



**Services of Worship
Baptism of the Lord
January 8, 2012
9:00 a.m. and 11:15 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, Susan Rheingans,
Justin Gonzalez, Raymond Sambolin

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

Beth Bowersock, Kris DeMesse, Patti Ridout, Emily Crawford

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

9:00 – 9:55 a.m. Worship

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 stories, crafts, songs and prayers. Classes are in **Under Six Classrooms A and C.**
- ❖ **Godly Play** – Children in Kindergarten and 1st 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.**
- ❖ **Hebrew Scouts** – Children in grades 2 and 3 will become “Hebrew Scouts,” experiencing the stories of the Israelite people. You may pick up your children in **Under Six Classroom C.**
- ❖ **Treasure Seekers** – Children in grades 4 and 5 will begin with the story of Jesus’ baptism and continue with stories of Jesus’ ministry of teaching and healing. You may pick up your children in **Under Six Classroom C.**

10:10 a.m.

Education for All Ages

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| ➤ Under Six Sunday School | Under Six Classrooms |
| ➤ Sunshine Choir for Grades K – 2 | Classroom 7 |
| ➤ D.R.U.M. for Grades 3 – 6 | Youth Music Room |
| ➤ Middle Schoolers on the Move - Grades 6 - 8 | Classroom 1 |
| ➤ Confirmation Class for 9 th Graders | Classroom 8 |
| ➤ Senior High Gathering | Classroom 3 |
| ➤ Adult Education Classes | See page 8 |

11:15 a.m. – noon

Worship. Children are always welcome in worship; however, childcare is available in Under Six for ages 2 through Grade 2.

Later Today

6:00 p.m. Clean But Not Straight – NA Club Room

8:00 p.m. AA Club Room

WORSHIP NOTES

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. Available dates are January 15 and 29.

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.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND PRAYER

Please remember in your prayers:

- ❖ **Those recently hospitalized:** Philip Collins.
- ❖ **Westminster's homebound family** who can no longer attend worship with us by sending a card, saying a prayer, or visiting. This week we ask you to remember Polly and Larry McPheeters, Foulk Manor North, 1212 Foulk Road, AL 1102, Wilmington, DE 19803.
- ❖ **Our brothers and sisters** in worldwide ministry in Guatemala, Kenya, Congo and Israel/Palestine.

Iraq and Afghanistan often seem far away, and we may neglect to realize that Americans, as well as Iraqis, Afghans and members of coalition forces, continue to die. As Christians, we are called to pray for the spreading of peace and justice and an end to violence. If someone in your family is serving in the military, please let us know, so that we may include that person on our prayer list. Contact Colleen Falasco: 302-654-5214 ext. 131, or cfalasco@wpc.org.

This week we pray for

- Those known to the WPC Community presently serving in Afghanistan:
Richard Barnet, Edward Maloney, Ann Exline Starr, Russell Lee Thomas
- The families of those from the U.S. who have died recently:
Chief Petty Officer Raymond Border, age 31, of West Lafayette, Ohio
Private 1st Class Steven Shapiro, age 29, of Hidden Valley Lake, California
Private 1st Class Christopher Horns, age 20, of Colorado Springs, Colorado
Sergeant 1st Class Kristoffer Domeij, age 29, of San Diego, California
1st Lieutenant Ashley White, age 24, of Alliance, Ohio
Sergeant Paul Rivera, age 26, of Round Rock, Texas
Sergeant Edward Grace, age 39, of South Dartmouth, Massachusetts
Lance Corporal Jordan Bastean, age 19, of Pekin, Illinois
Captain Shawn Charles, age 40, of Hickory, North Carolina
Lance Corporal Jason Barfield, age 22, of Ashford, Alabama
Sergeant David Robinson, age 28, of Winthrop Harbor, Illinois
Sergeant John Lyons, age 26, of Seaside Park, New Jersey
Staff Sergeant Stephen Dunning, age 31, of Milpitas, California
Lieutenant Colonel David Cabrera, age 41, of Abilene, Texas
- 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 AT 9:00 A.M.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

In the beginning, O God, your Spirit swept over the chaotic deep like a wild wind and creation was born. In the turbulence of my own life and the unsettled waters of the world today let there be new birthings of your Spirit. In the currents of my own heart and the upheavals of the world today let there be new birthings of your mighty Spirit. Amen. J. Philip Newell, Celtic Benediction

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ORGAN PRELUDE

Prélude

Denis Bédard

CALL TO WORSHIP

As Jesus stood in Jordan's muddy waters,
we stand in the muddy waters of our lives.
As Jesus submitted to John's baptism,
we submit our lives to God's transforming touch.
As Jesus trusted God's Spirit to fill him with wisdom,
we trust God's Spirit to show us the way.
As Jesus left the Jordan to give his life to God,
we will go with a renewed sense of God's presence in our lives.

*HYMN No. 10

"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

WINCHESTER NEW

CALL TO CONFESSION

The image of God is at the core of our being, but we often forget our true nature.
Let us confess the ways we have surrendered to shallow ways of living.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious God, we confess that we have not always lived for you.
You have invited us into new life,
yet we have closed our eyes and ears to your invitation.
You have challenged us to step out of well-worn ruts,
yet we hesitate to venture onto a new path.
Enter our lives and renew our spirits,
so that we will muster the courage to make overdue changes in our lives.
We ask this in the name of Christ,
who brings us hope for new life. Amen.**

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

At the asterisk (), please stand as you are able.*

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

ANTHEM

The Waters of Life
Westminster Choir

James Biery

The voice of God calls us above the waters,
The glory of the Son shines on us,
The love of the Spirit fills us with life.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 4:1-11

New Testament, page 32
Suzie Hurlock, Lay Liturgist

SERMON

“A New Identity”
Take a moment to reflect on God’s message to you

Greg Jones

*HYMN

“Creator of the Water”

LANCASHIRE

**Creator of the water that makes the world so green,
That satisfies the thirsty, and keeps us cool and clean,
We take from your creation this gift we use each day;
You call us now to use it in this most holy way.**

**As in the time of Noah, the sea engulfed the land,
And through the Red Sea, Moses led Israel 'cross the sand,
And to the Jordan waters, Christ went and was baptized —
Your water has a power: it changes all our lives.**

**May this your gift of water, long springing from the earth,
Become for all new Christians their fountain of rebirth.
Lord, wash away their sinning, and give them life anew —
Pour out your Spirit on them, that they may follow you.**

**God, through your gift of water, your family we become;
You take away divisions; in Christ you make us one.
Now send your Spirit on us and give us work to do
That we may share with others the love we have from you.**

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REAFFIRMATION OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

OPENING SENTENCES

REAFFIRMING OUR COMMITMENT TO CHRIST

Do you accept Jesus Christ as your authority in life, and the one who leads us to abundant life?

I do.

Will you strive to be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love?

I will.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe that in baptism
the Spirit demonstrates and confirms God's promise
to include us, and our children, in the divine covenant,
cleansing us from sin, and giving us newness of life,
as participants in Christ's death and resurrection.
Baptism sets us in the invisible community of Christ's people
and joins us to all other believers by a powerful bond.
In baptism, we give ourselves up in faith and repentance to become the Lord's.
Baptism is a reminder that God loves us long before we can love God.
For both God's grace and our response to it
are not tied to the moment of baptism,
but continue and deepen throughout life. *A Declaration of Faith***

REAFFIRMING OUR COMMITMENT TO THE CHURCH

Will you be a faithful member of this congregation, share in its worship and ministry through your prayers and gifts, your study and service, and so fulfill your calling to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?

I will.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM

PRAYER

**Holy God,
we praise you for calling us to be a servant people,
and for gathering us into the body of Christ.
Together, may we live in your Spirit,
and so love one another,
that we may have the mind of Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom we give honor and glory forever. Amen.**

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Shall We Gather at the River?”

arr. John Carter

*Westminster Choir
Susan Rheingans, soloist*

Shall we gather at the river,
Where bright angel feet have trod;
With its crystal tide forever
Flowing by the throne of God?

Yes, we'll gather at the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river,
Gather with the saints at the river,
That flows by the throne of God.

Deep river, My home is over Jordan,
Deep river, I want to cross over into campground.

Soon we'll reach the shining river,
Soon our pilgrimage will cease;
Soon our happy hearts will quiver
With the melody of peace.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (HYMN NO. 591)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER (page 16 in *The Presbyterian Hymnal*, using “debts” and “debtors”)

*HYMN No. 495

“We Know That Christ Is Raised”

ENGELBERG

BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE

The Rejoicing

Charles Callahan

GOING FORTH

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



Adult Education Classes This Morning

Does Evolution Reward Virtue? – Today through February 19

A new framework for addressing today’s problems with old virtues

Led by Dave McBride in Classroom 6

Do the classic virtues of altruism, empathy, sharing and cooperation have any significant role in addressing the fundamental problems afflicting the United States and Europe or in reforming societal institutions and philosophies? In *Supercooperators: Altruism, Evolution and Why We Need Each Other to Succeed*, Martin A. Nowak, the Director of the Program for Evolutionary Dynamics at Harvard University, and Roger Highfield, editor of the *New Scientist* magazine, add to the mounting literature and research arguing that cooperation, not competition, has always been the key to evolution. Nowak explains how there is a remarkable overlap between the science of evolution and the codes of conduct in major religions, such as the Golden Rule. This course will explore these questions both theoretically and practically.

Relationships – Today through February 5

Led by Karen Beer and Bill Kaye in the Daughtry House Classroom

The 'Surviving...' series of videos provides a unique approach to emotional self-help. Each program features popular lecturer, author and psychotherapist Clayton Barbeau doing what he considers his best work: individual counseling with you, the viewer, as the one seeking advice and affirmation.

Today we will view and discuss the following video: ***Surviving Depression***. In this program, Clayton Barbeau helps you come to terms with the signs of depression: from changes in eating and sleeping habits to inattentiveness, a sense of alienation, and even thoughts of suicide. Then come the tactics of survival, all enriched by Mr. Barbeau’s use of personal stories and true-to-life examples. His final message: “Don’t do anything drastic! You are in a dead space in your life. But you will go through it...to a new life.” Of course, these programs are not intended as substitutes for face-to-face therapy when it is needed. Rather, they are meant to offer ideas for coping to the person who is temporarily experiencing emotional distress.

POLO (Parents of Little Ones) – Sundays, in Rodney Chapel

Today we will enjoy Yvonne Nass, local parenting consultant.

Fire on the Mountain, by Ray Vander Laan – Today through February 5

DVD class and discussion in the Meeting Room

Today: Their Blood Cried Out (*Serabit al Khadim*)

Come along as we join Ray Vander Laan in the Holy Land, showing us where the Israelites would have gone after they left Egypt. When the Israelites left Egypt, they were finally free – free from persecution, free from oppression, and free to worship their own God. But with that freedom came a new challenge – learning how to live together the way God intended. In this ninth volume of Faith Lessons, discover how God taught the Israelites what it means to be part of a community that loves him, and the lessons we can begin to live out in our lives today.



Thank you to all who made a pledge for 2012! If you have not yet made a pledge, please complete a card today to support continuing Westminster ministries in 2012.

“The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:6-7)

ORDER OF WORSHIP AT 11:15 A.M.

Preparation for Worship

In the beginning, O God, your Spirit swept over the chaotic deep like a wild wind and creation was born. In the turbulence of my own life and the unsettled waters of the world today let there be new birthings of your Spirit. In the currents of my own heart and the upheavals of the world today let there be new birthings of your mighty Spirit. Amen.

J. Philip Newell, *Celtic Benediction*

Welcome and Announcements

*Passing of the Peace

Opening Words

As Jesus stood in Jordan's muddy waters,

we stand in the muddy waters of our lives.

As Jesus submitted to John's baptism,

we submit our lives to God's transforming touch.

As Jesus trusted God's Spirit to fill him with wisdom,

we trust God's Spirit to show us the way.

As Jesus left the Jordan to give his life to God,

we will go with a renewed sense of God's presence in our lives.

*Opening Song

"Sing a New Creation"

Tune: *EBENEZER*

1. Sing! A new cre - a - tion calls us: God's Son, first - born from the dead,
 2. Sing a new! Cre - a - tion flow - ers as the Spir - it draws us near,
 3. Sing a new cre - a - tion grow - ing life - trees by the Fath - er's stream.

makes the drown - ing which be - falls us in - to cleans - ing birth in - stead.
 safe from storm - ing, earth - bound pow - ers on this ark, though tossed by fear.
 Go and teach, send jus - tice flow - ing, quench dry souls, com - pose a dream.

Sing - ing wa - ter, wild with won - der, wash - ing, more than what it seems,
 Sing as fam - ily, filled, for - giv - en, fed by joy - ous ta - ble - grace.
 Sing a - mens, a - live and a - gile, an - swering God's cre - a - ting song.

bap - tiz - es and drags us un - der, lifts us as our Christ re - deems.
 Bap - tized, we re - ceive God's leav - en, ris - ing in our time and place.
 Bap - tize peo - ples, parched and fra - gile, in the Name that makes us strong.

Music by Thomas J. Williams, Text by James Hart Brumm

Call to Confession

The image of God is at the core of our being, but we often forget our true nature.

Let us confess the ways we have surrendered to shallow ways of living.

Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, we confess that we do not always live for you.
You have invited us into new life,
yet we close our eyes and ears to your invitation.
You have challenged us to step out of well-worn ruts,
yet we hesitate to venture onto a new path.
Enter our lives and renew our spirits,
so that we will muster the courage
to make overdue changes in our lives.
We ask this in the name of Christ,
who brings us hope for new life. Amen.**

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Children's Time

Scripture Lesson

Mark 4:1-11

New Testament, page 32
Dick Jolly, Lay Liturgist

Sermon

"A New Identity"

Greg Jones

Take a moment to reflect on God's message to you

*Hymn

"Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters"

BEACH SPRING

**Wash, O God, our sons and daughters,
where your cleansing waters flow.
Number them among your people;
bless as Christ blessed long ago.
Weave them garments bright and sparkling;
compass them with love and light
Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit,
holy dove and heart's delight.**

**We who bring them long for nurture;
by your milk may we be fed.
Let us join your feast, partaking
cup of blessing, living bread.
God, renew us, guide our footsteps,
free from sin and all its snares,
one with Christ in living, dying,
by your Spirit, children, heirs.**

**Oh, how deep your holy wisdom!
Unimagined, all your ways!
To your name be glory, honor!
With our lives we worship, praise!
We your people stand before you,
water washed and Spirit born.
By your grace, our lives we offer.
Recreate us: God, transform!**

Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant

Opening Sentences

Reaffirming Our Commitment to Christ

Do you accept Jesus Christ as your authority in life, and the one who leads us to abundant life?

I do.

Will you strive to be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love?

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*Affirmation of Faith

**We believe that in baptism
the Spirit demonstrates and confirms God's promise
to include us, and our children, in the divine covenant,
cleansing us from sin, and giving us newness of life,
as participants in Christ's death and resurrection.
Baptism sets us in the invisible community of Christ's people
and joins us to all other believers by a powerful bond.
In baptism, we give ourselves up in faith and repentance
to become the Lord's.
Baptism is a reminder that God loves us long before we can love God.
For both God's grace and our response to it
are not tied to the moment of baptism,
but continue and deepen throughout life.**

A Declaration of Faith

Reaffirming Our Commitment to the Church

Will you be a faithful member of this congregation, share in its worship and ministry through your prayers and gifts, your study and service, and so fulfill your calling to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?

I will.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Remembering Our Baptism

Prayer

**Holy God,
we praise you for calling us to be a servant people,
and for gathering us into the body of Christ.
Together, may we live in your Spirit,
and so love one another,
that we may have the mind of Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom we give honor and glory forever. Amen.**

Offering

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

Offertory Anthem

Lord's Prayer (page 16 in *The Presbyterian Hymnal*, using "debts" and "debtors")

*Benediction

*Hymn

"I've Just Come from the Fountain"

I've just come from the foun-tain, I've just come from the foun - tain, Lord, I've

5 just come from the foun-tain, his name's so___ sweet. O Lord, I've sweet.

10 Oh broth-er, do you love Je-sus? Yes, yes, I do love my Je - sus.

15 Brother, do you love Je - sus? His name's so___ sweet. O Lord, I've

2. Oh sister . . .

3. Oh people . . .