



Westminster PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 25, 2026 AT 11AM | 3RD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

An open and welcoming Christian community in service to God and neighbor

We Come Into God's Presence with Joy

Life of the Church

Prelude

* Call to Worship

Zora Polikoff, liturgist

(congregation please read bold type)

We come carrying many things:

Hope and fatigue, joy and concern.

We come longing for connection,

and for the courage to be present to one another.

We come to worship and are met with love.

God does not rush us.

God does not coerce us.

God walks beside us.

So come as you are.

Let us worship the God

Whose steady love makes room for us all.

* Hymn #401

Here in This Place

GATHER US IN

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

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Faithful God, you created us for relationship and community, yet we confess how easily we retreat when the world feels heavy or uncertain. We long for connection, but fear being vulnerable. We desire community, yet hesitate to ask for help or to offer it freely. Forgive us when we let weariness, fear, or distraction close us off from one another. Meet us with your steady presence. Restore our trust in your love, and gently teach us how to be present with wisdom, care, and compassion for ourselves and for one another. Amen.

Silent prayers of confession.

Assurance of Grace

Together we affirm the good news,
**Through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, restored,
and called into beloved community.**

* Passing the Peace

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

* Song of Response #609 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

† **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.**

Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

† *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.

We Hear God's Word

First Reading of The Word **Matthew 4:18-23**

Anthem

There is a Balm in Gilead by William L Dawson
Westminster Choir

There is a Balm in Gilead, to make the wounded whole,
there is a Balm in Gilead, to heal the sin sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.

There is a Balm in Gilead, to make the wounded whole,
there is a Balm in Gilead, to heal the sin sick soul.

If you cannot sing like angels, if you cannot preach like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus, and say "He died for all."

There is a Balm in Gilead, to make the wounded whole,
there is a Balm in Gilead, to heal the sin sick soul.

A Moment to Wonder

Children are invited to come forward for a short lesson on the chancel steps.

Second Reading of the Word **Ruth 1:6-18**

Sermon

Be a Friend

Rev. Hannah Lundberg

We Respond to God's Word

* Preparation for Prayer #465

What a Friend We Have in Jesus (v.1)

**What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit;
O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer!**

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

Offertory

* Song of Response #591

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

**Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

* Prayer of Dedication

* Hymn #767

Together We Serve

SAN ANSELMO

We Go Forth to Serve

* Dismissal

And let all God's people say:

Alleluia! Amen!

Postlude

This Week's News

Lunches for HOPE: To welcome in the new year, the Mission Ministry Team is sponsoring Sack Lunches for Hope Clinic from January 4-February 8. Our new motto is 96 in '26. We're aiming for 96 lunches packed out, which will cover one day's need. Visit our website for more information and to sign up to provide needed items. Thank you all for your continued support and generosity as we reach out into the community and help our neighbors!

Medical Benevolence Foundation: The Mission Ministry Team has chosen Medical Benevolence Foundation (MBF) as the WPC donation drive cause for the period of 1/11 through 2/15. Donations strengthen the sustainability of church-based medical ministries, helping them partner with hospitals, clinics, and nursing schools. Their mission is to provide quality healthcare, share the love of Jesus, and bring healing and hope to people in underserved communities worldwide. MBF empowers local leaders to offer life-changing medical care to those who need it most. Donations can be made online at westpresa2.org/online-giving or by check with "MBF" in the memo line.

Contribution Statments are available for pickup on the coffee bar counter.

Club Cole Valentines Show: Westminster will be hosting Club Cole on Saturday, Feb 14, in the Fellowship Hall. Join Shawn and Carla for an evening of candlelight, dancing, and romantic jazz classics! Music to begin at 7:30pm.

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 and third Sundays 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: Fran Bolhouse, Cara Doane, Donna Greyerbiehl

For deacon care, contact your deacon directly or send an email to the deacon moderator, Amy Welzenbach (awelzenbach411@gmail.com). 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 Amy Welzenbach (awelzenbach411@gmail.com).

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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