



WESTMINSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

**Service of Worship**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**  
**December 19, 2010**  
**9:00 a.m.**

**Westminster Presbyterian Church extends an enthusiastic welcome**, in Christ's name, to all who would worship here or join us in fellowship. We affirm that there can be no exclusion within the body of Christ. We invite all children of God to join us as disciples of Christ and participate fully in the life of our congregation.

PASTORAL STAFF:

Gregory K. Jones, Head of Staff  
Anne R. Ledbetter, Associate Pastor  
Jill Getty, Pastoral Care Assistant

CHURCH EDUCATOR:

Susan Moseley

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR:

Debbie Brown

MUSIC STAFF:

Paul Fleckenstein, Organist/Director of Music  
Mary Beth Davis, Director of Music for Children, Youth and Handbells  
Section Leaders/Soloists: Diana Milburn, Ruth Bailis, Justin Gonzalez, Brian Carter

## **This Morning at Westminster**

8:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. The Holy Toast Café, in Community Hall, offers free coffee and fellowship. Breakfast items are available for one dollar per item.

### **Deacon Team of the Month**

Kris DeMesse, Barbara Fedeler, Ralph Lewis and Eadie Churchill

8:45 a.m. – noon Child Care for Cribbery (birth – toddler)

9:00 – 9:55 a.m. Worship with choir and organ

After TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN, if you wish, your children may leave the Sanctuary and go to:

- ❖ **Godly Care** – A unique opportunity for children ages 2-4 to get to know God through music, crafts, prayers and stories. Classes are in **Under Six Classroom A.**
- ❖ **Godly Play** – Children in Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade gather in the **Ruth Christie Room** to learn the language of God’s people through sacred space, stories, parables and liturgical actions. You may pick up your children in **Under Six Classroom C.**
- ❖ **Godly Kids** – Children in grades 2, 3 and 4 will become “Hebrew Scouts,” re-living the stories of the Exodus. You may pick up your children in **Under Six Classroom C** following worship.

10:10 a.m.	<b>Education for All Ages</b>	
	➤ Under Six Sunday School	Under Six Classrooms
	➤ Sunshine Choir for K - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	Classroom 7
	➤ D.R.U.M. for Grades 3 - 6	Youth Music Room
	➤ Middle Schoolers on the Move - Grades 6 - 8	Cl.1 and Grace Hall
	➤ Confirmation Class for 9 <sup>th</sup> Graders	Classroom 8
	➤ Senior High Gathering	Classroom 3
	➤ Adult Education Classes	See page 7

10:10 a.m.	Storytellers Rehearsal	Classroom 5
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11:15 a.m. – noon Worship with hymns, songs and creative liturgy.  
Children are always welcome in worship, however, childcare is available in Under Six for ages 2 through Grade 2.

## **Later Today**

3:30 p.m.	Christmas Carolers Gather	Grace Hall
5:30 p.m.	Christmas Carolers Supper	Classroom 6
6:00 p.m.	Clean But Not Straight – NA	Club Room
8:00 p.m.	AA	Club Room

## WORSHIP NOTES

**The flowers in the sanctuary today** are given to the glory of God and in memory of Betty Coker from her loving family.

**Sanctuary Flowers** - Consider giving the flowers for Sunday worship to remember or honor loved ones, or to celebrate an event, while expressing praise and thanksgiving to God. Please contact Linda Watson during business hours at 302-571-6719 or [lwatson@ycst.com](mailto:lwatson@ycst.com). Dates available for flowers are: January 9, 16 and 30.

**Worship Resources** – You may obtain large print hymnals and hearing devices from any usher. Worship bags for children ages 3-6 and *Kids' Notes* for ages 7-12 are available from the ushers. *Kids' Notes* emphasize *listening* and *seeing* during worship.

**Are you wearing a nametag?** Whether you are a long-time member or new to the church, wearing a nametag provides others the opportunity to meet you, greet you by name, and for you to become more familiar with others at church. You will find nametags and markers in baskets at all major entrances.

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND PRAYER

**Please remember in your prayers:**

- ❖ **Those recently hospitalized:** Ed Bloom, Lynn Foltz, Louis Frick, Elliot Harris, Barbara Ross.
- ❖ **Westminster's homebound family** who can no longer attend worship with us. Send a card, say a prayer, visit! This week we ask you to remember: Anne Burrough #308 and Virginia Mentzer #309, both of Gilpin Hall, 1101 Gilpin Avenue, Wilmington, DE 19806.
- ❖ **Our brothers and sisters** in worldwide ministry in Guatemala, Kenya, Congo and Palestine.

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### This week we pray for

- Those known to the WPC Community presently serving in Iraq or Afghanistan:  
Iraq: Chase James and Susan Harcke    Afghanistan: Shawn Galbraith
- The families of those from the U.S. who have died recently:  
Lance Corporal Terry Honeycutt, Jr., age 19, of Waldorf, Missouri  
Sergeant Michael Kirspel, Jr., age 23, of Hopatcong, New Jersey  
Staff Sergeant Adam Dickmyer, age 26, of Winston Salem, North Carolina  
Specialist Diego Solorzanovaldovinos, age 24, of Huntington Park, California  
Specialist Pedro Maldonado, age 20, of Houston, Texas  
Specialist Brett Land, age 24, of Wasco, California  
Private 1st Class Andrew Meari, age 21, of Plainfield, Illinois  
Specialist Jonathan Curtis, age 24, of Belmont, Massachusetts  
1st Lieutenant James Zimmerman, age 25, of Aroostook, Maine
- Those who have returned from service, possibly suffering from wounds or Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, whose scars may be deep and long-lasting.

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*O Christ, we watch and wait for the warmth and light of your presence. As candlelight is not overcome by darkness, we rejoice that your light is radiant within us, despite the wintry seasons of our lives. We live with hope that your birth will occur in every heart and the world will fall to its knees in joy. Amen.*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

## ORGAN PRELUDE

Joseph est bien Marié

Claude-Bénigne Balbastre

## CALL TO WORSHIP

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

Those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them has the light shined.

**Sing to God a new song, for God is doing something marvelous.**

The true light that enlightens everyone is coming into the world.

**As we light the fourth candle, we remember that the coming of Christ brings us love.**

## PROCESSION OF GOD'S LIGHT

*As we light the candle of love, we remember that Christ is the Light of the world.*

### \*HYMN NO. 49

“Once in Royal David's City”

IRBY

## PRAYER OF PRAISE

**Mighty God, Creator of the cosmos,**

**You bring order out of chaos and light out of darkness.**

**As we draw near to the day when we celebrate the birth of Christ,  
we pray with people of faith around the globe:**

**O come, O come, Emmanuel.**

**Come into our lives this day and everyday.**

**Strengthen us in our weakness,**

**arouse us from our apathy,**

**inspire us to be more loving and transform us into advent people**

**who experience the joy and hope of your coming. Amen.**

## TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

Susan Moseley

## ANTHEM

“Gabriel to Mary Came”

arr. David Willcocks

*Westminster Choir*

Gabriel to Mary came, And entered at her dwelling,  
With his salutation glad  
Her maiden fears dispelling,  
'All hail, thou queen of virgins bright!  
God, Lord of earth and heaven's height,  
Thy very Son, Shall soon be born in pureness,  
The Saviour of mankind.  
Thou art the gate of heaven bright,  
The sinners' healer kind.'

'How could I a mother be That am to man a stranger?  
How should I my strong resolve,  
My solemn vows endanger?'  
'Pow'r from the Holy Ghost on high  
Shall bring to pass this mystery.  
Then have no fear: Be of good cheer, Believing  
That still thy chastity  
In God's almighty keeping  
Shall all unsullied be.'

Then to him the maid replied,  
With noble mein supernal,  
'Lo! the humble handmaid I  
Of God the Lord eternal!  
With thee, bright messenger of heav'n,  
By whom this wondrous news is giv'n,  
I well agree And long to see Fulfilled  
Thy gracious prophecy.  
As God my Lord doth will it,  
So be it unto me!'

Hail! Thou Mother of the Lord,  
who bring'st of gifts the rarest,  
Peace to angels and to all,  
When Christ the Lord thou barest!  
Do thou, we pray, entreat thy Son  
For us our long'd redemption  
Himself to win, And from our sin Release us;  
His succour for to give,  
That, when we hence are taken,  
We too in heav'n may live.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 1:18-25

New Testament, page 1  
David Mathé, Lay Liturgist

SERMON

“A Letter from Jesus”

Greg Jones

*Dr. Jones has a tradition of sharing a communication from Jesus on the Fourth Sunday of Advent. After studying Advent lectionary texts, praying and attempting to discern God's message to us at this moment in history, Dr. Jones imagines what Jesus would say if he wrote a letter to us today.*

\*HYMN NO. 48

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

*ES IST EIN' ROS'*

\*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.  
We affirm that Jesus was born of woman as is every child,  
yet born of God's power as was no other child.  
In the person and work of Jesus,  
God himself and a human life are united but not confused,  
distinguished but not separated.  
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.**

*A Declaration of Faith*

OFFERING

*During the offering, please sign your name and pass the red folder down your row.  
As folders are returned to the center aisle, note the names of fellow worshippers on your pew.*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Thou Shalt Know Him”

Mark Sirett

Thou shalt know him when he comes,  
Not by any din of drums,  
Nor his manners, nor his airs,  
Nor by anything he wears.  
Not by crown or by his gown,  
But his coming known shall be,  
by the holy harmony  
which his coming makes in thee.

**Praise God whose dawn transfigures night,  
Whose Daystar shines for us on high,  
Whose Spirit brings into our sight  
The hope which to our world draws nigh. Amen**

LITANY

Among the poor, among the proud,  
**among the persecuted, among the privileged,**  
Christ is coming.  
**He is coming to make all things new.**

In the private house, in the market place,  
**in the wedding feast, in the judgment hall,**  
Christ is coming.  
**He is coming to make all things new.**

With a gentle touch, with an angry word,  
**with a clear conscience, with burning love,**  
Christ is coming.  
**He is coming to make all things new.**

That the kingdom might come, that the world might believe,  
**that the powerful might be humbled, that the humble might be raised,**  
Christ is coming.  
**He is coming to make all things new.**

Within us, without us, among us, before us,  
**in this place, in every place, for this time, for all time,**  
Open your hearts, your minds and your souls because Christ is coming!  
**He is coming to make all things new!** (Wild Goose Worship Group, *Cloth for the Cradle*)

\*HYMN NO. 57

“The Snow Lay on the Ground”

*VENITE ADOREMUS*

BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE

In dulci júbilo  
(Tune: Hymn #28)

J. S. Bach

GOING FORTH

*If you are visiting with us for the first time, we invite you to meet today’s ambassador,  
Marlys Kerr, at the back of the sanctuary. She will have a gift for you, and can share  
information regarding our many ministries for children, youth and adults.*



## **Adult Education Classes This Morning**

### **Single in Today's World**

Led by Margo Reign in the Library

In this four-week program we will discuss being single in today's culture and in the Church. This series will be based in part on the input received from the October 10<sup>th</sup> Table Talk. Explore one of God's gifts to you -- the gift of singleness. Today, Elder Margo Reign concludes with a discussion on how to enrich your faith journey as a single.

### **Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church**

DVD class and group discussion, in the Daughtry House Classroom (next to WPC parking lot)

Based on the book by N. T. Wright, this six session video series looks at a major question: "What happens after I die?" Wright, a contemporary Biblical scholar, asserts that Christianity's most distinctive idea is bodily resurrection. He convincingly argues that what we believe about life after death directly affects what we believe about life before death. If God intends to renew the whole creation – and if this has already begun in Jesus' resurrection – the church cannot stop at "saving souls" but must anticipate the eventual renewal by working for God's kingdom in the wider world, bringing healing and hope in the present life.

### **Reading with Children to Nurture Faith**

Led by Dr. Anne Ledbetter, in the Ruth Christie Room

Parents will learn how to use "Story Time" in the home as a tool for a child's spiritual formation. We will explore the values children learn through listening to stories, and share book lists for particular ages, topics and situations.

### **Golden Choices: Living into God's Dream for our Lives**

Kent Quisel, coordinator, in the Meeting Room

Life is filled with freedoms and yet we have a calling. Scripture gives us guidance, but life presents us with many choices to make and untold consequences to balance. What determines our spiritual path and moral compass? If we do not comprehend our purpose in life, we will certainly miss ongoing opportunities to enhance our world and join in furthering God's creation. Gifted with the ability for spiritual connection and a hunger to understand life, we face daily decisions on how to pursue growth, meaning and fulfillment.



**Service of Worship  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent  
December 19, 2010  
11:15 a.m.**

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Welcome and Announcements

\*Passing of the Peace

Call to Worship and Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Holden Family

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

Those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them has the light shined.

**Sing to God a new song, for God is doing something marvelous.**

The true light that enlightens everyone is coming into the world.

**As we light the fourth candle, we remember that the coming of Christ brings us love.**

Song of Celebration

“Awake! Awake and Greet the New Morn”

Vs 1: Ensemble Vs 2-4: All

G Am7 G/B C D

1 A - wake! A - wake and greet the new morn, for  
 2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -  
 3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when  
 4 Re - jice, re - jice, take heart in the night, though

G/B C Am7 D7 G Am7

an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for  
 man - u - el comes a - sing - ing; his hum - ble song is  
 all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so  
 dark the win - ter and cheer - less. The ris - ing sun shall

G/B C D G/B Am7 D C G

soon\* he is born. Be - hold! the child of our long - ing.  
 qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;  
 qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.  
 crown you with light; be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.

D D/F# G D Em Em/D Am/C D

Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -  
 Mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing  
 Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in  
 Love be our song and love our prayer, and love, our end - less

Em D7 G C B7 Em

geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and  
 kind - ness. The thun - der of his an - thems roll to  
 won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and  
 sto - ry. May God fill ev - ery day we share, and

Am7 D7 G Am7 

1-3
G/B C

4
G/B C G

lives now in - side us for - ev - er.  
 shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.  
 weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.  
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Prayer of Praise

**Mighty God, Creator of the cosmos,  
You bring order out of chaos and light out of darkness.  
As we draw near to the day when we celebrate the birth of Christ,  
we pray with people of faith around the globe:  
O come, O come, Emmanuel.  
Come into our lives this day and everyday.  
Strengthen us in our weakness,  
arouse us from our apathy,  
inspire us to be more loving  
and transform us into advent people  
who experience the joy and hope of your coming. Amen.**

Children's Time

Susan Moseley

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 1:18-25

New Testament, page 1  
Sue Linderman, Lay Liturgist

\*Song

"Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine"



1. Jo - seph dear - est, Jo - seph mine, help me cra-dle the  
2. Glad - ly, dear one, la - dy mine, help I cra-dle this  
3. All shall come and bow the knee; wise and hap-py their



child di-vine; God re-ward thee and all that's thine in  
child of thine; God's own light on us both shall shine in  
souls shall be, lov - ing such a di - vin - i - ty, as



par - a - dise, so prays the moth - er Ma - ry.  
par - a - dise, as prays the moth - er Ma - ry.  
all may see in Je - sus, Son of Ma - ry.

Sermon

"A Letter from Jesus"

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Offering

*During the offering, please sign your name and pass the red folder down your row. As folders are returned to the center aisle, note the names of fellow worshippers on your pew.*

Offertory Anthem

"Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella"  
Vocal Ensemble

arr. Robert Hobby

**L: Among the poor, among the proud,  
R: among the persecuted, among the privileged,**

Leader: Christ is coming.

**All: He is coming to make all things new.**

**L: In the private house, in the market place,  
R: in the wedding feast, in the judgment hall,**

Leader: Christ is coming.

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**L: With a gentle touch, with an angry word,  
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**L: That the kingdom might come, that the world might believe,  
R: that the powerful might be humbled, that the humble might be raised,**

Leader: Christ is coming.

**All: He is coming to make all things new.**

**L: Within us, without us, among us, before us,  
R: in this place, in every place, for this time, for all time,**

Leader: Open your hearts, your minds and your souls because Christ is coming!

**All: He is coming to make all things new!**

(Wild Goose Worship Group, *Cloth for the Cradle*)

\*Closing Song

“Star Child”



1. Star - Child, earth - Child go - be - tween of God,  
2. Grown child, old child, mem - ory full of years,  
3. Hope - for - peace Child, God's stu - pend - ous sign,



5 love Child, Christ Child, heav - en's light - ning rod,  
sad child, lost child, sto - ry told in tears,  
down - to - earth Child, Star of stars that shine,



9 This year, this year, let the day ar - rive when  
This year, this year, let the day ar - rive when  
This year, this year, let the day ar - rive when



13 Christ - mas comes for ev - ery - one, ev - ery - one a - live!  
Christ - mas comes for ev - ery - one, ev - ery - one a - live!  
Christ - mas comes for ev - ery - one, ev - ery - one a - live!

Words: Shirley Erena Murray Music: Carlton R. Young  
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\*Benediction

\*Response

“The First Nowell”

**The first Nowell the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay a-keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
Born is the King of Israel.**

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Sergeant Michael Kirspel, Jr., age 23, of Hopatcong, New Jersey  
Staff Sergeant Adam Dickmyer, age 26, of Winston Salem, North Carolina  
Specialist Diego Solorzanovaldovinos, age 24, of Huntington Park, California  
Specialist Pedro Maldonado, age 20, of Houston, Texas  
Specialist Brett Land, age 24, of Wasco, California  
Private 1st Class Andrew Meari, age 21, of Plainfield, Illinois  
Specialist Jonathan Curtis, age 24, of Belmont, Massachusetts  
1st Lieutenant James Zimmerman, age 25, of Aroostook, Maine
- Those who have returned from service, possibly suffering from wounds or Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, whose scars may be deep and long-lasting.

# *Christmas* AT WESTMINSTER

CHRISTMAS EVE  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24

Family Services – 4:00 & 5:30 p.m.

Candlelight Communion Services – 8:00 & 10:00 p.m.



## JOIN THE WESTMINSTER *Christmas Carolers*

Sunday, December 19 at  
3:30 p.m. in Grace Hall

You do not have to possess a choir quality voice to take Christmas joy to those who are homebound! Every aged person and every eager singer is invited. We will divide into groups, caravan to retirement homes and health centers, and take tidings of comfort and joy to those who are no longer able to attend worship. The evening will end as we return to church for food and fellowship at 5:45 p.m. and to share our caroling experiences. Wear colorful clothing, and bring your jingle bells!

