

Westminster Presbyterian Church

DECEMBER 22, 2024 10:45 A.M

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



The Embrace of Elizabeth and Mary
St. George Church, Kurbinovo, Macedonia

WE GATHER TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

Prelude

Westminster Chimes

Words of Welcome

Introit

“Veni Jesu”

L. Cherubini

Lighting of the Advent Candle - LOVE

Diana Maglott and Jody Clarke

✠Call to Worship (from Isaiah 12:2-3)

One: God is our salvation.

All: We will trust and not be afraid.

One: God is our strength and our might.

All: With joy, we will draw water from the wells of salvation.

✠Hymn

“Comfort, Comfort Now My People”

#87

✠Opening Prayer

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

God of covenant, we confess that our faith has been small. We have doubted your promises and have denied your power. We have chosen instead to trust in our own strength and power. By your tender mercy, forgive our unbelief. Fill us with your Holy Spirit that we may fully trust and obey you. Be born in us today by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

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

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

#88

Time with Children and Youth

GOD'S WORD IS READ AND PROCLAIMED

Prayer for Illumination

A Responsive Reading from Philippians 4:4-5

One: Rejoice in the Lord always.

All: Again, I say rejoice.

One: Let your gentleness be known to everyone.

All: The Lord is near.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Old Testament Reading - Zephaniah 3:14-20

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

New Testament Gospel Reading - Luke 1:39-55

The Message

“Finding Mary”

Traci Truly

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

☒Hymn

“Watchman, Tell Us of the Night”

#97

☒Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

(p. 35 in the Hymnal)

☒Doxology

#606

Announcements/Minute for Mission

Offering Our Gifts to God

Anthem

“Ave Maria”

G. Caccini

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 "My Soul Cries Out With a Joyful Shout" #100
- ☒ Benediction
- ☒ Choral Blessing "Angels Among Us" McFee/Bell

Postlude

When our worship is over, our service begins!

WORSHIP LEADERS

Guest Pastor: Rev. Traci Truly

Worship Leader: Bill Tiffany

Music Director/Organist: Duilio Dobrin

Sound Technician: Bill Vilbig

Livestream: Leiza McArter

Choir Members: Stephen Bolduc, Da'On Boulanger-Chatman, Anna Clarkson, Jeremy Duncan, Kalli Hansen, Dani McArter, Nancy Morton, and Bill Tiffany

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 22, 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 the pieces will be available. Regular hours are in effect until further notice.
- Dec 24** 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with special music – Rev. Dr. John Blacklock will be in the pulpit. Special Offering will be collected for The Bridge.
- Jan 5** 10:45 AM Worship and Installation & Ordination of Diana Maglott to the Elder Class of 2027

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 in your bulletin today; although, gifts are welcome at any time this month. If we all do a little, it can add up to a lot!

UPDATE ON STEWARDSHIP PLEDGES

Westminster Presbyterian Church has received pledges for financial support of our many and varied missions for the year 2025 from 19 pledging units totaling \$ 75,250. This is an increase of approximately \$15,000 over the pledged amounts for 2024. It is very rewarding to see that our ministry continues to grow as we seek to do God's will. We ask that if you have not yet made your pledge for 2025 you consider doing so before the end of December so we can accurately forecast our church budget for the calendar year of 2025. WPC is very appreciative of the strong support we envision for 2025 and will use God's resources with wisdom and gratitude for our ministry.

WPPK TOY DRIVE FOR THE FAMILY PLACE

Many thanks to all who contributed new toys to our all-school Christmas Giving Project. The Toy Drive was a great success, and we look forward to partnering with our Pre-School and Kindergarten and friends at St. Patrick's again on future projects. It is our hope that we can gently begin to plant a seed of awareness for our children to see that it is important to care for those around us. It appears that all involved were grateful to join in this partnership!



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>

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