



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Buffalo, New York

**December 20, 2015**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
**11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary**



*Visitation*  
Artist: David King

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.'

-Luke 1: 41-42

## Welcome to this Place of Christian Worship

*Do not wait for someone else to begin worship. Pray silently for yourself, for those about you, for the poor and the oppressed, for those unable to be present, for those who will shortly lead our common worship. Latecomers may enter the Sanctuary during the singing of the first hymn or during the Response to the Assurance. Ushers are available for assistance. Please turn off all cell phones*

## Opening Voluntary

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

## Welcome and Announcements

Dr. Yorty

## Order of Worship

### Chiming of the Trinity

*The sounding of the chimes, invoking Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit, is an invitation to prepare for worship through a time of silent reflection. Please be respectful of those who are praying.*

### Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle

*The Zenger family – Steve, Julie, Mary and Jack will light the fourth Advent candle.*

Living Christ, give us faith to trust you.

**We trust you, we love you, we praise you. Amen.**

### Introit

Jesus is Here

Carson P. Cooman†(b. 1982)

While winter darkness covers the earth, we have a mission: telling of a birth!

“Born in a manger” – words that we know. Though they’re familiar, set our hearts aglow!

While earthly powers rage and ignore, we must be stronger: “Come, let us adore!”

Praying with fervor, shouting and strong, all of God’s children take up the song!

Sing all together, “Jesus is here!” Spreading the message brings true Christmas cheer!

### Call to Worship

*The people stand and remain standing for the hymn.*

Out of little Bethlehem comes one who is to rule in Israel.

**He shall be great to the ends of the earth.**

Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.

**God’s mercy extends from generation to generation.**

**Holy is God’s name!**

### Processional Hymn, No. 11

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

## Call to Confession

Cantor:



Be with us now, O Lord, qui - et us, cen - ter us, hear us.

Congregation:



O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer. When we call, an - swer us.



O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer. Come and lis - ten to us.

## Prayer of Confession

God our Savior, we ask for your mercy.  
Though we have heard Mary's song,  
we still seek security in pride and power and possessions.  
Though we know your story,  
we resist the costs of following you.  
We pass by those considered lowly in this world.  
We turn away from hungry people who still wait to be filled.  
Forgive us, we pray.  
Help us to work for the justice you intend.  
Make us messengers of the peace you bring.  
As we wait for you, turn our apathy into acts of love and service.  
We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel. Amen.

*Silence is kept.*

## Kyrie *The people sing.*

John Weaver (1984)



Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

## Assurance of Pardon

### Response

*The people stand to sing.*



Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart!

## Passing the Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

*Please turn to your neighbor and share the peace of Christ. It is appropriate to say, "The peace of Christ be with you", and to respond, "And also with you." The gesture is simple, but the meaning is profound. When we extend our hand to another, we identify with Jesus, who extended his life to the point of death to make peace with humanity (Col. 1:20-21). What's more, in the midst of divisions we symbolize our unity through handshakes and hugs (Eph. 2:14-21). Likewise, when we regularly pass the peace we practice God's call to make every effort to maintain the bond of peace (Eph. 4:3).*

## The Word Enacted

Welcome the Christ Child  
*(Please see the enclosed insert)*

*At this time, parents may decide to have their children 3 years and older leave with their teachers.  
When the children leave, please make sure they take their belongings with them.*

## Prayer for Illumination

## Scripture Lesson

Luke 1:39-55

## Sermon

The Grandeur of this View of Life

## Invitation to the Offering

## Offertory

*The Deacons receive the gifts, a portion of the blessings God has given us, which we return unto God.  
Worshippers are invited to sign the Friendship Pad located in the aisle seat of each pew and then please pass it to others in the pew.*

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

Somerset Folk Song, arr. Alan Bullard (b. 1947)

The tree of life my soul has seen, laden with fruit and always green:  
The trees of nature fruitless be compared with Christ the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel: by faith I know, but never can tell,  
The glory which I now can see in Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure dearly I have bought:  
I missed of all; but now I see 'tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil, here I will sit and rest a while:  
Under the shadow I will be, of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying flesh alive:  
Which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.

## Presentation of the Gifts

*The people stand as the Deacons come forward and remain standing for the Prayer of Dedication.*

OLD HUNDREDTH



## Prayer of Dedication

You deliver us, O God, from exile, separation, and despair  
into communion with each other, with you, and with your good news.  
We thank you for all that draws us close together,  
astounding us with lives transformed by gratitude.  
Accept our gifts as signs of our gratitude  
for what you give us every day  
and as honor to your presence in our world;  
for the sake of those who stand in need  
and Jesus Christ, who saves us. Amen.

## Prayers of the People

Concluding with 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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil;  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.

## Sending Hymn, No. 40

Joy to the World!  
*The people stand to sing.*

ANTIOCH

## Benediction

## Closing Voluntary

*Carillon on a Ukrainian Bell Carol*

Gerald Near (b. 1942)

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*All are invited to gather for fellowship and refreshments in the Oak Room, following the 11:00AM Service.*

## Worship Leaders

**Preacher:** The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty

**Reader:** Ray Herman

**Organists:** Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music

Käthe Wright Kaufman, Glynda Stephens Taylor Organ Scholar

**Choir:** Choristers of the Choir School

## Deacons Serving Today

Mary Callaghan, Kate Dierenfield, Warren Emblidge, Florence Kilambo Kalumbu, Earl McColgin  
Mike Reynolds, Roh-Yu Shen, Roy Stewart

## Christmas Decorations

The Decorations in the Chancel are given graciously by a generous Westminster member.  
The Christmas Tree in the Narthex is a gift from Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Speth.

*Purchase Sunday flowers in honor/memory of family or friends. Look for the "Flower Calendar" on the Kiosk in the Gallery Room and sign up for the Sunday of your choice. You may also call Marilyn Bassett at 634-4211 to choose a date.*

## NOTES ON TODAY'S MUSIC

†**Carson Cooman** is an American composer with a catalog of hundreds of works in many forms—from solo instrumental pieces to operas, and from orchestral works to hymn tunes. His music has been performed on all six inhabited continents in venues that range from the stage of Carnegie Hall to the basket of a hot air balloon. Cooman's music appears on over forty recordings, including more than twenty complete CDs on the Naxos, Albany, Artek, Gothic, Divine Art, Métier, Diversions, Convivium, Altarus, MSR Classics, Raven, and Zimbel labels. Cooman's primary composition studies were with Bernard Rands, Judith Weir, Alan Fletcher, and James Willey. As an active concert organist, Cooman specializes in the performance of contemporary music. Over 150 new compositions by more than 100 international composers have been written for him, and his organ performances can be heard on a number of CD recordings. Cooman is also a writer on musical subjects, producing articles and reviews frequently for a number of international publications. He serves as an active consultant on music business matters to composers and performing organizations, specializing particularly in the area of composer estates and archives.

††**Herbert Sumson** (1899 - 1995) was organist of Gloucester Cathedral from 1928 until 1967, and conductor of the Three Choirs Festival during that time, in which he came into close contact such as Elgar and Howells. His own music for the organ, of which there is a great deal, consists largely of miniatures - ideal for before and after Services. Intermezzo, an early work, is a serene movement which has been arranged from its original form for string orchestra, while the triumphant Ceremonial March, dating from a much later period in his long and fruitful working life, makes a fitting end to a set of pieces from composers of the West Country, who have made such a notable contribution to the life and music of Britain, especially through their writings for the church.

## THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

<b>Sunday, December 20</b>	11:10 AM Sunday School	12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline	9:30 PM Youth/Young Adult Gathering
6:30 AM Maintenance Jeff	12:30 PM Dream Group 3	1:30 PM Staff Meeting	10:00 PM Christmas Concert
8:00 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal	<b>Monday, December 21</b>	4:30 PM WPC Choir School	10:45 PM Lessons & Carols Service
8:30 AM Infant/Toddler Care	7:00 AM WPC Closed	5:30 PM Pathways To Peace	<b>Friday, December 25</b>
8:45 AM Worship/Communion	7:30 PM Triumphant Returns	8:00 PM AA Meeting	WECP & WPC Closed
9:30 AM Heavenly Grounds	<b>Tuesday, December 22</b>	<b>Thursday, December 24</b>	<b>Sunday, December 27</b>
9:30 AM Christmas Pageant Practice	7:15 AM Wake Up Group	WECP Closed/WPC Open until Noon	10:00 AM Reinaldo On Duty
9:35 AM Case Library/Spiritual Life	6:00 PM Handbells	6:30 AM Maintenance: Jeff, Reinaldo, Carlos	11:00 AM Worship/Blair Baptism
9:35 AM Adult Bible Class	6:00 PM Zen Dharma Holiday Social	7:15 AM Wake Up Group	
10:00 AM Choir Rehearsal	<b>Wednesday, December 23</b>	5:15 PM Family Christmas Service	
11:00 AM Worship /Pageant	9:30 AM Worship Planning Meeting		

## Welcome! We are glad you have chosen to worship with us today.

We invite members and visitors to sign the friendship/registration pad as it is passed during the service. Please indicate if you would like information sent to you or request a call from the pastor.

As a More Light church, we invite all persons of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender community to membership and full participation in worship, leadership, service opportunities and all ministries of Westminster.

We light our peace candle remembering those relatives of Westminster members and all who are serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. Our prayers for peace include our neighborhoods, workplaces, schools & families.

Bibles are available at the Sanctuary entrances.

Wireless Receivers for hearing assistance are available in the Church Conference Room.

If you need assistance, please ask any Deacon.

### MISSION & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The ENERGY Program - creates a caring environment where refugee and immigrant students, grades 1-6 from Buffalo's West Side gain social and cultural awareness and self-confidence through improving their English language

skills. Contact Carol Greetham at 507-8216 or carol@wedibuffalo.org for more information, to donate or to volunteer.

The West Side Bazaar: 25 Grant Street. Lunch and shopping.

Friday: 11 AM – 8PM, Saturday, 10 AM – 8PM

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 11AM – 7PM

Westminster's Alcohol and Drug Education and Referral Service has been working quietly and steadily since 1981 to help members and friends with any questions they may have about alcohol or other drugs. Call any of us for free and confidential advice. Phil Stevens, Chair 839-3357; Dave Carstensen 884-5403, Ken Carter 833-9287, Ellen Smith 882-2064, Jim Wieland 523-0217.

Westminster Members: If you are recovering from an illness/surgery or are a caregiver with an ill family member, or have had a new baby, Westminster can provide a simple meal for those in need. Please contact Jamie at 884-9437, ext. 326 or email jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Childcare is available for children under the age of 5 years from 9:30AM to 12:30AM in the WECP building. Childcare providers will meet with parents and children at the entrance to the Westminster Early Childhood Programs (WECP) school building. Weather permitting, the children will be able to play in the playground.

- 3–5 year olds: Mrs. Debby & Mr. Chris LaMendola are our beloved preschool teachers. The three through five year class meets in the Early Childhood building. The children and their teachers walk to the building together and in cold weather, the children need their coats.
- 1st - 5th graders: Each month their class rotates through our three Rotation Workshops: Creation Station, Hollywood and Apostles Playhouse
- 6th & 7th graders meet with their teacher, Marta Butzer, each Sunday in the last classroom on the Parish Hall balcony.
- 8th grader Confirmation Class meets 9:45-10:45AM in Parish Hall balcony
- Our Senior Highs (9th through 12th graders) meet each Sunday at 9:30AM in the Parish Hall kitchen for Dialog Diner.

### PASSAGES: A PROGRAM FOR OLDER ADULTS

Lunch at 12:30PM in the Oak Room, 1:15PM program in the Case Library. The first Tuesday of each month. These programs vary between speakers, music concerts and films with a focus on the intellectual, physical and spiritual life of retired adults. Please sign up on the table in the Gallery Room, or RSVP to Jamie, 884-9437 or jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org Save the Date: Passages January 5th Come join us when Passages goes to the movies. We will view *The Other Son* a film by Lorraine Levy set in Jerusalem.

### THE WESTMINSTER CHOIR SCHOOL

*The Senior Choristers*, ages 12-18, rehearse each Wednesday, September through May, 5:30-6:30PM in the Holmes Chapel. The Senior Choristers produce a high volume of quality choral repertoire each week for use in worship and concert.

*The Junior Choristers*, ages 7-11, rehearse simultaneously with the Senior Choristers each Wednesday, September through May, 5:30-6:30PM in the Holmes Chapel, with the assistance of Ms. Hillary Hunt. The Junior Choristers further their ability to read music and various languages while shaping the voice into a beautiful treble instrument.

*The Apprentice Choristers*, ages 4-6, rehearse each Wednesday, September through May, 4:30-5:15PM in the Holmes Chapel. The Apprentice Choristers are taught fundamental music and choral skills, with the assistance of Dr. Val Cooley. Participation in the programs is not limited to Westminster members; all are welcome to join. For more information, please contact Garrett Martin, Organist and Director of Music gmartin@wpcbuffalo.org 884.9437 ext. 318.

### BECOME A PART OF OUR LIFE

Anyone who would like to learn more about our community and the many ministries we support is invited to attend a meeting immediately following

worship. Our February date will be announced. The Rev. Thomas Yorty, Pastor of Westminster, will tell the story of our church along with the current programs of outreach and mission in the city and region. There will be time for conversation and an opportunity to get answers to any questions you may have. Light, healthy refreshments will be served. At the conclusion of the meeting, those who so desire will be received into the membership of the church. If you have any questions, please contact Tom Yorty, tyorty@wpcbuffalo.org or 830-8596), Karen Keaton, khkeaton@verizon.net or any staff member.

### YOUTH EVENTS - C.I.A (Christians in Action)

Sunday, December 20: NO Dialogue Diner

11a – Christmas Pageant during the 11am service

Thursday, December 24: 5:15pm Family Service

9:30pm Youth & Young Adult Gathering in the Case Library

10:45pm Lessons & Carols Service

### SUNDAY MORNING SPIRITUAL GROWTH

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

9:35AM - 10:45AM in the first room on the balcony on the 3rd floor. Our class welcomes adults who are interested in exploring the Christian story, by studying the scripture and applying those lessons learned to our present lives. Come as your schedule permits. This class uses Feasting on the Word curriculum which explores the Bible passages used in worship.

CASE LIBRARY CONVERSATIONS AND SPIRITUAL LIFE

*For the month of December Case Library Conversations and Spiritual Life will join together to present the Advent Series*

**December 20**

*Drawing Advent*

John Montague will lead a hands-on workshop to provide opportunity for attendees to experience the challenges of visualizing Advent. Participants can draw and paint sequences of icons for the seven interchangeable panels at the base of the Nativity Mural.

### MEN'S & WOMEN'S RETREATS - SAVE THE DATES!

The Women's Retreat is Friday, January 29– Sunday, January 31, 2016 at the Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center, Bemus Point, NY. Registration forms are on the Information Table. Reserve your room by January 3rd.

The Men's Retreat is Friday, January 22 & Saturday, January 23, 2016 at Byrnclyff Resort. Registration forms, brochure with schedule and reading material are on the Information Table in the Gallery Room.

### SUNDAY WORSHIP AT WESTMINSTER

8:45AM in the Holmes Chapel with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper  
11AM in the Sanctuary

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty  
will preach in the month of December

**December 27**

Luke 2:41-52 ; *A Christmas Story*

**January 3**

John 1: (1-9), 10-18; *In the Beginning*

**January 10**

Amahl and the Night Visitors

**January 17**

John 2: 1-11; *The First Miracle*

**January 24**

Luke 4:14-21; *Filled with Power - the Leaders*

**January 31**

Luke 4:21-30; *Filled with Power -the Congregation*

# Christmas Eve at Westminster

5:15pm: Family Service

10pm: Christmas Concert

10:45pm: Candlelit Festival Service of Lessons & Carols

## **Family Service: 5:15pm**

We will hold our annual Family Christmas Eve Service in the Sanctuary. The theme of the service is “The Journey to Bethlehem.” The youth of our church family will lead worshippers in telling the story of the birth of Jesus and the Senior Choristers of the Westminster Choir School will present Benjamin Britten’s *Ceremony of Carols with harp*. The Pastor reads the birth narrative from Gospel of Luke. We hear the story again by having the youngest children bring pieces of the crèche forward to place on a felt board. It’s an old, old story that never gets “old” and brings wonder and awe to the hearts of participants of every age.

## **Christmas Concert: 10pm**

### **Candlelit Festival Service of Lessons & Carols: 10:45pm**

Westminster Presbyterian Church would like to extend a warm welcome to you, your family and friends to join us this Christmas Eve for the annual Candlelit Festival Service of Lessons and Carols. The Choirs of Westminster will present J. S. Bach’s *Magnificat* with Soloists, Organ, and Orchestra along with seasonal favorites from Westminster’s world-class Handbell Ensemble during our Christmas Concert and subsequent Candlelit Festival Service of Lessons and Carols. The service is like a diamond. As the liturgy unfolds, the lessons read and carols sung, each telling in text and hymn sparkles with the light of God’s love. By the end of the service, in the Sanctuary filled with the light of candles held high by worshippers, it is as if the room itself and people in it are aglow with the very light of that stable of so long ago.

## **Christmas Eve Offering**

This year our Christmas Eve offering will be divided between two non-profit organizations, located on Buffalo’s West Side. We are grateful for the good work being done by tonight’s recipients and we are grateful for your generosity. Together we are making a difference. Together we are building a City of Good Neighbors, a welcoming community with opportunity for all.



### **Tailoring Training Program** (The Somali Youth Association of Buffalo)

Abdinoor Jama and his partner Aden Aden, both refugees from Somalia are trained tailors who have started a tailoring training program to prepare fellow refugees, many of whom are women without job prospects. The trainees are completing a well-developed program at Abdinoor’s space at 215 Forest Ave. Once they graduate with their certificate, they will be qualified for many sewing jobs in the area. Abdinoor has already contacted several employers who will welcome his graduates as employees. Abdinoor has a strong business plan for his organization and wants to train more individuals, but needs more sewing machines and supplies. The funds donated by WPC’s Christmas offering will allow them to buy several sewing machines and a good amount of fabric, thread and accessories. It will give them a tremendous jump in their ability to impact their own community. Their story is a compelling one when you consider that Abdinoor and Aden feel so strongly about their new home here among us in Buffalo, that they want to ease the way to self-sufficiency for others. The sewing program is open to all refugees both from Somalia and elsewhere.

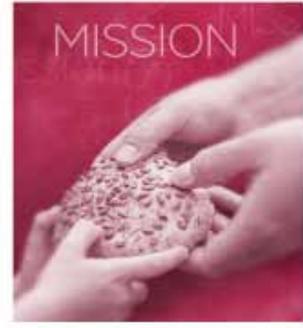
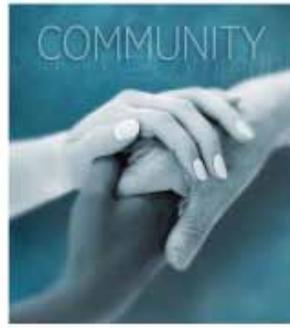
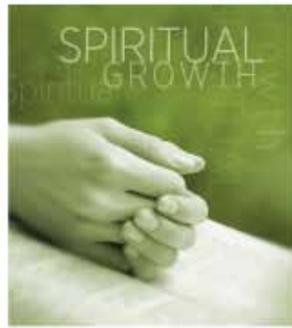
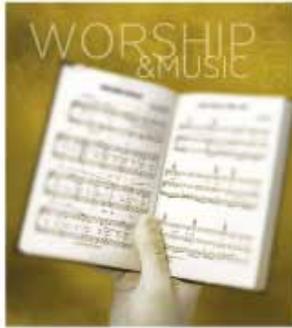


### **Food Cart Pilot program** (WEDI West Side Bazaar)

Refugees continue to move to Buffalo, and many of them bring skills in foodservice and excellent cuisines, as evidenced by the West Side Bazaar. Through the West Side Bazaar Food Cart, more entrepreneurs may achieve their dream of selling food, current Bazaar tenants will increase their income, and more communities will learn about new cultures and their food. The Food Cart should also eventually make a profit, helping make the Bazaar and other programs sustainable while training individuals without jobs in the foodservice business, including health regulations, marketing, and time and project management. The Food Cart will allow the Bazaar to reach new communities on the east side of Buffalo and throughout Western New York. It will provide income to the Bazaar owners as well as prospective restaurant owners who want to test the market with their food. In the future, if successful, WEDI may be able to hire people through the Food Cart and provide experiential foodservice training opportunities. Thank you for your generous support and for helping to strengthen our neighborhoods and city.

GIVING 2016

# GRATITUDE IN EVERY *Action*



Pledges received as of 12/18/15

Number of Pledges Received	Total Pledges Received	Dollars to Goal
179	368,455	231,545

We ask that you consider the blessing that Westminster is in your life and with a grateful heart send your Intention Card with support for 2016. Giving your financial pledge will enable Westminster to continue to show our gratitude to God by sharing our blessings within our church home and our community. There are several ways to share your intention: Return your intention card by mail or make your pledge online at [www.wpcbuffalo.org/pledge2016](http://www.wpcbuffalo.org/pledge2016) or email Nancy Berger, [nberger@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:nberger@wpcbuffalo.org) Please give - every gift counts!

## WESTMINSTER PRESENTS

### Fridays @ Westminster! Come for Music, Stay for Lunch

Each Friday, a 30 minute lunchtime concert featuring local Buffalo artists will play in our historic Sanctuary, from Noon until 12:30PM. A Food Truck will be at Westminster each Friday, so stay for lunch! Donations benefit the Westminster Friends of Music.

January 15: Garrett Martin, organ

**Taizé Service-Friday, January 15** Westminster will offer a Taizé service of music, prayer and contemplation on the third Friday of each month.

### Juliana Curcio, mezzo-soprano & Robert Miller, classical guitar

Monday, December 21, 7:00 p.m. in the Holmes Chapel  
Triumphant Returns: Williamsville natives Juliana Curcio (now in New York City) and Robert Miller (now in San Francisco) present an eclectic program of music for solo voice and classical guitar.

### Christmas Eve at Westminster

5:15PM: *Family Service* featuring WPC Senior Choristers presenting Benjamin Britten's *Ceremony of Carols* with harp.

#### Christmas Eve Concert and Service

Westminster's Adult Choir, Handbell Choir, and Organ.  
The Westminster Choir will present Bach's *Magnificat* followed by a candlelit Festival Service of Christmas Lessons and Carols.

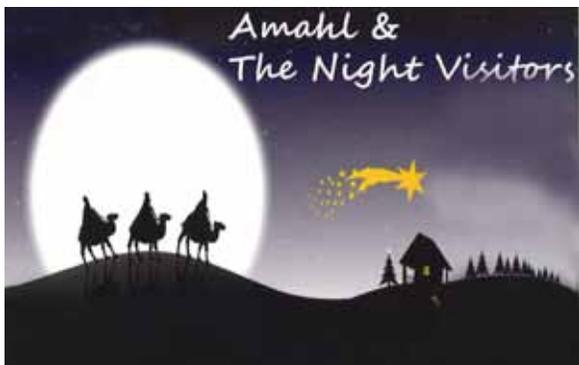
10PM: Concert Prelude

10:45PM: Lessons & Carols

### Masterworks Service

Sunday, March 13

The Choirs of Westminster and musicians of the BPO present two choral and orchestral masterworks: Andrew Carter's *Benedicite* and Beethoven's *Choral Fantasy*.



### Amahl & The Night Visitors

Based on Italian folk tales of the Nativity and Epiphany, Gian Carlo Menotti's *Amahl and the Night Visitors* is a retelling of the story of the Magi from the point of view of a young disabled boy named Amahl.

At Westminster in the Sanctuary.

Tickets: \$16 Adults/\$8 Children

Friday, January 8 at 7PM

Saturday, January 9 at 3PM

Sunday, January 10 at 11AM in worship (no charge)

Sunday, January 10 at 3PM

For Tickets: <http://bit.ly/1NcfsEF> Presented by: Nickel City Opera

## Worship in the Holmes Chapel - 8:45 a.m.

*The Gathering is an opportunity for worshippers to greet one another and to share prayer concerns.  
An offering plate has been placed on the Communion Table to receive your gifts.*

### Chiming of the Trinity

*The sounding of the chimes, invoking Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit, is an invitation to prepare for worship through a time of silent reflection. Please be respectful of those who are praying.*

### Opening Voluntary

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

### Welcome and Announcements

Dr. Yorty

### Introit

Hark, the Glad Sound!

David Thorne (b. 1950)

Hark, the glad sound! The Saviour comes, the Saviour promised long!  
Let every heart prepare a throne, and every voice a song.  
He comes the prisoners to release, in Satan's bondage held,  
The gates of brass before him burst, the iron fetters yield.

He comes, the broken heart to bind, the wounded soul to cure;  
And with the treasures of his grace enrich the humble poor.  
Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, Thy welcome shall proclaim;  
And heaven's eternal arches ring with thy beloved name.

### Call to Worship

*The people stand and remain standing for the hymn.*

### Hymn, No. 11

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

### Prayer of Confession

God our Savior, we ask for your mercy.  
Though we have heard Mary's song,  
we still seek security in pride and power and possessions.  
Though we know your story, we resist the costs of following you.  
We pass by those considered lowly in this world.  
We turn away from hungry people who still wait to be filled.  
Forgive us, we pray. Help us to work for the justice you intend.  
Make us messengers of the peace you bring.  
As we wait for you, turn our apathy into acts of love and service.  
We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel. Amen.

*Silence is kept.*

### Kyrie *The people sing.*

John Weaver (1984)



### Words of Assurance

## Response

*The people stand to sing.*



## Prayer for Illumination

### Scripture Lesson

Luke 1:39-45

### Anthem

Service in G: Magnificat

Herbert Sumsion ††(1899-1995)

My soul doth magnify the lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in god my savior.  
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is his name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.  
He hath showed strength with his arm;  
He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel,  
As he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed forever.

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

### Meditation

The Grandeur of this View of Life

### Prayers of the People

Concluding with the Lord's Prayer

### Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

### Sending Hymn, No. 40

Joy to the World!  
*The people stand to sing.*

ANTIOCH

### Benediction

### Closing Voluntary

*Carillon on a Ukrainian Bell Carol*

Gerald Near (b. 1942)

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**Preacher:** The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty

**Organists:** Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music

Käthe Wright Kaufman, Glynda Stephens Taylor Organ Scholar

**Choir:** Senior Choristers of the Westminster Choir School



# Westminster Presbyterian Church

724 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14209-2294 • 716-884-9437 • [www.wpcbuffalo.org](http://www.wpcbuffalo.org)

## *Westminster Presbyterian Church*

The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty, Pastor, [tyorty@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:tyorty@wpcbuffalo.org), ext. 313

The Rev. Beth Hennessy, Pastoral Care Associate, [bhennessy@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:bhennessy@wpcbuffalo.org), 716-697-0919

Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries, [gmartin@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:gmartin@wpcbuffalo.org), ext. 318

Käthe Wright Kaufman, Glynda Stephens Taylor Organ Scholar, [kkaufman@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:kkaufman@wpcbuffalo.org), ext. 357

Debbie Katz, Director of Christian Education, [dkatz@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:dkatz@wpcbuffalo.org), ext. 329

Mark Aquino, Youth Coordinator, [maquino@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:maquino@wpcbuffalo.org), ext. 311

Nancy Berger, Interim Chief Operations Officer, [nberger@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:nberger@wpcbuffalo.org), ext. 305

Lenore Neiler, Communications Coordinator, [lnailer@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:lnailer@wpcbuffalo.org), ext. 302

Marie Hasselback-Costa, Administrative Assistant to the Pastor, [mcosta@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:mcosta@wpcbuffalo.org), ext. 308

Patricia Kelly, WPC/WECP Accountant, [pkelly@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:pkelly@wpcbuffalo.org), ext. 327

Jamie Adamczyk, Administrative Assistant, [jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org), ext. 326

## *Westminster Early Childhood Programs*

Karen Koness Dearing, Co-Director, [kdearing@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:kdearing@wpcbuffalo.org), ext. 328

Priscilla Maddock, Co-Director, [pmaddock@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:pmaddock@wpcbuffalo.org), ext. 330

Loretta McKenna, Receptionist, [lmckenna@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:lmckenna@wpcbuffalo.org), ext. 327

Jessica Mitrovits, Development Associate, [jmitrovits@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:jmitrovits@wpcbuffalo.org), ext. 332

Ebony Mallory, Administrative Assistant, [emallory@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:emallory@wpcbuffalo.org), ext. 300

## *Facilities*

Aaron Vivian, Facilities Supervisor, [avivian@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:avivian@wpcbuffalo.org), ext. 319, 716-504-7308

Jeff Kaczmarek, Maintenance, ext. 319, 716-345-8013

Carlos Ortiz, Maintenance, 716-208-4070

Reinaldo Arroyo, Maintenance, 716-578-8264