

Westminster Presbyterian Church



*If I leave you, it doesn't mean I love you any less.—
Warren Zevon, Keep Me In Your Heart*

**November 27, 2022
First Sunday in Advent
The Sacrament of Communion**

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Leader: Friends,
With joy let us draw water
from the springs of salvation.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

People: **Thanks be to God.**

All: **Amen.**

RESPONSE (All Sing - Seated) - "Alleluia"

Sally Ann Morris

(Please repeat each phrase as sung by the Cantor.)

The musical notation is for the Alleluia response, set in 4/4 time. It consists of two staves of music. The first staff has three phrases: 'Al - le - lu - ia,' (Minister/Cantor), 'Al - le - lu - ia,' (All), and 'Al - le - lu - ia,' (Minister/Cantor). The second staff has three phrases: 'Al - le - lu - ia,' (All), 'Al - le - lu - ia,' (Minister/Cantor), and 'Al - le - lu - ia!' (All). The lyrics are written below the notes, and the vocal directions are written above the notes.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON - The Gospel of John—A Montage

(Children in Pre-K—Grade 3 will leave the service at this time.
An adult leader will be in the Narthex to escort them to their classrooms.)

COMMUNION MEDITATION

The Reverend Dr. Richard L Baker

I Will Not Leave You Orphaned

Focus: "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you ." —John 14:18

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

ANTHEM – "E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come"

Paul Manz

Peace be to you and grace from him who freed us from our sins,
Who loved us all and shed his blood that we might saved be.
Sing Holy, Holy to our Lord, the Lord Almighty God,
Who was and is and is to come; sing Holy, Holy, Lord!
Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein, rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
For Christ is coming, is coming soon! For Christ is coming soon!
E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more;
They need no light nor lamp nor sun, for Christ will be their All!
-adapted from Revelation 22

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Leader: Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God!

People: **People will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the kingdom of God.**

Leader: This is the Lord's table. Our Savior invites those who trust him to share the feast which he has prepared. According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread, and blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him.

*HYMN 515 - "Now to Your Table Spread"

Love Unknown

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you,

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of Thy glo - ry:
Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord Most High. A - men.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

(Elders and Deacons will serve the elements at the front of the Chancel. You are invited to come forward beginning with those in the front, moving in two lines toward the Communion Table as directed by the ushers. You are encouraged to silently pray as you wait. When you come forward, you will be served a piece of gluten free bread, and you may take a cup. The wine is red and the grape juice is white. Pause, if you choose, giving thanks to God. Partake of the elements, leave your empty cup, and return to your seat using the side aisles. If you prefer to be served seated, a Deacon or Elder will bring the elements to you in your pew.)

COMMUNION CHORAL MEDITATION

"Day by Day"

Harold Friedell

Day by day dear Lord, of thee three things I pray:
To see thee more clearly,
Love thee more dearly,
Follow thee more nearly,
Day by day.

-Richard of Chichester

CLOSING PRAYER 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.

***HYMN 12 - "People, Look East"**

Besançon

(Children in Grade 4-6 will leave the service at this time. An adult leader will be in the Narthex to escort them to their classrooms.)

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE (all Sing)**

Veni Emmanuel

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

CONCLUDING VOLUNTARY - Toccata and Fantasy on "Savior of the Nations, Come" *Paul Manz*

(The Concluding Voluntary is the final Alleluia of our worship.
You are invited to remain in silence.)

*Please rise in body or spirit.

What is Advent? The season of Advent begins the Christian Year. The four Sundays preceding Christmas mark a time of preparation. Advent comes from a Latin word meaning "coming" or "arrival." The color is blue. The main preparation Christians make to welcome Christ anew into their lives is through self-examination and repentance. Advent is a season of penitence. It is similar in purpose to Lent and was modeled after it. Christians remember their own need for God to come again in their lives, confessing their sin and separation from God, and expressing deep longing for what God alone can give, the gift of new life and salvation. Advent is a time to remember that we also wait for Christ to come again. We are still sinners in need of redemption. The whole world longs for peace and justice. We continue to look for Jesus Christ to come to save us.

Music Participants:

Westminster Choir

Dustin Payne, Cantor

The Reverend John Neely is Organist-Director.

Today's Music: On October 31, 1517, Dr. Martin Luther wrote to Albert of Mainz and presented his "Ninety-Five Theses on the Power and Efficacy of Indulgences." Thus began the Protestant Reformation. The tune for "Savior of the Nations, Come" (Hymn 14 – today's Introit) was adapted by Luther from an early plainsong melody and was first published in 1524. Luther also made a German paraphrase of the Latin text by Ambrose of Milan (c.340-397).

The text of "Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth," (Hymn 7) was written by Walter Russell Bowie for *Songs of Praise* (1931), at the request of one of the collection's editors who had asked for an Advent hymn. Bowie became one of few American hymnists included in an English hymnal.

The response "Alleluia," © 1991 by Sally Ann Morris, all rights reserved, is reprinted by permission.

The flowers in the Chancel are given in memory of their parents by Ronald and Geraldine Hunt.

Infants and Toddlers, Room 108 (Infant - 3 years old), are cared for from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Room 108. Parents of infants will be contacted via text by the nursery staff in case immediate communication is needed while they worship in the Sanctuary. During the worship hour, children take part in an activity and enjoy a snack.

The upper section of the balcony is closed to accommodate continuing work on the organ pipes and for the restoration of the balcony stained glass window.

Members known to be in the hospital at this time: The Ohio State Ross Heart Hospital, 452 W 10th Ave, Columbus, OH 43210, Bill Cox. Dayton Children's Hospital, 1 Childrens Plaza, Dayton, OH, Andrew Shell. Grandview Hospital, 405 Grand Ave. Marv Fleming (staff)

Members recently released from the hospital: Penny Haddick, Anne Wilson, Carol Ann Roe

Each week the churches of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley keep one particular congregation or group in their prayers. This week the churches are praying for those working towards certification as Certified Christian Educator: Erin Dickerson (Sugar Creek) and Tyra Jackson (Springfield: Covenant).

Choirs for children and youth today - New members are welcome!

Children's Choirs and Youth Handbells (Sundays)

11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Genesis Singers (4 and 5 year olds, Pre-Kindergarten) - Rm. 104 - Holly Martin, Director

Cherub Choir (grades K-2) - Theater – Rachael Boezi, Director

Calvin Choir (grades 3-6) - Rm. 100 (Choir Room) - John Neely, Director

Knox Ringers (grades 7-12) – Rm. 203 - Brent Manley, Director

Youth Choir

5:00-6:00 p.m.

Knox Choir (grades 7-12) – Choir Room – John Neely, Director

Youth Fellowship Groups follow.

All are welcome!

Children's Ministry Class Schedule

Nursery: provided for children birth - 3 years

Room 108, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Pre-K & K (4 & 5 yr olds)

Room 104, 10:20 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

1st - 3rd Graders

Room 103 & 105, 10:20 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

4th - 6th Graders

Theater, 10:40 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Children in Pre-K - 3rd grades will leave the service after the scripture lesson.

Children in 4th - 6th grades will leave during the final hymn.

Caitlin Deyerle is on vacation and will return to the church Tuesday, Nov. 29.

Anna Owens is away this morning participating in the Installation Service for the Rev. Joshua Rodriguez, the new pastor at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Piqua.

Junior High and Senior High Youth Fellowships will meet this evening from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. for our annual Gifts from the Heart Shopping Spree. All youth in grades 7 through 12 are welcome. Please bring a donation toward the purchase of gifts (\$10 recommended) and money for dinner out. Parents may pick-up their youth at the Wilkinson Street door at 9:00 p.m. Please speak to Nancy Hodgkins if you have questions.

Who May Receive the Sacrament? At Westminster, the invitation to the Lord's Supper is extended to all who believe, remembering that access to the Table is not a right conferred upon the worthy, but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance, and love. Even one who doubts or whose trust is wavering may come to the Table in order to be assured of God's love and grace in Jesus Christ.

CPR/AED: Warren Assink, Melissa Keller

During the service, if you notice someone who appears to require medical attention, please raise your hand or contact the head usher. Response Team members will care for the person.



Next Sunday, December 4, 5:00 p.m.

The annual Advent/Christmas Potluck dinner will be held next Sunday, December 4, at 5:00 p.m., in Fellowship Hall. Please bring a salad, side dish, or dessert to feed 10-12 people. If you cannot bring food, you may make a financial contribution to help defray costs of the main course. Anyone who is 70 years young or more will be considered a guest at this dinner and does not need to bring food. A meat main dish, a vegetarian main dish, beverages, and table service will be provided.

At 5:45 p.m. there will be a program of music, sung by Genesis Singers, Cherub Choir, Calvin Choir, and Knox Choir.

**This is an event for everyone, not just parents
and grandparents of program participants.
Bring your friends and neighbors!**

*Reservations are **not** required for this event.*

All I Really Want

An Advent Devotional and Class



“All I Really Want” an Advent Devotional and Class

Beginning today, 11:20 a.m.

This year’s Advent Devotional is “All I Really Want” by Quinn G. Caldwell. You are welcome to read this churchwide devotional on your own, with your family, or your small group, and to join us in Adult Education for an accompanying class taught by Elder Gene Saunders. Today’s class will be taught by Elder Joe Shonle.

About the book: “Sometimes the happiest and holiest time of the year is also the hardest for people to enjoy. These daily readings offer the skeptic, the over-committed the opportunity to make room - perhaps just enough room for God to show up. These brief writings address the challenges and realities of the season and include a simple action, ritual or meditation designed to gently steer the reader toward the deeper meaning that underlies the season.”

Copies will be available in the church office for \$10.
This class will be available in-person and via Zoom.

Advent Calendar of Events

Advent Christmas Dinner and Choral Program

Next Sunday, December 4, 5:00 p.m.

The annual Advent/Christmas Potluck dinner will be held next Sunday, December 4, at 5:00 p.m., in Fellowship Hall.

Service of Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 11, 10:00 a.m.

A traditional service of Christmas scripture, music, and prayers. Music will be sung and played by the children and youth choirs, Westminster Choir, and the Westminster Ringers.

Noonday Carol Sing and Lunch

Friday, December 16

12:00 Noon – Handbell Prelude

Westminster Ringers

12:10- 12:40 p.m. – Carol Sing

A fun and festive community event with carol singing by all and music by the Xenia High School choir.

A quick lunch for \$7 will be served following the Carol Sing. Invite your friends!

Christmas Eve

Christmas in the Stable

Saturday, December 24, 4:00 p.m.

Join us for a joy-filled service. Children are encouraged to come to the worship service dressed as their favorite character from the Christmas story. Costumes will be available in the Narthex. Genesis Singers, Cherub, and Calvin Choirs will sing.

Christmas in the Cathedral

Saturday, December 24, 10:00 p.m.

Prelude, 9:20 p.m.

This beautiful candlelight service is the culmination of the Advent season.

An extended Prelude begins at 9:20 p.m. Arrival at 9:00 p.m. is suggested. This service features a darkened Sanctuary, candlelight, the Westminster Choir, and Knox Ringers. Plan to bring a friend to this beautiful Christmas Eve service.

Christmas Day Worship

Sunday, December 25, 11:00 a.m. *

New Year's Day Worship

Sunday, January 1, 11:00 a.m. *

***Please note the later start times for Christmas Day and New Year's Day only.**

Christmas Decorations

Your Donation Can Help Decorate Our Entire Church



It's more than poinsettias! As part of our Advent/Christmas preparation, we decorate the church inside and out with numerous wreaths, bows, and yards and yards of garland. You are invited to share in the funding of decorating the church for Advent and Christmas by donating money in memory, honor, or celebration of someone you care about.

Your monetary gifts will be used to purchase decorations for the church and poinsettias for homebound members. The poinsettias purchased with your donations will be delivered to the shut-ins by deacons and other caregivers well before Christmas. *Please note: no other flowers will be ordered except those being delivered to shut-ins.*

It is suggested that your gift to the church decorating fund be \$12 or more, but may be any amount you wish. Checks must be received in the Church Office by **December 11**, made payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church and marked "Church Decorating." Donations may also be made online on our website (www.westminsterdayton.org). The worship service bulletin on December 18 will include names of the donors and names of those being recognized by your generous gift.



Christmas Decorations

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ to decorate our church.

Please print NAME(S) ONLY of those you wish to appear in the bulletin.

(circle one) In memory of - In honor of - Celebrating

Given by

*Westminster Presbyterian Church:
Where Loving God and Neighbor Is Transforming Lives*

MINISTERS
All members of the Church

Richard L. Baker, Jr..... Pastor/Head of Staff	Amanda Newhart..... Executive Assistant to Dr. Baker
John W. Neely..... Assoc. Pastor for Music	Kate Stephenson..... Administrative Assistant
Nancy S. Hodgkins..... Assoc. Pastor for Youth & Mission	Brittany Campbell..... Administrative Assistant
Anna G. Owens..... Assoc. Pastor for Spiritual Growth	Wayne King..... Maintenance Supervisor
Caitlin T. Deyerle..... Assoc. Pastor for Congregational Care	Marvin Fleming..... Sexton
Jenne Gross..... Mission Associate	Keith Spencer..... Custodian
Kylie Hettinger..... Dir. Of Ministries for Children and Families	Calista Brunett..... Music Resident
Brent Manley..... Music Associate	Ian Clarke..... Mission Resident
Craig Showalter..... Business Administrator	George H. McConnel..... Pastor Emeritus



Gifts from the Heart

A W.I.S.E. Ministry outreach providing
Christmas gifts for students and families at
DECA Middle and Eastmont Elementary Schools

Choose a heart in the Narthex before & after worship
Today

Gifts from the Heart

We need your help fulfilling the Christmas wishes of local students and their families! Several students are still available. Please consider supporting Gifts from the Heart this year. Gifts from the Heart is a mission outreach providing Christmas gifts for students and families at DECA Middle and Eastmont Elementary Schools. Today, before and after worship, choose a heart in the Narthex.

“Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth” (7)

Lord Christ, when first you came to earth,
Upon a cross they bound you,
And mocked your saving kingship then
By thorns with which they crowned you;
And still our wrongs may weave you now
New thorns to pierce that steady brow,
And robe of sorrow round you.

O wondrous Love, which found no room
In life, where sin denied you,
And, doomed to death, must bring to doom
The power which crucified you,
Till not a stone as left on stone,
And all a nation's pride, o'erthrown,
Went down to dust beside you.

New advent of the love of Christ,
Shall we again refuse you,
Till in the night of hate and war
We perish as we lose you?
From old unfaith our souls release
To seek the kingdom of your peace,
By which alone we choose you.

O wounded hands of Jesus, build
In us your new creation;
Oure pride is dust, our vaunt is stilled,
We wait your revelation.
O Love that triumphs over loss,
We bring our hearts before your cross;
Come, finish your salvation.

“Now to Your Table Spread” (515)

Now to your table spread
We come, each one in faith
That you alone provide the words of life and death:
In wine and bread,
In promised food
We find your loving heart, O God.

Hand of the world stretch out
Your mystery to touch
In longing to believe a truth beyond our reach,
To sing in joy,
To cry in grief,
To know your meaning for our life.

Here is our commonwealth
In sharing what is good,
As though all humankind around one table stood,
This bread to break,
This wine to taste:
One people in the name of Christ.

“People, Look East” (12)

People, look east. The time is near
Of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
Trim the hearth and set the table.
People look east and sing today:
Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
One more seed is planted there:
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
That in course the flower may flourish.
People look east and sing today:
Love the rose is on the way.

Bird, though you long have ceased to build,
Guard the nest that must be filled.
Even the hour when wings are frozen
God for fledging time has chosen.
People look east and sing today:
Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim
One more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather,
Bright as sun and moon together.
People look east and sing today:
Love the star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth
Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming
With the word, the Lord is coming.
People look east and sing today:
Love the Lord is on the way.