

Westminster Presbyterian Church

DECEMBER 15, 2024 10:45 A.M.

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



WE GATHER TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

Prelude

Westminster Chimes

Words of Welcome

Introit

“Veni Jesu”

L. Cherubini

Lighting of the Advent Candles (JOY)

McArter Family

✠Call to Worship (You are invited to rise in body or spirit and join in the Call to Worship.)

One: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice!

All: We rejoice. We rejoice in God, our salvation.

One: God rejoices over us in gladness and love.

All: We will shout and sing for joy, for our salvation is near. Hallelujah, we will trust in our God, we will give thanks to God, our strength.

✠Hymn

“Baptized in Water”

#482

✠Opening Prayer

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Eternal God, we are blinded by our shortsightedness and worries, and we often cannot see you who offers peace. Our fear and anxiety are our bread. We drink from the wells of despair. Our days are driven by the demands of the world and our desire to please others. We do not trust the rest you promise. Bring us back home, to your unconditional love. You already accept us. Restore the joy of your salvation to us. Sustain a generous spirit in us. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

One: Friends, hear and believe the good news; in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

✠Congregational Response

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

✠Passing of the Peace

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you**

(Please pass the peace to each other, greeting one another in Christ’s name.)

✠Hymn of Preparation

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

#144

Time with Children and Youth

GOD’S WORD IS READ AND PROCLAIMED

Prayer for Illumination

A Responsive Reading from Philippians 4:4-7

One: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

All: Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

One: Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

All: And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Old Testament Reading – Zephaniah 3:14-20

New Testament Reading – Luke 3:7-18

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

The Message

“Joy, A Hidden Treasure”

Rev. Dr. James Lee

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

✠Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles’ Creed

(p. 35 in the Hymnal)

✠Doxology

#606

Announcements/Minute for Mission

Offering Our Gifts to God

Anthem

“Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring”

J. S. Bach

Sharing Joys and Concerns

One: Lord, in your mercy.

All: Hear our prayer.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

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.

WE BEAR GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

✠Hymn "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" #82

✠Benediction

✠Choral Blessing "Angels Among Us" McFee/Bell
(Worship is complete after the Choral Blessing. You are free to exit or stay and enjoy the Postlude music.)

Postlude

When our worship is over, our service begins!

WORSHIP LEADERS

Guest Pastor: Rev. Dr. James Lee
Worship Leader: Steve Coffin
Music Director/Organist: Duilio Dobrin
Sound Technician: Bill Vilbig
Livestream: Leiza McArter
Choir Members: Kalli Hansen, Anna Clarkson, Da'On Boulanger-Chatman, Stephen Bolduc, Bill Tiffany, Nancy Morton, and Dani McArter

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8200 Devonshire Drive Dallas, TX | 75209
Office 214-351-3251 www.wpcd.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 15, 2024

WELCOME VISITORS

We welcome you to our family of faith! Let us know of your attendance by filling out one of our visitor cards found on the table in the narthex. We'd like to get to know you, whether you are just visiting or looking for a church home.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Dec 16** Renovations on the Interior Playground were scheduled to begin on this date; however, the project has been postponed until early to mid-February, when all of the pieces will be available. Regular hours are in effect until further notice.
- Dec 19** Making Memories 9:30 – 12:30 in Fellowship Hall. All are invited to a live performance by Sentimental Journey (piano and sax) at 10:00 AM.
- Dec 21** Serve dinner at Austin Street Center – Contact Mike Stanley if you are interested in volunteering to serve, and plan to meet at the church at 4:00 PM.
- Dec 24** 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with special music/Lessons and Carols

SERVE AT AUSTIN STREET CENTER

Help prepare and serve dinner for 400+ homeless people on Saturday, December 21st.

Volunteers, age 10 and above, are needed to serve. Are you able to donate 20 bananas or 3 dozen cookies (store-bought packages are fine), and deliver them to WPC on or before 12/21/24 by 4:00 PM? Those wishing to donate and/or serve can contact Mike Stanley at (817) 724-7430 or mike@colbystanley.com. We usually meet at the church between 4:00 and 4:30 PM to load up the food and supplies, and the meal is served at the shelter beginning at 6:00 PM.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING - Did you know?

- ❖ The Christmas Joy Offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s.
- ❖ The Offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.
- ❖ The Assistance Program provides critical financial support to church workers and their families.
- ❖ Presbyterian-related schools and colleges provide education and leadership development while nurturing racial and ethnic heritage. This has been a Presbyterian commitment for nearly 140 years.

Look for the inserts and envelopes on the table as you enter the sanctuary. Gifts are welcome at any time this month. If we all do a little, it can add up to a lot!

MAKING MEMORIES

Making Memories/Caregiver's Day Out is an outreach ministry of WPC that provides a meeting place for adults with early to mid-stage Alzheimer's disease or related dementias, while offering respite for their caregivers. Meetings are held on the first and third Thursdays of every month from 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM, and combine socialization, exercise, music, and other memory-stimulating activities in a safe and comfortable environment. If you or a loved one is interested in participating in or serving as a volunteer, please contact Ann Rosenzweig at info@makingmemoriesdallas.com.

ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE

Westminster welcomes your continued support. Checks can be sent to Westminster Presbyterian Church, 8200 Devonshire Dr, Dallas, TX 75209 or you may give online through Venmo (our username is West-Presby and the last four digits, if requested, are 5290). If you have questions or need help, contact Dan Stoyak in the business office at dans@wpcd.org or 214-351-3251.



ONLINE WORSHIP INFORMATION

Worship at Westminster is broadcast live on Facebook directly from the WPC sanctuary beginning at 10:45 am every Sunday morning. To access the live stream, be sure to "Like" the Westminster Presbyterian Church - Dallas Facebook page at www.facebook.com/westminsterpresbyteriandallas. You can see previously broadcast full worship services and sermons by clicking the "Videos" tab on the Facebook page. Videos of services, sermons, and choral anthems are also available on our YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@WestminsterPresbyterianDallas>

SESSION

<i>Class of 2024</i>	<i>Class of 2025</i>	<i>Class of 2026</i>	Sharon Wright, Clerk
Mike Stanley	Sandra Gilbert	Jody Clarke	Bill Tiffany, Treasurer
Sharon Wright	Steve Coffin	Bill Tiffany	

FOUNDATION BOARD

<i>Class of 2024</i>	<i>Class of 2025</i>	<i>Class of 2026</i>
Bill Tiffany	Tom Gaunt	Mike Stanley
Blair Hudson		

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