



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Buffalo, New York

January 4, 2015
Second Sunday after Christmas



In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.'

-Matthew 2: 1-2

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.

On Communion Sundays, the children meet for Sunday School in the Holmes Chapel and they will join the service in time for Communion.

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.

Opening Voluntary

Das Alte Jahr Vergangen Ist, BWV 614
*The Old Year Has Passed*¹

J.S. Bach (1684-1750)

Call to Worship

Processional Hymn, No. 63

As With Gladness, Men of Old
The people stand to sing.

DIX

Call to Confession

Cantor:

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

Congregation:

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call,
an-swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer.
Come and lis-ten to me.

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, you have given us everything;
we have failed to respond with gratitude.
In Jesus Christ, you have given us your Word;
we answer with empty promises and lies.
In Jesus Christ, you have given us your light;
we try to hide ourselves from your glory.
In Jesus Christ, you have given us your life;
even this precious gift we have not received.
Have mercy on us, O God; forgive us.
In Jesus Christ, give us the faith and power
to become what you created us to be:
beloved children, full of grace and truth. Amen.

Silence is kept.

Kyrie

The people sing.

David Johnson

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have
mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Assurance of Pardon

Response

The people stand to sing.

GLORIA

Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o;
Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

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).

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon

Homage

Hymn, No. 62

Bring We the Frankincense of Our Love
The people stand to sing.

EPIPHANY SONG

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Anthem

*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.*

Sweet Little Jesus Boy

Robert MacGimsey

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

It is the practice of this congregation to welcome all baptized persons, including those children whose parents have given their permission, to join in receiving the elements. Unfermented grape juice is used.

Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy
to give you thanks and praise,
God of majesty and splendor....

*Sanctus & Benedictus
All sing*

LAUDA ANIMA

**Holy, holy Lord most holy, God of power and God of might;
Heaven and earth reveal your glory, hail, hosanna, Lord of light!
Blessed be the coming Saviour, hail, hosanna, Lord of light!**

You are holy, O God of majesty....

**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.**

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

We will distribute the elements of communion today by intinction – simply take the bread and dip it in the cup. It is appropriate to say “Amen” or “Thanks be to God” when receiving the bread and the cup as they are gifts of God for the people of God. On each tray there are wafers of gluten-free bread in a separate dish. Please take the right side (facing the chancel) of the aisle closest to you to receive the elements and return to your pew on the right side (facing the rear or Delaware Avenue side) of the Sanctuary.

Voluntary

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, Jesus, Rest Your Head

John Edmunds

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God, our help:
we thank you for this supper shared in the Spirit with your Son Jesus,
who makes us new and strong, who brings us life eternal.
We praise you for giving us all good gifts in him,
and pledge ourselves to serve you, even as in Christ you served us. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn, No. 66

We Three Kings of Orient Are
The people stand to sing.

THREE KINGS OF ORIENT

Benediction

Closing Voluntary

Variations sur IN DULCI JUBILO

Denis Bédard

A service for healing and wholeness will be held in the Meditation Room immediately following the service today.

Worship Leaders

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty

Reader: Janet Metcalfe

Organists: Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music
Matthew Marco, Glynda Stephens Taylor Organ Scholar

Deacons Serving Today

Mary Callaghan, Patty Charlier, Frank Coheley, Tyler Hallan, Janet Kifner-Arnatt, Florence Kilambo Kalumbu
Mike Reynolds, Sarah Reynolds, Roh Yu Shen, David Weeks

Elders Serving Today

Bill Gray, Jack Jacobs, Karen Keaton, Allan Hayes, Mark Hall

Chancel Flowers

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.

Notes on Today's Music

*¹The old year has passed; we thank you, Lord Jesus Christ,
That you have protected us so mercifully in such great danger this year.*

*Help us leave off sinning and begin to grow faithful.
Do not think on the sins of the old year; grant us a year rich in grace.*

(text attr. Johann Steuerlein)

The text of this chorale is a prayer of thanksgiving for Christ's protection in the old year and a petition for continuing mercy and guidance offered on the first day of the new year. Many commentaries assume that the use of chromaticism in this prelude symbolizes sadness at the passing of the year. The assumption that chromaticism automatically expresses grief may lead to a limited concept of *Affekt*. The theme of the text is one of prayer, not grief; in fact, one could make a convincing argument that the upward-moving chromatic lines were used consciously to suggest an attitude of supplication rather than sadness.



The Westminster Economic Development Initiative (WEDI) Board of Directors
Invites you to:

Winterfest 2015

February 6, 2015 6:30pm - 9:30pm

The Foundry

1738 Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo

Complimentary Valet Parking

Fun and Festivities

Dinner Buffet, Cash Bar, Live

Auction, Silent Auction and

Music by Les Davis Quartette from

Colored Musicians Club

RSVP By January 24, 2015

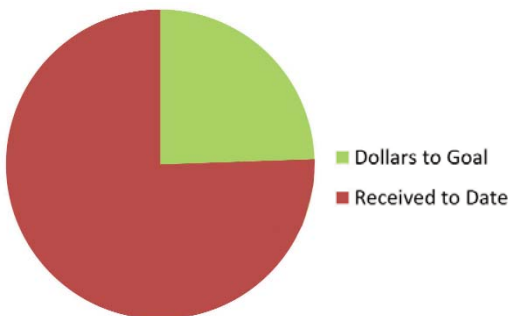
www.wedibuffalo.org/winterfest2015

Tickets

No tickets will be available at the door.

GIVING 2015

GRATITUDE IN EVERY SEASON



Pledges received as of 12/23/2014

Number of Pledges Received	Total Pledges Received	Dollars To Goal
223	\$439,069	\$135,931

We ask if you have not pledged to Giving 2015 please do so. If you are in need of an Intention Card or would like to make your pledge, please contact Monique Brannon at ext. 305 or go to www.wpcbuffalo.org

PREACHING SCHEDULE

January 4: The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
 Sermon: *Homage* Scripture: Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12

January 11: The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
 Officer Ordination and Installation
 Sermon: *Called, I* Scripture: 1 Samuel 3: 1-10; John 1:33-51

January 18: The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
 Sermon: *In but Out vs. Out but In* Scripture: Genesis 1:1-5; Acts 19:1-7

January 25: The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
 Sermon: *Called, II* Scripture: Jonah 3:1-5; Mark 1:14-20

This Week at Westminster

Sunday, January 4	6:00 PM Zen Dharma	3:00PM Lillian Graves Memorial Svc.
Confirmation Retreat	7:00 PM Zen Dharma	6:00 PM Gay Bingo
Maintenance - Henry	Wednesday, January 7	Sunday, January 11
Name Tag Sunday	9:30 AM Worship Planning Mtg.	8:30 AM Infant /Toddler Care
8:30 AM Infant /Toddler Care	12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline	8:30 AM Heavenly Grounds
8:30 AM Heavenly Grounds	1:00 PM Newsletter Deadline	8:45 AM Worship W/ Communion
8:45 AM Worship W/ Communion	1:30 PM Staff Mtg.	9:30 AM Dialogue Diner
9:35 AM Case Library Conversation	4:00 PM ENERGY Program	9:35 AM Case Library Conversations
9:35 AM Spiritual Life	5:30 PM Choir School	9:35 AM Adult Bible Class
9:35 AM Adult Bible Class	5:30 PM Pathways to Peace	9:35 AM Spiritual Life
11:00 AM Youth Service	8:00 PM AA Mtg.	9:45 AM Confirmation Class
11:00 AM Worship W/Communion	Thursday, January 8	10:00 AM Choir Rehearsal
11:00 AM First Sunday Sunday School	7:15 AM Wake Up Group	11:00 AM Worship/New Officer Ordination & Installation
12:30 PM Dream Group 3	8:30 AM Centering Prayer	11:10 AM Sunday School
Monday, January 5	4:00 PM ENERGY Program	12:00 PM Youth Comm. Lunch Mtg.
7:00 AM WPC Closed	5:30 PM Gay Bingo Board Mtg.	12:30 PM Inquirer's Mtg.-Light Refreshments
Tuesday, January 6	6:00 PM Handbells	12:30 PM Dream Group 1
7:15 AM Wake Up Group	7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	
12:30 PM Passages Lunch	Saturday, January 10	
1:15 PM Passages Program	9:00 AM Winter Choir Retreat	
4:00 PM ENERGY Program	9:00 AM New Officer Training	

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.

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT LEARNING

Spiritual Life Sundays, 9:35AM in the Heritage Room

All people of faith stand in line with the disciples to say "Teach us how to pray." So how do we get started? Yes, with our Lord's own prayer. But beyond that? We've heard prayers that connect us with the Holy Spirit. How can ours be like that? Are there different ways of praying? How do we know our prayers are heard? What kind of prayer is good for certain occasions? How do we mix and match? Is all prayer "please" and "thank you?" January's Month of Sundays in Spiritual Life will offer presentations that strengthen our knowledge and experience of praying:

January 4

Prayers and Praying

Presenter: Gretchen Brand

Gretchen will explore different kinds of prayers: thanksgiving, petition, confession, intercession, claiming the promises. Elder Brand will link these kinds of prayers to the Psalms. Easy to find in the middle of our Bible, the Psalms provide nourishment and companionship in our desire to pray. Please bring your own Bible!

January 11

Prayer Mandallas

Presenter: Mary Mohlke

Mary Mohlke, our presbytery coordinator of art and education, will educate us on mandalas. Mary herself is an artist of the highest order, the creator of the awe-inspiring banners and crosses on display in our chapel. Her leadership in knowing the Holy through art spans half a century. We will experience close up this prayerful art form, the mandala, this colorful and circular symbol of the universe. The mandala is often associated with Hindu and Buddhist observance.

Adult Bible Study, 9:35AM in Parish Hall Balcony

Sundays, 9:35AM in the first room on the balcony on the 3rd floor.

Our Sunday morning Bible class welcomes adults who are interested in exploring the Christian story, by studying the scripture and applying those lessons learned to our present lives. Whether you were raised in the church, or if you're a more recent member, we welcome your voice in these discussions. Come as your schedule permits. This class uses *Feasting on the Word* curriculum which explores the Bible passages used in our worship services.

Case Library Conversation Series

Sundays, 9:35AM in the Case Library

Travelogue Series

January 4, 11, 18, and 25

January 4

Cruising the Danube

Tom Weber and Reed Taylor will share photos and impressions of a two-week Danube River cruise, passing through eight countries from Bulgaria to Germany, with an extension in Prague.

January 11

Sailboat Cruising Can Be A Breeze – And Terrifying Too!

Frederick B. Cooley, MBA, PhD

From the Spiritual aspects of sailing to the 21 day/14 ports cruise, Fred gives us an account of his remarkable - and surprising - cruises!

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 on any of the following dates: January 11, March 8, May 10, July 12, September 13, and November 8, 2015. 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@wpccbuffalo.org or 830-8596), Karen Keaton (khkeaton@verizon.net) or any staff member.

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. A nutritious meal, positive adult relationships, and homework help provide physical, social and academic support to the students. ENERGY meets Tue., Wed., & Thurs., 4:30-6:30PM. Contact Carol Greetham at 507-8216 or carol@wedibuffalo.org for more information, to donate or volunteer.

The West Side Bazaar: Take friends and family over to 25 Grant Street for a delicious lunch and do some shopping! Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 11AM – 8PM, Friday 11AM-8PM, Saturday 10AM- 8PM. Sunday & Monday: Closed Bazaar Bucks on sale now. Book your holiday catering parties today! 25 Grant Street. Plenty of FREE PARKING!

Westminster's Alcohol and Drug Education and Referral 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.

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

Confirmation Class Retreat
Friday, January 2 - Sunday, January 4

Youth Committee Meeting Lunch
Sunday, January 11, 12:15 PM

Camp Duffield Retreat for all C.I.A.
Friday, January 16- Sunday, January 18

WORSHIP, MUSIC & ARTS

The Choir School Rehearsals are Wednesdays, September through May, 5:30-6:30PM in the Holmes Chapel. Participation in the program is not limited to Westminster members. For more information, contact Garrett Martin, Director of Music Ministries, gmartin@wpcbuffalo.org or 716-884-9437, ext. 318.

NEW! The Westminster Apprentice Choir for children ages 4-6 years old. Children will be taught fundamental music and choral skills. The first session will be on Wednesday, January 14, 4:30 - 5:30pm in the Holmes Chapel. For information, contact Garrett Martin, Director of Music Ministries, gmartin@wpcbuffalo.org or 716-884-9437, ext. 318.

ENRICHMENT & FELLOWSHIP

WOW Lunchtime Bible Study is meeting the 3rd Thursday of each month, 12:15PM in the Case Library. Join us as we look at Paul's advice to the church in Corinth and consider what we have in common with Paul and his community of believers. Questions? Contact Debbie Katz, Director of Christian Education at dkatz@westminster-bflo.org, 884-9437, ext. 329.

Passages: A Program for Older Adults: Tuesday, January 6. Passages Goes to the Movies! Our movie presentation will be *Philomena*. Lunch at 12:15PM and program at 1:15PM. RSVP IS NECESSARY! Sign up in the Gallery Room or call the church office, 884-9437.

Men's Retreat Save the Dates! Friday, January 23 & Saturday, January 24, 2015 at Byrncliff Resort Sign up on the Information Table in the Gallery Room or call the church office at 884-9437.

WOW Women's Winter Retreat: Friday, January 30 – Sunday, February 1, 2015 at the Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center, Bemus Point, NY This is a favorite event for everyone who's ever gone! There's wonderful conversation, inspiring workshops, fresh air in beautiful surroundings, great food, spiritual renewal, and since everything's optional--rest if you need it! A brochure

with complete information with the weekend schedule is on the Information Table in the Gallery Room. If you would like a brochure mailed to you, call Jamie at 884-9437. ****Please Note! Your reservation and room preference is confirmed with a 50% deposit by FRIDAY, JANUARY 9TH. The balance is due by FRIDAY, JANUARY 30TH.***



Westminster's Sunday School

*Children are a vital part of the life and worship
at Westminster.*

Childcare for Infants and Toddlers:
8:30AM to 12:30PM in the WECP Building

Sunday School:

- 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 Workshop.

Rotation Workshop:



Creation Station - in the Heritage Room
3rd grade class



Hollywood - 1st room in the Parish Hall
Balcony- 1st & 2nd grade classed



Apostles Playhouse - in the Parish Hall
Kitchen - 4th & 5th grade classes

- Our 6th & 7th graders meet with their teacher, Marta Butzer, each Sunday in the last classroom on the Parish Hall balcony.
- Our 8th grader confirmation class meets from 9:45-10:45AM in the Parish Hall balcony classroom.
- Our Senior Highs (9th through 12th graders) meet each Sunday at 9:30AM in the Parish Hall kitchen for Dialog Diner.

WESTMINSTER PRESENTS

March 1

Masterworks

The Westminster Choirs join with the Chamber Choir of Eastern Michigan University, Dr. Brandon Johnson, conductor, to present Morten Lauridsen's *Lux Aeterna* at 11am in the Sanctuary

March 8

Organist David Henning

(Houston, TX) in recital, 4pm in the Sanctuary

April 5

Easter Sunday with Festival Brass and Percussion

April 25

Buffalo Niagara Youth Chorus Festival

April 26

The Youth Choir of First Presbyterian Church, Allentown, PA, join us in worship at 11am in the Sanctuary

Westminster Presbyterian Church

724 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14209-2294 716-884-9437 • www.wpcbuffalo.org

Staff- Westminster Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty, Pastor, tyorty@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 313

The Rev. Beth Hennessy, Pastoral Care Associate, bhennessy@wpcbuffalo.org, 716-697-0919

Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries, gmartin@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 318

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Facilities

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

Carlos Ortiz, Maintenance, 716-208-4070

Henry Piotrowski, Maintenance, 716-572-4846

Worship in the Holmes Chapel

8:45a.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

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Hymn, No. 63

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we have failed to respond with gratitude.
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we try to hide ourselves from your glory.
In Jesus Christ, you have given us your life;
even this precious gift we have not received.
Have mercy on us, O God; forgive us.
In Jesus Christ, give us the faith and power
to become what you created us to be:
beloved children, full of grace and truth. Amen.**

Silence is kept.

Words of Assurance

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lessons

Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12

Meditation

Homage

Dr. Yorty

Prayers of the People

Concluding with the Lord's Prayer

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Sending Hymn, No. 66

We Three Kings of Orient Are
The people stand to sing.

THREE KINGS OF ORIENT

Benediction

Closing Voluntary

Variations sur IN DULCI JUBILO

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