



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Buffalo, New York

December 4, 2016
Second Sunday of Advent
10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary



He answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
and with all your soul, and with all your strength,
and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself.'

- Luke 10:27

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, and for those who will shortly lead our common worship. Please silence all cell phones. Childcare is available in the Westminster Early Childhood Programs building for children 5 years old and younger.

Opening Voluntary

Gloria Hodie†

The Westminster Handbell Choir

arr. Julie Turner and Kevin McChesney

Welcome and Announcements

Dr. Yorty

Order of Worship

All Children are meeting at 10:30AM in the Oak Room for Children's Worship and they will join their families in time to celebrate Communion.

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.

Introit

Drop Down, Ye Heavens from Above

Glenn Winston Cassler (1906-1990)

Drop down, ye heavens from above: and let the skies pour down righteousness.
Let the earth open: and let them bring forth salvation.
The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth his handiwork.

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

Jean and Kathleen Kelly will light the second Advent candle.

We light this candle as a symbol
of the hope we have in the promise of the Lord's coming.

**For the Lord will fulfill his promise
to the house of Israel and the house of Judah.**

A righteous Branch will spring up for David;
and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

Come, Jesus, come!

Call to Worship

The people stand and remain standing for the hymn that follows.

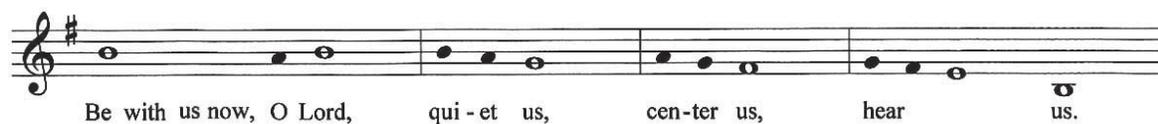
Hymn in Procession, No. 6

Jesus Comes with Clouds Descending

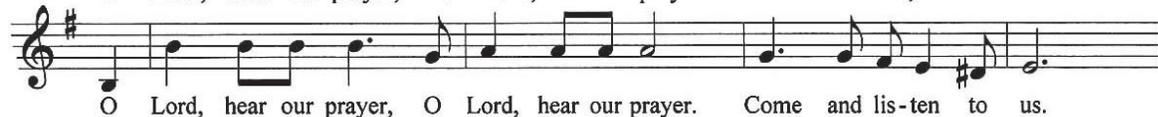
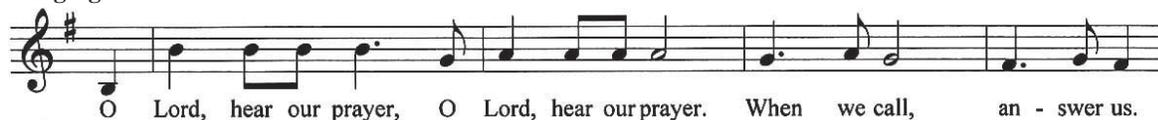
HELMSLEY

Call to Confession

Cantor:



Congregation:



Prayer Of Confession

Gracious and welcoming God,
have mercy on your people.
We confess that we do not believe
in your incarnation.
We do not heed your word
each day in all that we say and do.
We do not see our neighbors, families,
and friends as beloved children
whom you have made.
In your mercy, forgive us,
for we repent of our ways
and look to your power to heal us
and raise us up,
so that, at the last,
you will gather us to you and
give us peace. Amen.

Time for silent prayer

Kyrie

The people sing.

John Weaver

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

Words of Assurance

Response to the Assurance

GLORIA PATRI

The people stand to sing.

Glo - ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the be -
gin-ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A - men, A - men.

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

Psalm Lesson

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

Plainchant Tone II.2

Give the King your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the King's Son; That he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice. That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the little hills bring righteousness. He shall defend the needy among the people; he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor. He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another. He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth. In his time shall the righteous flourish; there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more. Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous deeds! And blessed be his glorious Name forever! and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen.

Gospel Lesson

Luke 10:25-37

²⁵ Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. 'Teacher,' he said, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' ²⁶ He said to him, 'What is written in the law? What do you read there?' ²⁷ He answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself.' ²⁸ And he said to him, 'You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.' ²⁹ But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' ³⁰ Jesus replied, 'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' ³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' He said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'

Sermon

A Presbyterian TED Talk

Elder John Darby

Hymn, No. 14

Savior of the Nations, Come
The people stand to sing.

NUN KOMM DER HEIDEN HEILAND

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

The Deacons receive the gifts, a portion of the blessings God has given us, which we return unto God.

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

Paul Manz†† (1919-2009)

Peace be to you and grace from Him who freed us from our sin,
Who loved us all and shed His blood that we might saved be.
Sing holy, holy to our Lord, the Lord Almighty God,
Who was and is and is to come.

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
For Christ is coming soon!

E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more;
They need no light, nor lamp, nor sun,
For Christ will be their all.

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 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,
O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe.
You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.

You set us in this world to love and serve you,
and to live in peace with all that you have made.
When we turned from you, you did not turn from us.
When we were captives in slavery, you delivered us to freedom,
and made covenant to be our sovereign God.
When we were stubborn and stiff-necked,
you spoke to us through prophets who looked for that day
when justice shall triumph and peace shall reign over all the earth.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the celestial choirs
and with all the faithful of every time and place,
who forever sing to the glory of your name:

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,
and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.
You sent him into this world
to satisfy the longings of your people for a Savior,
to bring freedom to the captives of sin,
and to establish justice for the oppressed.
He came among us as one of us,
taking the lot of the poor, sharing human suffering.
We rejoice that in his death and rising again,
you set before us the sure promise of new life,
the certain hope of a heavenly home
where we will sit at table with Christ our host.

Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ,
we take from your creation this bread and this wine
and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising,
as we await the day of his coming.
With thanksgiving we offer our very selves to you
to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Memorial Acclamation

The choir sings.

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

Strengthen us, O God, in the power of your Spirit
to bring good news to the poor
and lift blind eyes to sight,
to loose the chains that bind
and claim your blessing for all people.
Keep us faithful in your service
until Christ comes in final victory,
and we shall feast with all your saints
in the joy of your eternal realm.
Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God,
now and forever. Amen.

**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

We give you thanks that the Lord Jesus,
on the night before he died,
took bread,
and after giving thanks to you,
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat.
This is my body, given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.
In the same way he took the cup, saying:
This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood,
shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this in remembrance of me.

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. Westminster Presbyterian Church serves only gluten and dairy-free bread in Communion. Please take the center aisle to one of the communion stations receive the elements, and return to your seat by a side aisle.

Voluntary

Lord, as the Grain

Richard Busch (b. 1947)

Lord, as the grain, which once on upland acres scattered abroad, was gathered into one
In this loaf, whereof we are partakers in the blest fellowship of thy dear Son:
So may the Church, dispersed through all creation, seed of the living bread, thy holy Son,
Broken for us, and for mankind’s salvation, from the world’s ends be gathered into one. Amen.

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. 8

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates
The people stand to sing.

TRURO

Benediction and Choral Response

Veni Emmanuel

Plainchant, arr. David R. Bond (b. 1952)

O come, Thou Key of David, come and open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell Thy people save, and give them victory o'er the grave.

O come, Thou Dayspring, from on high, and cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Closing Voluntary

Nun komm' der Heiden Heiland, BWV 661

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Immediately following worship, please join us at Meet & Mingle in the Holmes Room for refreshments and fellowship

Worship Leaders

John Darby Elder, First Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty, Pastor, Westminster Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Elena Delgado, Pastor, First Presbyterian Church

Lucas Lloyd, First Presbyterian Church

Dr. David Bond, Organist and Choirmaster, First Presbyterian Church

Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries, Westminster Presbyterian Church

The Westminster Choir

First Presbyterian Church Choir

The Westminster Handbell Choir

Walter S. Mayo, Director, The Westminster Handbell Choir

Deacons Serving Today

Westminster: Cameron Airhart, Shea Akers, Russell Braun, Doug Fabian, Carol Huber, Kathleen Kelly,
Joan Kuznia, Earl McColgin, Jennifer Russell, Nancy Stevens

First Presbyterian: Jackie Addo, Olga Rico-Armesto, Sheila Miller

Elders Serving Today

Westminster: Jen Callaghan, Mark Hall, Allan Hayes

First Presbyterian: Mark Armesto, Jean Hess, Don Houck

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.

If you would like to purchase Sunday flowers in honor/memory of family or friends, there is a monthly sign up on the kiosk in the Gallery Room. You may also call Sue Adams at 883-7597 or email her: hugwalker1@gmail.com

Notes on Today's Music

†**Gloria Hodie** is an arrangement of two hymns: the “Huron Carol” (or “’Twas in the Moon of Wintertime”) Canada’s oldest Christmas song, written about 1642, and “Personent hodie”, a Christmas carol originally published in the 1582 Finnish song book *Piae Cantiones*, based on a melody found in a 1360 manuscript.

††Paul Manz was an American composer for choir and organ. His most famous choral work is the Advent motet “E’en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come”, which has been presented at the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at King’s College, Cambridge, though its broadcast by the neighboring Choir of St John’s College, Cambridge, in its Advent Carol Service precipitated its popularity. Just before he died, his family and friends gathered around his bed and sang “E’en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come.”

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PREACHING SCHEDULE

Worship: 8:15AM in the Holmes Chapel with the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper and 10:30AM in the Sanctuary

December 11-Advent III
The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
Patience In These Times
James 5:7-10

December 18-Advent IV
The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
St. Joseph
Matthew 1:18-25

December 24-Christmas Eve

Family Service at 5:15 PM
The Westminster Choir School present Britten’s festive *Ceremony of Carols* accompanied by harp.

Concert at 10PM
A concert featuring favorite Handbell carols,
and Poulenc’s exuberant *Gloria*.

Lessons and Carols at 10:45PM
The Westminster Choirs, Handbell Choir, and musicians from the Buffalo Philharmonic perform music inspired by cultures around the world.

December 25 – Christmas Day
The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
One Worship Service at 10:30AM
Grace Appeared
Isaiah 9:2-7
Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14

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, and 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

ENERGY is always in need of plastic folders, spiral note books, notebook paper, pink erasers, dry erase markers, black Sharpie markers, glue sticks, white glue, and Crayola watercolor sets. Additionally, ENERGY can use sturdy paper plates, 7 oz. cups, napkins, plastic forks, cake mix, and frosting cans. Donations may be left on the kitchen counter in the basement ENERGY rooms.

Visit The West Side Bazaar, 25 Grant Street, for lunch and shopping.

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, Jane Morris 571-481-1839, Ellen Smith 882-2064, Elizabeth Stewart, 585-217-7878, Jim Wieland 523-0217.

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

CHILDCARE AT WESTMINSTER

Childcare for children 5 years old and younger is available from 8:30AM to 11:30AM in the WECP (school) building.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT WESTMINSTER

- Our preschool class meets in the WECP building. After *Time with Children*, children 3-5 year olds leave with their teachers, "Miss Debby" and "Mr. Chris" LaMendola and walk to the building together. In cold weather, the children need their coats. After worship, the children and their teachers meet together in the Holmes Room.
- 1st-5th grade classes: Each month our classes rotate through our three Workshops: Creation Station, Hollywood and Apostles Playhouse.
- 6th-7th grade class meets each Sunday in their classroom on the Parish Hall balcony. Carol Timmerman-Yorty is their teacher.
- Our confirmation class is made up of 8th graders. They meet one-on-one with their mentor until their class begins in January when they meet each Sunday from 9:15AM to 10:15AM in the classroom on the Parish Hall balcony.
- Our Senior Highs – 9th – 12th graders meet each Sunday at 9:30AM in the Parish Hall kitchen for Dialogue Diner.

THE WESTMINSTER CHOIR SCHOOL

The Senior Choristers, ages 12-18, rehearse each Wednesday, from August 17th through May 31st, 4:30-6PM in the Holmes Chapel. At 6PM, the choristers sing Choral Evensong in the Holmes Chapel, open to everyone. *The Junior Choristers*, ages 7-11, rehearse simultaneously with the Senior Choristers each Wednesday, August 17th through May 31st, 4:30-6PM in the Holmes Chapel, joining the Senior Choristers for the service of Choral Evensong at 6 PM.

The Apprentice Choristers, ages 4-6, rehearse each Sunday, September 18th through May 21st, during the 10:30AM Sunday School in the Holmes Chapel. The Apprentice Choristers are taught fundamental music and choral skills, with the assistance of Dr. Val Cooley and Mrs. Julie Zenger.

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 next date is **Sunday, January 22, 2017**, at 12PM. 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.

SUNDAY MORNING SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Adult Bible Study

9:00AM - 10:15AM first classroom on the Parish Hall Balcony

Join our continuing conversation as we explore the Sunday scripture passages. This discussion moves from what the biblical passage means to what this passage might mean in our lives. Our class is led by Debbie Katz and other class members. Our curriculum is *Feasting on the Word*. Please come to these classes as your schedule permits.

Spiritual Life Advent Series: 9:00AM - 10:15AM

December 4: In Parish Hall

Joyful Hymns of Advent: Past and Present

Leaders: Gretchen Brand and Bill Gray

What would the Advent season be without music? Come join us as we sing traditional favorites from childhood as well as some of the hymns of today.

December 11 and 18: In the Heritage Room

Connecting Personally with Advent

Presenter: Don McLean

Birth creates change for the future of your family. Jesus' birth created change for the family of mankind. Advent gives us the time to reflect on the spirituality of Jesus and how this change is reflected in our lives and our families.

Case Library Conversations: 9:00AM - 10:15AM in the Case Library

December 4, 11, and 18

We will continue our discussion of *The Third Reconstruction* by Rev. Dr. William Barber. Dr. Bruce Dierenfield will lead the discussions. Books are available from Jamie Adamczyk at the reception desk or from Jerry Kelly at gerald@geraldkelly.com

PASSAGES: A PROGRAM FOR OLDER ADULTS

Passages meets the first Tuesday of the month. Lunch is at 12:30PM with a program at 1:15PM. On December 6 our program will be *Songs of the Season* by the Nardin Elementary School Choir. Mark your calendars now. Please sign up or RSVP with Jamie 884-9437 before Nov. 28th.

THE ANGEL TREE

Look for the decorated Angel Tree in the Gallery Room! Your gift donations will be distributed to various agencies around WNY to help those in need. **Please return ENERGY Angels by Sunday, December 4 and all other Angels by Sunday, December 11.** Volunteers are needed: to cut out Angels, to put tags on the Angels, help people sign out Angels on Sunday mornings before and after church and to sort gifts for delivery. All these simple jobs are listed for sign up on the table in the Gallery room. Please consider helping with at least one task! Questions? Contact Ardrey Manning 310-5395.

LET'S STAY CONNECTED!

We need your help in keeping our church records up-to-date. By doing so, we can ensure your family is kept informed about all that's happening at Westminster as we continue to design effective & interesting programming, provide timely Pastoral Care. Forms to update your information can be found on the Information Table in the Gallery Room or at www.wpcbuffalo.org/lets-stay-connected.

WOW - WESTMINSTER KNITTING GROUP

Our meeting will be held on **Tuesday, December 13**. The group meets on various Tuesdays throughout the year from 7PM to 9PM. The group works on their individual projects as well as prayer shawls, scarves and other handmade items for members of the church. Beginners welcome! Contact Fran Holmes: mfranholmes@verizon.net for more information and dates.

WOW WINTER RETREAT-JANUARY 27-29, 2017

Flyers with registration forms are available now for our Winter Retreat. Rooms are assigned on a first come, first assigned basis. Sign up for this retreat as soon as you can. Please sign up for lunch on the Information table or call to RSVP with Jamie at the church office 884-9437.

MEN'S RETREAT-JANUARY 20-21, 2017

Capture a Moment: Men's Retreat 2017 at the Byrnclyff Resort, Varysburg, NY. This year's retreat will emphasize fellowship, reflection, discovery and interaction. Spiritual discernment and attentiveness will be our primary focus. Each year the Men's Retreat is designed as opportunities for rest, relaxation, reading, guided discussion about faith issues, worship and time with old and new friends. Registration forms are available on the Information Table in the Gallery Room. A brochure with complete information will soon be available on the Information Table in the Gallery Room. If you would like a brochure mailed to you, call Jamie at 884-9437.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

TODAY! Holiday Sale to benefit the ENERGY After School Program: Sunday, December 4th before and after worship. Featuring crafts by Akiko Baggs. A great way to get some shopping done for the holiday season while supporting the ENERGY program!

Intergenerational Advent Wreath Project: On Sunday, December 4th families are invited to come to make their own Advent Wreath at 9:00AM in the Oak Room. We'll make Advent wreaths with fresh greens and learn that the circle of the wreath symbolizes God's unending love. Keeping the theme of circles and love, bring muffins to share. For more information, please contact Debbie Katz dkatz@wpcbuffalo.org.

The Advent Dinner will be held on Sunday December 18th following the 10:30AM service in Parish Hall. Enjoy a delicious turkey dinner, wonderful side dishes (this year we've included macaroni and cheese!) and plenty of food for all ages. Vegetarian meals are available with advance request. There will be a family activity of learning about the Jesse Tree, making ornaments and Advent activities. Give yourself the present of personal time. Let yourself relax with church family as you unwind and consider the gifts of the season. Reservation forms are available in the Gallery Room. Prices are: \$12 for ages 9 and over (no charge for under 8), \$45 for a family. Sponsored by Congregational Life

WOW - Women of Westminster Annual Fellowship and Mission Event, Christmas Party - Tuesday, December 6, 6pm in the Case Library. Wear your Christmas attire (if so desired) and share a pot luck dinner of appetizers and desserts, with a few other items added in. It is a lovely time for fellowship, but most importantly we prepare gift bags for CEM -Concerned Ecumenical Ministries of the West Side. These bags are delivered to elderly shut-ins, many of whom receive

this bag as their only Christmas celebration. We bring small items such as personal care products, postage stamps, and additional items we feel they may need or enjoy. Please Note: NO SUGAR - sugar free candies only. We will generally prepare 50 bags, with possibly 15-20 prepared for men. Please donate as many bags as you are able to. There is a sign-up sheet in the Gallery Room.

WESTMINSTER PRESENTS

Fridays at Westminster: Come for the music - Stay for lunch! Each Friday, local Buffalo artists present a 30 minute lunchtime recital in Westminster's Historic Sanctuary at noon. Lunch provided by a local food truck. Donations benefit the *Westminster Friends of Music*.

December 9: Patrick Davis, Organ.

Food Trucks: Blue Balls Bus & Cheesecake Guy

Choral Evensong: Every Wednesday at 6PM in the Holmes Chapel. The Choristers of the Westminster Choir School lead this service showcasing repertoire they are studying.

Taizé Worship: Fridays, December 16, January 20, February 17, March 17, April 21, and May 19 at 5:30 PM. Start your weekend with this evening service of calming prayer and meditation.

Choral Evensong: Sundays, January 29, March 12, and April 9 at 4:00 PM. The Westminster Choirs and visiting choirs present this service of Evening Prayer. Join us for an organ prelude recital at 3:30 PM.

Compline: Sundays, December 11 and February 12 at 8 PM. The Westminster Schola offers this candlelit service featuring music from Gregorian chant and early polyphony.

MEET & MINGLE - FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Please join us in the Holmes Room immediately following the 10:30am worship service for "a relaxed and inviting fellowship opportunity. *Meet & Mingle* offers beverages, light healthy snacks and provides a meaningful time of gathering and bonding for our congregation.

Heavenly Grounds Café. Continue to stop by the Heavenly Grounds Café in the Oak Room which is open from 9AM to noon with coffee service until 10:30AM.

We need YOUR help! The new "Meet & Mingle" event after the 10:30AM church service is a great success! Thanks to everyone for participating! In order to keep it running successfully we are looking for YOU to help in one of the following ways:

1. Be a shopper – purchase the food from a list provided on a regular basis and bring to church for storage. Bring receipts for reimbursement.

2. Be a host for the week – each week we are looking for a different family to serve as the host. The hosts would come early to church to make the punch and put the food on serving plates before the 10:30 service; also monitor the need to refill punch or food platters; and clean up dirty dishes, put unused food away, and take home tablecloths to be laundered and returned.

Our hosts this week are: **Michelle & Brendan Mehaffy & Family**

3. Be a sponsor – make a donation to WPC to cover the weekly costs. As you reflect on how you can best give of your time, talent and treasure, please contact Debby LaMendola (716-983-4993) and let her know how YOU can help! Our sponsor this week is: **Donna Estrich**

ORDER SUNDAY FLOWERS

If you would like to purchase Sunday flowers in honor/memory of family or friends, there is a monthly sign up on the kiosk in the Gallery Room. You may also call Sue Adams at 883-7597 or email her: hugwalker1@gmail.com

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, December 4-Advent II

Jeff on Duty

7:00 AM Name Tag Sunday

9:00 AM Intergenerational Advent Wreath Making

9:00 AM Spiritual Life

9:00 AM Case Library Conversations

9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds

9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal

9:30 AM Infant/Toddler Care

9:30 AM Dialogue Diner

10:30 AM First Sunday Youth Service/
Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship - Welcome First Presbyterian
Congregation

11:30 AM Meet & Mingle

2:00 PM BGMC Concert

Tuesday, December 6

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

9:00 AM Management Meeting

12:30 PM Passages Lunch

1:15 PM Passages Program

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

6:00 PM WOW Christmas Party/CEM
Service Project

6:00 PM Zen Dharma

6:00 PM WECP Christmas Party

Wednesday, December 7

9:30 AM Worship Planning Meeting

12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline

12:00 PM Enews Info. Deadline

12:30 PM Staff Meeting/Christmas Gift Exchange

1:00 PM Newsletter Deadline

4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

5:00 PM Session Follow up Phone-a-Thon

5:00 PM Deacon Meeting

5:00 PM Session Meeting

5:30 PM Pathways To Peace

6:00 PM Choir School Evensong

6:00 PM Elder/Deacon Dinner

6:30 PM Joint Elder/Deacon Meeting

8:00 PM AA Meeting

Thursday, December 8

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

8:30 AM Centering Prayer

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

5:30 PM Session Follow Up Phone-a-Thon

6:00 PM Handbells

7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 9

12:00 PM Fridays @ Westminster Concert Series

Saturday, December 10

10:30 AM Poinsettia Delivery (Jeff will be here)

2:00 PM Sharon McKee's Memorial Service

Sunday, December 11-Advent III

Aaron/Jeff on Duty

8:00 AM Senior Choristers

8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care

8:15 AM Worship/Communion

9:00 AM Spiritual Life

9:00 AM Adult Bible Class

9:00 AM Case Library Conversations

9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds

9:30 AM Dialogue Diner

9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal

10:30 AM Worship

10:40 AM Sunday School

11:30 AM Meet & Mingle

11:30 AM Racial Justice Meeting

5:00 PM Reserved for Compline

8:00 PM Compline

CELEBRATING 15 YEARS!

Join the Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus
for its annual Holiday Concert:

Sing the Spirit



Today, Sunday, December 4 at 3PM

Ticket Prices are \$20 and can be purchased online at
www.buffalogaymenschorus.org

For more information call: 716.883.1277

Garrett F. Martin, Artistic Director, BGMC

GIVING 2017



Westminster's Giving 2017 is well underway! Pledge cards have been distributed and we ask that you please return your signed pledge card by **Sunday, December 11**. There is a basket on the table in the Holmes Room where you can place your completed Pledge Card. **For your convenience, you may make a pledge or a pledge payment on our secure site at www.wpcbuffalo.org/giving**. Our goal this year is \$600,000. As you prayerfully consider your pledge, please remember that if everyone who pledged last year would, on average, increase their pledge by \$353.00, or \$6.80 per week we could successfully accomplish our goal. Thank you for being a contributing member of this church as your pledge - in any amount makes us a stronger congregation.



Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

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Jamie Adamczyk, Administrative Assistant, jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 326

Dr. Jenece Gerber, Composer-in-Residence and Associate Conductor

Westminster Early Childhood Programs

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Westminster Presbyterian Church

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