels (catld1121@gmail.com) for more info.

Monday Conversations are weekly at 1pm online: an opportunity to discuss Sunday's sermon in a small group. The Zoom invitation is in the *Friday Good Things* and Sunday podcast emails.

Mary Martha Group meets the first and third Mondays at 7pm via Zoom. Contact Margaret Klammer (mklammer@comcast.net) for more information.

Matthew 25 Study Group meets at 7pm on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. For meeting information, please contact Elizabeth Tidd (lizbeth0405@yahoo.com) or Carol Hufnagel (carol.hufnagel@tetrattech.com).

Thursday Book Club meets weekly at 1pm at Westminster and over Zoom. Contact Linda Harnisch for more information (rlharnisch@gmail.com).

We pray for our Westminster family

Ongoing needs: Donna Greyerbiehl, Kathy Kamm, Elke Kramer

For deacon care, contact your deacon directly or send an email to the deacon moderator, Janet Eaton (jmfeaton@umich.edu). To list prayer requests here, in the *Friday Good Things Are Happening* email, or Prayer Chain, contact Jill Fairchild (jill@thefairchilds.net or 734-417-0816). You can join our email prayer chain by contacting Jill. To keep us current, please share updates on those for whom we are praying.

Welcome to Westminster

Our Values: Love, Compassion, Connection, Inclusion, Earth-Care, Service

Our Mission: Show the love of Jesus Christ by welcoming everyone, without exception, into the full life of the church; participating in the joyful worship of God; engaging in regular study, reflection, prayer and sharing of our faith; committing ourselves and our resources to the spiritual and physical needs of our church family and neighbors near and far; seeking to be a good neighbor in our neighborhood.

Sunday worship podcasts are at bit.ly/westpres_online.

For deacon care, please contact Janet Eaton (jmfeaton@umich.edu).

Thank you for continuing to fulfill your pledges and financial commitments in support of the mission and ministry of Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Westminster Staff may be reached by phone at 734-761-9320

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