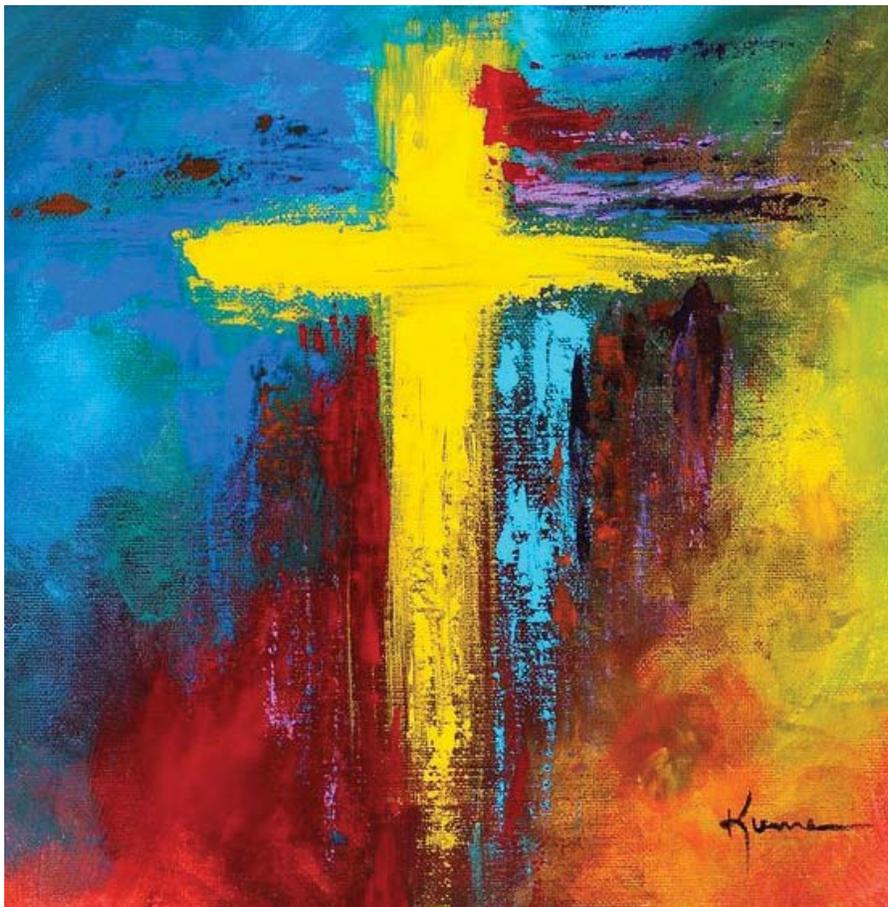




WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Buffalo, New York

January 29, 2017
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary



For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing,
but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

- 1 Corinthians 1:18

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

Prelude in G Major

Felix Mendelssohn† (1809-1847)

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.

Introit

Light of a Clear Blue Morning

Dolly Parton (b. 1946), arr. Craig Hella Johnson (b. 1962)

It's been a long dark night, and I've been waiting for the morning.
It's been a long hard fight, but I see a brand new day a-dawning.
I've been looking for the sunshine, because I ain't seen it in so long.

Everything is going to work out fine.
Everything is going to be alright, it's going to be okay.

I can see the light of a clear blue morning.
I can see the light of a brand new day.

Call to Worship

The people stand and remain standing for the hymn.

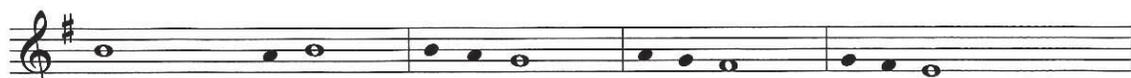
Hymn in Procession, No. 430

Come, Sing, O Church, In Joy!

DARWALL'S 148TH

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, we have not done what is blameless and right,
nor spoken truth from the heart with love.
We do not keep your word, and when we participate in gossip,
our words and deeds cause pain.
Forgive us by the power of your mercy,
that we might stand in the goodness of Christ
and walk in the light of his love. Amen.**

Silence is kept

Kyrie

The people sing.

John Weaver (1984)



Assurance of Pardon

Response

The people stand to sing.

GLORIA PATRI

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).

Time with Children

TALLIS CANON

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 Lessons

Psalm 15

Chant: Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

¹Lord, who shall dwell in thy tabernacle? Or who shall rest upon thy holy hill?
²Even he that leadeth an uncorrupt life, and doeth the thing which is right, and speaketh the truth from his heart.
³He that hath used no deceit in his tongue, nor done evil to his neighbor, and hath not slandered his neighbor.
⁴He that setteth not by himself, but is lowly in his own eyes, and maketh much of them that fear the Lord.
⁵He that sweareth unto his neighbor, and disappointeth him not, though it were to his own hindrance.
⁶He that hath not given his money upon usury, nor taken reward against the innocent.
⁷Whoso doeth these things shall never fall.

Micah 6:6-8

⁶With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with tens of thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? ⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

1 Corinthians 1:18, 25-31

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. ²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, 'Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.'

Matthew 5:1-12

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: ³'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. ⁸'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Hymn

Blest Are They

BLEST ARE THEY

The people stand to sing. Please see insert for hymn.

Sermon

God's Foolishness

Dr. Yorty

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.

Sing, My Soul, His Wondrous Love

Ned Rorem†† (b. 1923)

Sing, my soul, his wondrous love,
who from yon bright throne above,
ever watchful o'er our race,
still to us extends his grace.

God, the merciful and good,
bought us with the Savior's blood,
and, to make our safety sure,
guides us by his Spirit pure.

Heaven and earth by him were made;
all is by his scepter swayed;
what are we that he should show
so much love to us below?

Sing, my soul, adore his Name!
Let his glory be thy theme:
praise him till he calls thee home;
truth his love for all to come.

Presentation of the Gifts

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

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise God, all crea-tures here be-low;
praise God a-bove, ye heaven-ly host; Cre-a-tor, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

Prayer of Dedication

**We thank you, God, that you have blessed us
with an abundance of gifts for the flourishing of your world.
May this offering of our life and labor reveal your love
as we seek to share your promised reign with all creation. 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

We Are Called

WE ARE CALLED

The people stand to sing. Please see insert for hymn.

Benediction and Choral Response

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

Peter Lutkin (1858-1931)

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord lift his countenance upon you and give you peace.
The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. Amen.

Closing Voluntary

Suite Gothique: *Menuet Gothique*

Léon Boëllmann (1862-1897)

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

The LOVE, COMFORT, UNDERSTAND, GIVE banners in the chancel display the meaningful words from the Prayer of St. Francis which may continue to guide and inspire our daily lives.

Many thanks to all who have answered the call of St. Francis to

GIVE to the 2017 Generosity Campaign in support of the ministries and work of Westminster. We continue to gratefully accept pledges so that we may reach our Generosity goal of \$600,000.

Worship Leaders

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty, Preacher
Claude Welch, Liturgist
Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries
Brian Glikes, Glynda Stephens Taylor Organ Scholar
The Westminster Choir

Deacons Serving Today

Russell Braun, Kate Dierenfield, Warren Emblidge, Doug Fabian, Callan Izatt, Kirsten Kifner-Kennedy, Earl McCloglin, Mike Reynolds, Jennifer Russell

Chancel Flowers

The flowers at the Lord's Table are given in memory of Elizabeth and Walter Constantine, George and Betty Urban, and Jane and Sandy Cordes by Jane and Robert Constantine.

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 hugwalker1@gmail.com

Notes on Today's Music

†**Felix Mendelssohn** (1809-1847) was German composer, pianist, conductor, and teacher. One of the most-celebrated figures of the early Romantic period, Mendelssohn largely observed Classical models and practices while initiating key aspects of Romanticism—the artistic movement that exalted feeling and the imagination above rigid forms and traditions. Among his most famous works are Overture to A Midsummer Night's Dream (1826), Italian Symphony (1833), a violin concerto (1844), two piano concerti (1831, 1837), the oratorio Elijah (1846), and several pieces of chamber music.

††**Ned Rorem** was born in Richmond, Indiana, and received his early music training in Chicago, where he took piano lessons and studied composition with Leo Sowerby at the American Conservatory in 1938 and 1939. He continued his studies at Northwestern University (1940-1942), the Curtis Institute (1943), and the Juilliard School of Music (1946, 1948), where he earned both Bachelor's and Master's degrees. He was composer-in-residence at the University of Buffalo from 1959-61.

PREACHING SCHEDULE

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

February 5 - The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty

Communion will be offered at both services

The Sermon on the Mount: The Power of Presence; Matthew 5:13-20

February 12 - The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty

Ordination/Installation of Officers

The Sermon on the Mount: Getting to our "Deep Stories"; Matthew 5:21-37

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, January 29

Jeff on Duty

8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care

8:00 AM Senior Choristers

8:15 AM Worship W/Communion

9:00 AM Adult Bible Class

9:00 AM Case Library Conversations

9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds

9:15 AM Confirmation Class

9:30 AM Dialogue Diner

9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal

10:30 AM Worship

10:40 AM Sunday School

11:30 AM Dream Group 3

11:30 AM Meet & Mingle

4:00 PM Evensong

Monday, January 30

7:00 PM WOW Book Group

Tuesday, January 31

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

9:00 AM Management Mtg.

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal

6:00 PM Zen Dharma

Wednesday, February 1

9:30 AM Worship Planning Mtg.

10:30 AM Chamber Group Rehearsal

12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline

12:00 PM Enews Info. Deadline

1:00 PM Newsletter Deadline

1:30 PM Staff Mtg.

4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

5:30 PM Pathways To Peace

6:00 PM Choir School Evensong

8:00 PM AA Mtg

Thursday, February 2

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

7:45 AM Ministry of Generosity

8:30 AM Centering Prayer

4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

6:00 PM Handbells

7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Friday, February 3

7:30 AM Coffee @ WECP

12:00 PM Fridays @ Westminster
Concert Series

6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal Retreat

Saturday, February 4

9:00 AM Officer Training

10:00 AM What do I believe?

10:00 AM Choir Rehearsal retreat

Sunday, February 5

Name Tag Sunday

8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care

8:00 AM Senior Choristers

8:15 AM Worship/Communion

9:00 AM Adult Bible Class

9:00 AM Case Library Conversations/
Spiritual Life

9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds

9:15 AM Confirmation Class

9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal

9:30 AM Dialogue Diner

10:00 AM First Sunday/Youth Service/
Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship/Communion

11:30 AM Meet & Mingle

Westminster Economic Development Initiative (WEDI)

Winterfest 2017

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2017
6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

THE ATRIUM @ RICH'S

1 Robert Rich Way, Buffalo, NY (Free parking available!)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2017

6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

FUN AND FESTIVITIES

Food stations, live music, cash bar, live and silent auctions, and the opportunity to experience *A Story of Empowerment: An Interactive Walkthrough Exhibit*

TICKETS

Purchase at winterfest2017.brownpapertickets.com (Ticket forms are also available on the Information Table in the Gallery Room)

NEEDED! Volunteers/Basket Donations/Auction Items!
Contact Betsy Mitchell, betsymitchell@aol.com if you can assist and/or donate. Thank you!

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, 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 - 4th grade classes: Meet each Sunday with their teachers in the 1st Parish Hall Classroom.
- 5th -7th grade class meets each Sunday with their teacher Carol Timmerman-Yorty in the 2nd Parish Hall classroom
- 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 Tuesday, 4:30PM to 5:30PM, Wednesday, 4:30PM - 6:30PM, and Thursday, 4:30PM - 5:30PM. At 6PM, on Wednesdays, the choristers sing Choral Evensong in the Holmes Chapel, open to everyone. *The Junior Choristers*, ages 7-11, rehearse simultaneously, joining the Senior Choristers for the service of Choral Evensong at 6 PM.

The Apprentice Choristers, ages 4-6, rehearse each Sunday 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 dates are **March 26 and May 21**, 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

9:00AM - 10:15AM in the Heritage Room

Spiritual Life will not be meeting this Sunday due to the Women's Retreat.

Case Library Conversations

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

Travelogue Series: January 29

Fred Cooley got to visit Cuba with his wife, Valerie, who was singing in the Smith College Alumni Chorus (80 women - plus 11 partners). They had 2 concerts in Havana and Matalzan with a Cuban male chorus and orchestra. In the 8-day visit last July, before the embargo was lifted, they had many excursions and restaurant meals in addition to the two 1- 2 hrs./day of practice with a well-known conductor/choral director. *A country of contradictions, the sights were fascinating. We may even play a little of the concert recording. Hadn't seen this many 1957 autos since I was in high school.* - Fred Cooley

The 16th Annual Understanding Islam Series

A Joint Case Library & Spiritual Life Presentation

Sundays, 9AM to 10:15AM in the Case Library

February 5, 12, and 19

February 5

Speakers:

Anthony Diina: Buffalo Businessman and Community Activist

Muhammad Zaman: Artist President of ZAMANARTS

Imam H. Zaman: (brother of Muhammad) Imam of Masjid Al Taqwa Mosque,

Anthony Diina will tell us about about the new wave of immigration which is bringing talent and investment to revitalize the City of Buffalo and Western New York. We now have over 15 Mosques in Western New York representing the Sunni, Shia and Salafi Muslim sects. In addition the Muslim community is highly diverse and includes substantial representation from the Middle East, Africa, Central and South East Asia. The many cultural, language and religions practice differences lead to many separate Muslim communities. Learn of the Bangladeshi Muslim community's impact on the Broadway-Fillmore neighborhood.

Learn how faith, family and commitment can lead many families to the City of Good Neighbors. See the beautiful, inspirational, exhibit of Islamic artwork by Muhammad Zaman and hear how he and his brother Imam H. Zaman have become part of the new Buffalo and how the Islamic faith and family structure has guided them. Muhammad will demonstrate the calligraphy of his art during the presentation in Case Library.

PASSAGES: A PROGRAM FOR OLDER ADULTS

Join us on Tuesday, February 7, when Marcia Buhl will present: *Loneliness or Depression: How to Know the Difference*. Lunch at 12:30PM and presentation at 1:15PM. Please sign up by January 30th in the Gallery Room if you will be having lunch, or RSVP to Jamie at 884-9437, ext. 326.

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

WOW KNITTING GROUP

Our next meetings will be held on **Tuesday, February 14 & 28**. The group meets on various Tuesdays throughout the year from 7PM to 9PM and works on their individual projects as well as prayer shawls, scarves and other handmade items for members of the church. Beginners are welcome! Contact Fran Holmes: mfranholmes@verizon.net for more information and dates.

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*.

Concerts will resume on February 3: Garrett Martin, organ

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: 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: Sunday, 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. 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 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.

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 hosts and sponsors this week are Debbie Izatt & Family**

WHAT DO I BELIEVE?

Few Christians arrive at a set of beliefs that are then set in stone for the rest of their lives. What we believe often evolves through Bible study and worship services. Personal experiences—both joyous and traumatic—impact our faith. World events can shape what we believe about God's presence in the world and in our lives. Faith is an evolving experience that can define much of who we are and who we may become. If you would enjoy exploring and discussing your faith and what you believe, mark your calendars now and plan on joining the "What Do I Believe: Naming and Nurturing our Faith" conversation. This group will meet Saturday mornings from 9:30AM to 12:30AM on January 21, 2017 and then February 4, 11, 18 & 25, 2017. We'll begin with coffee and bagels as we watch videos and discuss ideas from Ronald J. Allen's *A Faith of Your Own*. The purpose of this time together is to articulate and name what we believe. The leaders of this invigorating six-part series are Debbie Katz and Jen Callaghan. To help with our preparation, if you are planning on coming to this series, please sign up on the information table or contact Debbie Katz at dkatz@wpcbuffalo.org.

WOW-WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER

WOW Lunchtime Bible Study meets the third Thursday of each month in the Case Library. Join us each month and together we will explore some of the Bible's 800 references to water. Come as your schedule permits. For more information, please contact: Debbie Katz, Director of Christian Education at dkatz@westminster-bfio.org or (716) 884-9437, ext. 329. Coffee and tea provided.

WOW Book Discussion: At our annual "discuss names of books we liked" evening, we came up with three book discussion ideas. These discussions are open to any woman who is interested. All meetings are at 7PM

Monday, Jan. 30th, at WPC, we will do a double review. The books are *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry*, and the companion book *The Love Song of Miss Queenie Hennessy: A Novel* (both by Rachel Joyce). We strongly suggest that you read both books, *Harold Fry* first. Both are available in paperback. Briefly, Harold Fry leaves his house to mail a letter, and walks by the first mailbox, eventually deciding to deliver the letter in person, by walking across England.

FEBRUARY WARM-UP! FEBRUARY 12 IN PARISH HALL!

Following the 10:30 service, join your WPC friends, and family, to warm up, chase away cabin fever chills, and play some games! February 12 is Lincoln's birthday and there will be some quiz questions to see just how much you know about our presidents- with a few first lady questions too. Please join us and bring a dish to share- main dish, salad or dessert. Sign up in the Gallery Room. Bring your thinking cap and plan to stay and play some board games with WPC friends.

COMMUNITY SHREDDING EVENT

Sponsored by Buffalo Sunrise Rotary Club. Saturday June 17, 10am - 1pm at Westminster This service ensures safe and secure disposal of unneeded, outdated business and personal papers. The cost is \$10.00 per box (approx size 10"x12"15") Rotarians will be on hand to assist with unloading boxes from your vehicle. For additional information about Rotary or this event call 716-479-8711 visit the Buffalo Sunrise Rotary Facebook page.

Worship in the Holmes Chapel - 8:15AM

*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

Prelude in G Major

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Welcome and Announcements

Dr. Yorty

Call to Worship

The people stand and remain standing for the hymn.

Hymn No. 430

Come, Sing, O Church, In Joy!

DARWALL'S 148TH

Prayer of Confession

**God, we have not done what is blameless and right,
nor spoken truth from the heart with love.
We do not keep your word, and when we participate in gossip,
our words and deeds cause pain.
Forgive us by the power of your mercy,
that we might stand in the goodness of Christ
and walk in the light of his love. Amen.**

Silence is kept

Kyrie

The people sing.

John Weaver (1984)



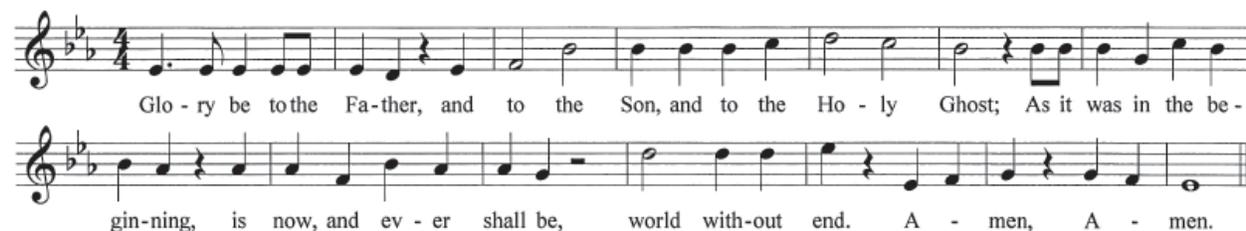
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Words of Assurance

Response

GLORIA PATRI

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.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lessons

Psalm 15; Micah 6:6-8; 1 Corinthians 1:18, 25-31; Matthew 5:1-12

(Text can be found on page 4 of this bulletin)

Meditation

God's Foolishness

Dr. Yorty

Anthem

Abide With Me

EVENTIDE, arr. Malcolm Archer (b. 1952)

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide; the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!
When other helpers fail and comforts flee, help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day; earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see; O Thou who changest not, abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes. Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee; in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Prayers of the People

Concluding with the Lord's Prayer

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

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 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.

Sending Hymn

We Are Called

WE ARE CALLED

The people stand to sing. Please see insert for hymn.

Benediction

Closing Voluntary

Suite Gothique: *Menuet Gothique*

Léon Boëllmann (1862-1897)

Worship Leaders

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty, Pastor
Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries
Brian Glikes, Glynda Stephens Taylor Organ Scholar
Senior Choristers of the Westminster Choir School
Hillary Hunt and Veronica Shanchuk, Chorister trainers

GIVING 2017



Pledges received as of 01/25/17

Number of Pledges Received	Total Pledges Received	Dollars to Goal
244	\$493,920	\$106,080

We ask that you prayerfully consider the blessings you have received and with a grateful heart return your pledge card with support for 2017. Your financial pledge will enable Westminster to continue our ministry as we strive to answer the Prayer of St. Francis to “Love, Comfort, Understand and Give” within our church home and our community. Pledge cards are available in the Holmes Room and you may return your pledge card by mail, make a pledge or a pledge payment on our secure site at www.wpcbuffalo.org/giving, or email Sawrie Becker, sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org. Thank you for being a contributing member of this church as your pledge, in any amount, makes us a stronger congregation.



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