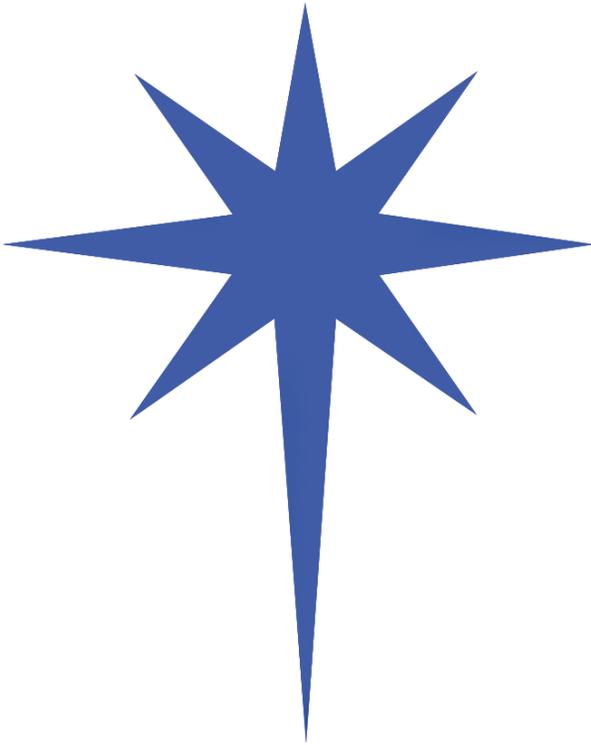


Service for the Lord's Day

Second Sunday of Advent

December 9, 2018



To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

O my God, in you I trust;

do not let me be put to shame;

do not let my enemies exult over me.

Make me to know your ways, O Lord;

teach me your paths.

Psalm 25:1-2, 4

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

400 Rugby Road, Charlottesville, VA ♦ 434-293-3133 ♦ www.westminsterva.org

Silent Prayers

Sung Response

$\text{♩} = 66$

D Bm D A

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a - lone, O Lord, are ho - ly.

Em C Em A D

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al - le - lu - ia!

Assurance of Pardon

*Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.
The old life has gone; a new life has begun.
Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.*

Christ is our peace.

Let us rejoice and walk in the light of the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

◆ Congregational Response

**Let the nations shout and sing, glory to their Savior bring;
All below and all above sing your praise with joy and love.
Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.**

◆ Sharing of the Peace

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

Announcements for the Church and Community

Time for Children and Youth

God's Word to Us

Gospel Lesson

Luke 3:1-6

NT pg. 56

Psalter

Psalms 25:1-10

OT pg. 475

Sermon

Where Two Paths Meet

Ken Henry

- ◆ Affirmation of Faith
 - We believe God challenges us to grow in our faith.
 - We believe God challenges us to not become too comfortable.
 - We believe God challenges us to seek the light of day
 - while others choose to dwell in darkness;
 - to speak the truth
 - while others play games with the truth;
 - to love our neighbors and care for the refugee
 - even if it means risking what we have.
 - We believe God challenges us to have more patience,
 - to wonder,
 - to ask questions,
 - to work for justice, and not to lose heart.
 - We believe God challenges us to challenge ourselves,
 - and to seek the peace of Christ wherever we go. Amen.

- ◆ Hymn HS 6 Come Now, O Prince of Peace *O-50-50*

Prayers of the Congregation and the Lord's Prayer

The Offering

Offertory

Comfort, Comfort

Genevan Psalter, 1551
arr. John Ferguson

“Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!” So says our God.
Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow's load.
To God's people now proclaim that God's pardon waits for them!
Tell them that their war is over; God will reign in peace forever!

For the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near,
Calling us to true repentance, since the Kingdom now is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way!
Let the valleys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him!

Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain!
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits his holy reign!
For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad,
And all flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.

- ◆ Prayer of Dedication
- ◆ Hymn HS 2 There's a Voice in the Wilderness *Ascension*
- ◆ The Charge and Benediction
- Closing Voluntary *Carillon on Psalm 42* Alfred Fedak

WESTMINSTER EVENTS

Christmas Eve Choir – Join the choir for Christmas Eve! Youth, grade 5 and up, and adults are invited to participate in a choir that sings at the 5 p.m. service on December 24. Rehearsals are Thursday, Dec. 20, from 6 to 7 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 23, from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. in the choir room. Contact Megan Sharp, 434-963-4690 or music@westminsterva.org.

Tuesday Evening Study Group will hold its annual Advent meeting this coming Tuesday, December 11, at 6 p.m. in the lower lounge. Women from the choir are our special guests. Bring your own place setting, as well as a dish to share and your favorite Advent story. Drinks/dessert will be provided. Carol singing is also a regular part of this special evening. For information or a ride, call Barbara Deaver, 973-3819.

Stewardship Update – We have received 217 pledges (compared to 236 last year), and on December 19, the budget committee will meet to prepare a final 2019 budget based on pledges received. Please return your pledge card or pledge online: www.westminsterva.org. Thanks!

COMMUNITY

Remember the victims of **Sandy Hook and other mass shootings** at the Fountain on the Downtown Mall, Saturday, December 15, at noon. For more information, call Gay Lee Einstein, 434-409-3324.

Christian Education

Join us on Sunday mornings for a class that can enrich your perspective and experience at Westminster.

Today and next Sunday, we'll enjoy the following classes:

Prophets for Our Time: Speaking Truth to Power – Gene Locke, library

The Birth of Jesus: Reading Matthew and Luke for historical insight, spiritual empathy and critical growth as Christians - David Garth, room 209

Faith and Family, lounge

Contemporary Theology, room 207

Advent @ Christmas

AT WESTMINSTER

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

Second Sunday of Advent Worship, 11 a.m.

Lessons & Carols, 5 p.m.

Come and enjoy a traditional service of Lessons and Carols led by the Choristers and Singers choirs. Readings and carols retell the story of Christ's birth, with candlelit singing of Silent Night. Gather for a potluck meal and carol singing in Fellowship Hall afterward.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

Third Sunday of Advent Worship, 11 a.m.

Caroling, 3 p.m. All are welcome to join in song and share carols with those in our congregation in need of Christmas cheer. Directions and song sheets will be available in fellowship hall.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23

Fourth Sunday of Advent Worship, 11 a.m.

MONDAY DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve Worship, 5 p.m. This child-friendly service includes carols and candlelight. Enjoy this creative retelling of the Christmas story through treasures stored in a simple, wooden box.

Christmas Eve Worship, 8:30 p.m. Share the joy of the season in a communion service with carols and candlelight on this holiest of nights. Organ prelude begins at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30

First Sunday of Christmas Worship, 11 a.m.

Coming Up

Sunday, December 9

11 a.m., Worship

Second Sunday of Advent,

Noon, Fellowship Hour

3:15 p.m., Singers Rehearsal,
sanctuary

3:15 p.m., Readers Rehearsal,
choir room

4:00 p.m., Choristers and
Ushers Rehearsal, sanctuary

5:00 p.m., Lessons & Carols,
sanctuary

6:00 p.m., Potluck Dinner,
fellowship hall

7:30 p.m., Session Meeting,
Library

Tuesday, December 11

6 p.m., Tuesday Evening Study
Group Advent Dinner

Sunday, December 16

11 a.m., Worship

Third Sunday of Advent,

Noon, Fellowship Hour

3 p.m., Caroling

Thursday, December 20

6 p.m., Christmas Eve Choir
Rehearsal, choir room

7 p.m., Adult Choir Rehearsal,
choir room

No CE classes, Dec. 23 and 30

Today in Worship

Liturgist

Lynne Clements

Ushers

Dick Gibson (head),

Pam Gibson, Tina Goode

Greeters

James Moak

Virginia Rovnyak

Fellowship Team

Tina and Allen Goode

Fran Sargent

Sound Engineer

Mike Moore

Deacon of the Day

Judy Sands

Advent Candle-Lighters

Rebecca McGregor

Anne Andrews

Lay Reader

Judy Sands

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The flowers in the sanctuary today are given in memory of Nelda and Wayne Jacobs, parents of Kirk, by Kathy and Kirk Jacobs

Westminster Staff

Ken Henry, *Pastor*

khenry@westminsterva.org

Lynne Clements,

Associate Pastor

Megan Sharp

Director of Fine Arts

Jonathan Schakel, *Organist*

Brittany Caine-Conley,

Interim Dir. of Univ. Mission

Sanford Wilcox,

Church Administrator

Kate Brinkley,

Office Manager

Steve Brown,

Finance Administrator

Tom Mullen, *Sexton*

Alonzo Williams,



Hearing Enhancement – Westminster is equipped with personal hearing assistance devices for use by our worshippers. These are available in the narthex, to be checked out from the ushers before services. Our sanctuary is equipped with “T-coil” technology.

Large-Print versions of the *The Presbyterian Hymnal*, and our own *Hymnal Supplement* are available for use during the service. If you would like to use any of these large print copies, please ask an usher.

Children and Worship – Families are encouraged to worship together, whenever possible. We strive to include children who are first graders and older in our worship service. Children’s pew Bibles, children’s bulletins, and worship bags are available from the ushers. A “comfort room” is available downstairs for those with small children who might need a place to rest or play. A speaker in that room makes it possible to hear the service.

Mission Statement

*Sustained by grace, we are called to serve Christ,
share God’s love, and work for justice in a complex world.*