

## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Tuesday, December 24, 2024 | 4p and 6p | streaming at wpc-online.org

\*Carol 133                      O Come, All Ye Faithful                      ADESTE FIDELES

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;  
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!**

***O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!***

**True God from true God, Light from light eternal,  
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;  
very God, begotten, not created!**

***O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!***

**Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!**

***O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!***

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!**

***O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!***

\* Prayer of Confession

**God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live in the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.**

\* Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.  
**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

\* Gloria Patri, Hymn 113, *Refrain only*                      GLORIA

***Gloria in excelsis Deo!***  
***Gloria in excelsis Deo!***

Hearing **God's Word**

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson, *Isaiah 9:2-7*

p. 555

Gospel Lesson, *Luke 2:1-20*

p. 832

Leader: The Word of the Lord.  
**People: Thanks be to God.**

Homily                      "Christmas Wrappings"

Responding to **God's Word**

Anthem                      *Sing We Now of Christmas*                      arr. Miller

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

\* Lighting of the Candles and Carol 122, *Silent Night, Holy Night*                      STILLE NACHT

The first verse of "Silent Night" will be sung in German by the Sanctuary Choir. The congregation will join on the second and following verses. **We will conclude by singing the first verse.** As "Silent Night" is being sung, the lights will be dimmed, and the pastors will light a candle from the Christ candle on the Advent wreath. The pastors will light the candles of the ushers.

## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Choir:*

*Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht! Alles schläft, einsam wacht  
nur das traute, hochheilige Paar. Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,  
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh, schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!*

**Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;  
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing  
"Alleluia: Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born!"**

**Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

**Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
with the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King:  
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born.**

**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright,  
'round yon Virgin Mother and Child!  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

\* A Christmas Prayer

\* Carol 134                      Joy to the World                      ANTIOCH

**Joy to the world, The Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make his blessings flow,  
far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,  
far as, far as the curse is found.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness  
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.**

\* Charge & Benediction

\* Postlude                      *He is Born*                      Hudson

\*All who are able may stand

Plates will be placed at the rear of the Sanctuary Narthex  
for those desiring to leave a retiring offering.

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Leading Worship **this Evening**

Ben Dorr, *preaching*

Lauren Slingerland, Leigh Stuckey, Nick Carson, *liturgists*

Bryant Puntch (4p), Parks McLeod (6p), *head ushers*

Todd Monsell, *organist & pianist*

Rosemary Hughes, *flute*

Tom Vanderbloemen, *trumpet*

Sanctuary Choir

Mary-Frances Reynolds, Virginia Reynolds (4p), *acolytes*

Ella Heegard, Sawyer Rentz (6p), *acolytes*

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***The Pastors and Staff of Westminster wish you  
a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.***

# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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## Church Staff

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## CHRISTMAS TREES

To make our Sanctuary, Entrance Pavilion, Fellowship Hall, and Sanctuary Atrium festive for the Christmas season, the Women of Westminster, our Youth, the Men of Westminster, and the Lightly Seasoned Fellowship Group decorated this year's Christmas trees. Thank you to all!

## TRAFFIC POLICE OFFICER

A Greenville city police officer will be on duty from 3:30 - 7:30p to help people cross the street from the TD Bank on the other side of Augusta Street.

## NURSERY

A nursery is available for infants through four-year kindergarten at the 4p service. There will not be a nursery provided for the 6p service. Our nurturing staff of experienced caregivers and parent volunteers offers a welcoming environment to all children.

## LAST WEEK OF DECEMBER:

The church office will be closed on December 24 and 25. On Sunday, December 29, we will have one worship service at 11:15a with a reception preceding the service in the sanctuary atrium.

## 2024 FINANCIAL UPDATE

As of December 17, we have received 92% of pledges made for 2024. If you need to know where you stand with your 2024 giving, please contact Lynn Bennett ([lbennett@wpc-online.org](mailto:lbennett@wpc-online.org)), or contact the church office. Thank you for your generosity to Westminster!

## 2025 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

As of Tuesday, December 17, we have received \$2,447,866 in pledges, which is 90% of our 2025 pledge goal. For your convenience, you may pledge online or send your pledge via email or USPS to the Church Financial manager, Lynn Bennett ([lbennett@wpc-online.org](mailto:lbennett@wpc-online.org)).

# the HARBINGER

*open minds open hearts*

VOLUME LXXVII | December 24, 2024 | No. 37



## Prayer of Preparation

Visit us this night with angels, O Lord, and give us ears to hear the chorus of good news of great joy for all people. Grant us the courage to leave what we know so that we might be startled by your arrival and overwhelmed by your grace. May the coming of the Prince of Peace hush the din of violence, quiet in us any voice but yours, and render all creation lost in love and praise. Amen.

## Gathering and Preparing for **God's Word**

Prelude *What Child Is This* arr. Smith

Welcome & Lighting of the Christ Candle  
4p – *Corey & Rebecca Gault, Cece and Sam*  
6p – *Mickey & Theresa Brown*

\*Call to Worship

**Leader:** Glory to you, almighty God,  
for you sent your only-begotten Son,  
that we might have new life.

**People:** **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ,  
for you became flesh and lived among us  
that we might become your people.**

**Leader:** Glory to you, Holy Spirit,  
for you direct and rule our lives.

**People:** **The grace of God has appeared,  
bringing salvation to all.**

**All:** **Let us worship God!**