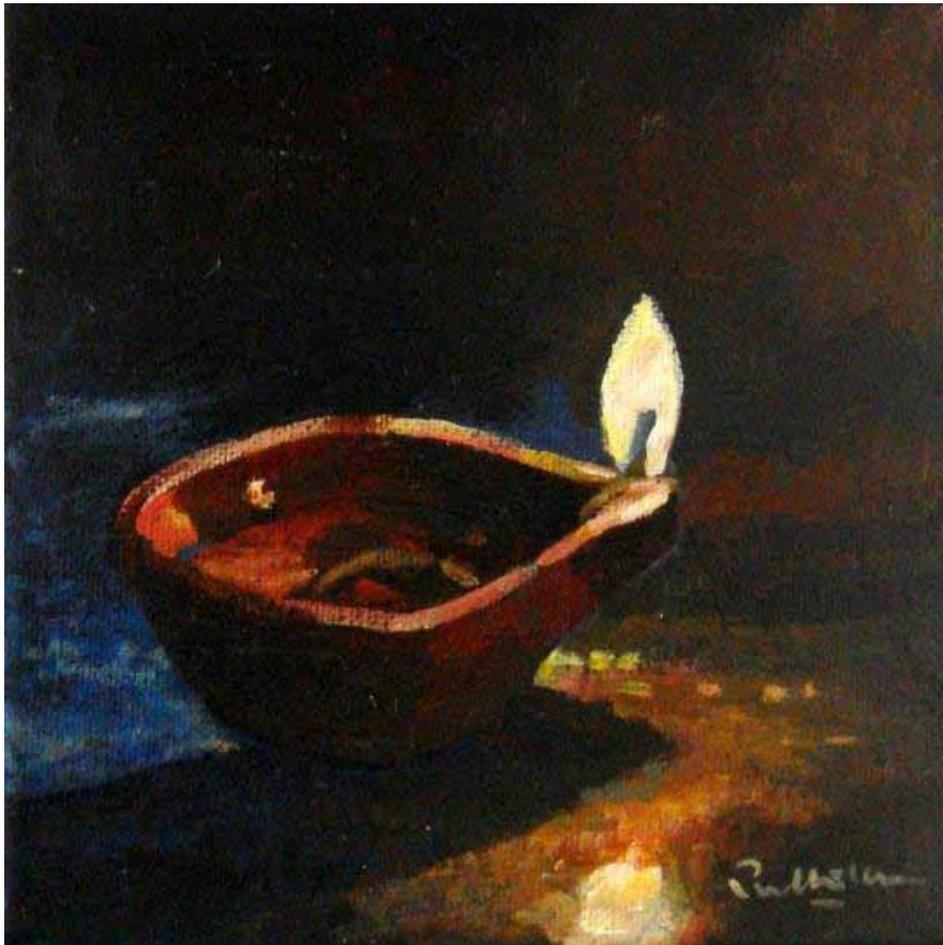




WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Buffalo, New York

December 6, 2015
Second Sunday of Advent
11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary



Prepare the way of the Lord...

- Luke 3:4

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

Welcome and Announcements

Dr. Yorty

Order of Worship

Opening Voluntary

Shades of FOREST GREEN

arr. Timothy Waugh (b. 1957)

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 Second Advent Candle

Brendan, Michele, Kate and Emmett Mehaffy will light the second Advent candle.

Living Christ, give us faith to trust you.

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

Introit

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Mark Schweizer (b. 1956)

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold the King of Glory waits;
The King of Kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here!

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart
From earthly use for heavens employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy

The Holy Spirit leads us on until our glorious goal is won;
Eternal praise, eternal flame be offered, Savior, to thy name!

Call to Worship

The people stand and remain standing for the hymn.

John came out of the wilderness to preach repentance;
he preaches to us still.

**Make straight the paths we now walk
and prepare the way for God's reign of justice and love.**

Processional Hymn, No. 2

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

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

Refining God, you have sent us prophets and we have not listened.

We have not always determined what is best

or made way for your reign in our lives, our church, and our society.

Forgive us, we pray, and renew your covenant within us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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).

Time with Children

Go with them, Lord, and guide their way through this and ev - ery com - ing day,

that in Your Spir - it strong and true their lives may be a gift to You.

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 3:1-6

Anthem

Jewels

William O. Cushing (1856), arr. Michael Smith (Advent 2015)

When he cometh to gather all his precious jewels, his loved and his own.
He will gather the gems for his kingdom, all the pure ones, all the bright ones, his loved and his own.
Little children, who love their Redeemer, are the jewels, precious jewels, his loved and his own.

Like the stars of the morning his bright crown adorning,
They shall shine in his beauty, his loved and his own.

Sermon

In the Wilderness and Beyond

Hymn, No. 10

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry
The people stand to sing.

WINCHESTER NEW

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.*

O Comfort Now My People

Thomas Pavlechko[†] (b. 1962)

O comfort now my people, says the Lord, your God. Speak gently to Jerusalem and cry unto her.
Her warfare is accomplished, her penalty is paid. A voice cries in the wilderness, "Prepare ye the way!"

So every valley shall be raised, all mountains, hills, made low,
As desert flowers rejoice and praise, and springs of water flow;
Uneven ground, a level field, rough lands become a plain;
The glory of the Lord revealed, God's children see again.

All humankind is grass and reeds, like flowers of the field,
They wither at the gentlest breeze, their feeble lives to yield.
Yet eyes are opened, ears unstopped, the lame leap like a deer,
And speechless tongues all sing for joy, the weak no longer fear.

For waters in the wild break forth, the desert flows with streams;
The burning sand becomes a pool, the thirsty ground, a spring.
Their highway is the holy way God's chosen walk along;
The ransomed of the Lord return with gladness, joy and song.

The Sacrament 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

The choir sings.

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....

Great is the mystery of faith:

The choir sings.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

**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 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 of the same aisle.

Voluntary

In the Beginning Was the Word

Carson P. Cooman^{††} (b. 1982)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
He was with God in the beginning. In him was life, and that life was the light of all.
The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.

Prayer after Communion

**Help us rise in your resurrection power
from this table where you, the God of Life,
have served us by your own hand, that we may extend your arms
of peace to a world at war.
This we ask through Christ, in Christ, with Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Sending Hymn, No. 20

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night
The people stand to sing.

ABERYSTWYTH

Benediction and Choral Response

Nunc Dimittis

Gerald Near (b. 1942)

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word;
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
To be a light to lighten the gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

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

Closing Voluntary

Kyrie, Gott Vater in Ewigkeit, BWV 669

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

*All are invited to gather for fellowship and refreshments in the Oak Room, following the 11:00AM Service.
A service for healing and wholeness will be held in the Meditation Room immediately following the service today.*

Worship Leaders

Preacher: The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty

Reader: Cornelia Dopkins

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

Käthe Wright Kaufman, Glynda Stephens Taylor Organ Scholar

Director of the Westminster Handbell Choir: Walter S. Mayo

Acolytes: Christina and Elizabeth Bojdak

Deacons Serving Today

Shea Akers, Patty Charlier, Kate Dierenfield, Warren Emblidge, Cathy Forrest, Janet Kifner-Arnatt,
Earl McColgin, Mike Reynolds, Roh-Yu Shen, Roy Stewart

Elders Serving Today

Bob Bojdak, Maureen Boyd, Jen Callaghan, Debbie Erwin, Cricket Gordon, Brad Smith

Chancel Flowers

The flowers at the Lord's Table are given by James N. Wieland, DDS in honor of World AIDS Day, December 1 of every year. This day gives people an opportunity to unite in the fight against HIV and show their support for the people, both present and future, who are living with HIV infection, and to commemorate those saints who have died from HIV infection. World AIDS Day was the first ever global health day and was first held in 1988. A special honor in memory of his friend, Richard Gresham.

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

†**Thomas Pavlechko** is the Cantor and Composer-in-Residence at St. Martin's Lutheran Church in Austin, Texas, a church he previously served as Director of Music and Principal Organist from 1994 to 2000. There are eight organists in Pavlechko's family, among them, his mother and great grandfather. He earned his music degrees from the Dana School of Music of Youngstown State University and the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music, both in his native Ohio. Pavlechko has composed over 25 choral works, over 85 hymns, and over 1,000 Psalm settings, all in print with nine publishers throughout North America, the United Kingdom and Australia. Pavlechko is also co-editor of the new Episcopal worship planning resource, Liturgical Music for the Revised Common Lectionary with Church Publishing.

††**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.

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.

December 11 Peter Gonciarz, organ, Food Truck: The Cheesy Chick
 December 18 Käthe Wright Kaufman, organ, Food Truck: 716

TODAY! Compline for the Season of Advent
 with the WPC Schola, December 6th at 5PM

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

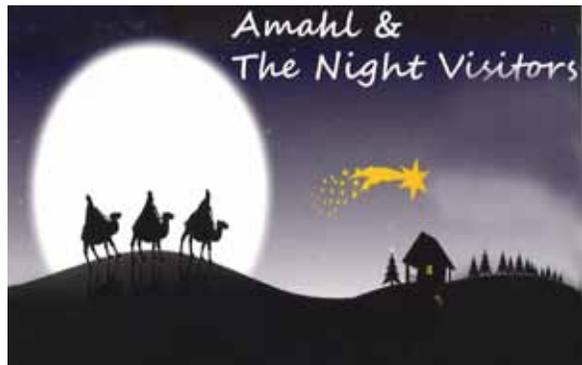
5:15PM: *Family Service* featuring WPC Senior Choristers presenting Benjamin Britten’s Ceremony of Carols with harp.

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 Visitor

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

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. Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 11AM – 8PM, Friday 11AM-8PM, Saturday 10AM- 8PM. Sunday & Monday:

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 old 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 pre-school 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, Holywood 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 Musicgmartin@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 on any of the following dates: December 13, 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@wpcbuffalo.org or 830-8596), Karen Keaton, khkeaton@verizon.net or any staff member.

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

Sunday, December 6: 9:30AM- Pageant Practice
11AM-Youth Service (Holmes Chapel)
Saturday, December 12: 10am Cookie Baking Lock-in (Butzer Building)
1-3pm Pageant Practice (Sanctuary)

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 6

Images of Advent in Western Art Art historian John Montague will offer an overview of the artistic, cultural and theological evolution of Advent from the Early Christian Period to the present day.

December 13

Painting Westminster's Parish Hall Nativity Mural

John Montague will discuss the theological inspirations, planning, design and artistic techniques involved in his creation of the mural.

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.

THE ANGEL TREE

Look for the decorated Angel Tree in the Holmes Room. Your gift donations will be distributed to various agencies around WNY to help those in need. Fulfill a wish from children and parents from several community agencies. All gifts must be returned by Sunday December 13th. **No time to shop? Let us do the shopping for you! Monetary donations are welcomed and appreciated!** Volunteers are needed help people sign out Angels on Sunday mornings, December 6 and 13th. Help is also needed to sort gifts for delivery on Monday December 14. If you are able to help any of these days, please contact Ardrey Manning, coordinator, 310-5395.

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

The Men's Retreat is Friday, January 23 & Saturday, January 24, 2015 at Byrncliff Resort. More information and sign up sheet will be available soon!

WOW CHRISTMAS PARTY & MISSION EVENT

Tuesday, December 8. 6pm in the Case Library, Hors D'oeuvres & Desserts Meet old friends and make new ones! Please sign up on the Information Table in the Gallery Room and let us know if you will be bringing hors d'oeuvres or a dessert. All women are welcome! Feel free to wear your best Christmas sweater! Information on items needed for the CEM mission project are next to the sign up sheet.

WORSHIP AT WESTMINSTER

8:45AM in the Holmes Chapel with Communion and 11:00AM in the Sanctuary

December 13 - Advent III - The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty *100% Satisfaction Guaranteed; Luke 3:7-18*

December 20 - Advent IV - The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty *Five Star Customer Review; Luke 1:39-45*

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

<p>Sunday, December 6-Advent II</p> <p>Maintenance-Reinaldo</p> <p>Name Tag Sunday</p> <p>8:00 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>8:30 AM Infant/Toddler Care</p> <p>8:45 AM Worship/Communion</p> <p>9:30 AM Dialogue Diner</p> <p>9:30 AM Deacon Mtg.</p> <p>9:30 AM Heavenly Grounds</p> <p>9:30 AM Pageant Practice</p> <p>9:35 AM Case Library/Spiritual Life</p> <p>9:35 AM Adult Bible Class</p> <p>10:00 AM Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship/Communion</p> <p>11:10 AM Sunday School</p> <p>12:00 PM Christmas Dinner</p> <p>12:00 PM Healing Service</p> <p>12:30 PM Dream Group 3</p>	<p>5:00 PM Compline for the Season of Advent</p> <p>Monday, December 7-WPC Closed</p> <p>Tuesday, December 8</p> <p>7:15 AM Wake Up Group</p> <p>4:00 PM ENERGY Program</p> <p>5:30 PM Worship, Music & Arts</p> <p>5:30 PM Congregational Life/Membership Mtg.</p> <p>6:00 PM WOW Christmas Party & CEM Service Project</p> <p>6:00 PM Zen Dharma</p> <p>Wednesday, December 9</p> <p>9:30 AM Worship Planning Mtg.</p> <p>12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline</p> <p>1:30 PM Staff Mtg.</p> <p>4:00 PM ENERGY Program</p> <p>4:30 PM WPC Choir School</p>	<p>5:00 PM CMH Board Mtg.</p> <p>5:30 PM Pathways To Peace</p> <p>8:00 PM AA Mtg.</p> <p>Thursday, December 10</p> <p>7:15 AM Wake Up Group</p> <p>7:30 AM Budget & Finance Mtg.</p> <p>8:30 AM Centering Prayer</p> <p>4:00 PM ENERGY Program</p> <p>5:30 PM Gay Bingo Board Mtg.</p> <p>6:00 PM Handbells</p> <p>7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>Friday, December 11</p> <p>11:30 AM Fridays @ WPC</p> <p>6:00 PM Gay Bingo Set-Up</p> <p>Saturday, December 12</p> <p>10:00 AM Cookie Baking Lock-In</p> <p>1:00 PM Pageant Practice</p> <p>5:00 PM Choir @ Saturn Club</p> <p>6:00 PM Gay Bingo</p>	<p>Sunday, December 13</p> <p>6:30 AM Maintenance-Carlos</p> <p>8:00 AM Dialogue Diner</p> <p>8:00 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>8:30 AM Infant/Toddler Care</p> <p>8:45 AM Worship/Communion</p> <p>9:30 AM Heavenly Grounds</p> <p>9:30 AM Christmas Cookie Sale</p> <p>9:30 AM Akiko Baggs Craft Show</p> <p>9:35 AM Pageant Rehearsal</p> <p>9:35 AM Adult Bible Class</p> <p>9:35 AM Case Library/Spiritual Life</p> <p>10:00 AM Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship</p> <p>11:10 AM Sunday School</p> <p>12:30 PM Dream Group 1</p> <p>12:30 PM Inquirer's Mtg. W/Light Refreshments</p>
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GIVING 2016 GRATITUDE IN EVERY *Action*



Pledges received as of 12/4/15

Number of Pledges Received	Total Pledges Received	Dollars to Goal
151	327,135	272,865

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 or email Nancy Berger, nberger@wpcbuffalo.org Please give - every gift counts!

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

Rorate Caeli

Jeanne Demessieux (1921-1968)

Welcome and Announcements

Dr. Yorty

Introit

Veni Emmanuel

Plainsong, arr. Garrett Martin (b. 1986)

O Morning Star, in radiance bright dispel the gloom of endless night.
Enlighten those who wait in fear; come, shed your rays of glory here.
Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to Thee, O Israel.

Call to Worship

The people stand and remain standing for the hymn.

Hymn, No. 2

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

Prayer of Confession

Refining God, you have sent us prophets and we have not listened.

We have not always determined what is best

or made way for your reign in our lives, our church, and our society.

Forgive us, we pray, and renew your covenant within us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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 3:1-6

Anthem

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

French Carol, arr. Stephen Cleobury (b. 1948)

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of Kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of Lords, in human vesture in the body and the blood
He will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six winged seraph; cherubim with sleepless eye
Veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry
Alleluia, Lord most high!

Meditation

In the Wilderness and Beyond

Prayers of the People

Concluding with the Lord's Prayer

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Sending Hymn, No. 20

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night
The people stand to sing.

ABERYSTWYTH

Benediction

Closing Voluntary

Kyrie, Gott Vater in Ewigkeit, BWV 669

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

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

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Westminster Presbyterian Church

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