

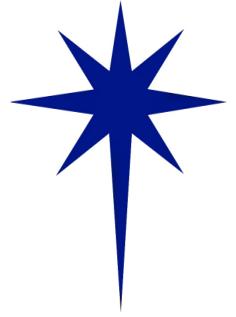
Service for the Lord's Day

Epiphany

January 2, 2022

Westminster Presbyterian Church
400 Rugby Road, Charlottesville, Virginia

www.westminsterva.org • 434-293-3133



*W*elcome visitors, newcomers, and friends worshipping with us today! If you're interested in joining our church community, please speak to a pastor after worship or contact the church office, 434-293-3133. We hope you will worship with us again, whenever possible.

Preparing to Hear God's Word

Prelude

Der Tag der ist so freudenreich

Dietrich Buxtehude

Welcome

◆ Call to Worship

Arise, shine, for your light has come,

and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Nations shall come to your light, and kings to your brightness.

The people who walk in darkness have seen a great light;

Those who lived in a land of deep darkness,

on them light has shined.

Let us worship the Light of the world!

◆ Hymn 147

The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of glory,

You sent Jesus among us as the light of the world

to reveal your love for all people.

We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light.

we turn away from the poor;

we ignore cries for justice;

we do not strive for peace.

**In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and pour out the gifts of your Spirit,
that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory.**

Silent Prayers

Sung Response

Glory to God hymnal 121

**O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!**

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Hear the good news of the psalmist's proclamation: Even the darkness is not dark to God, and the night is as bright as the day. The God who promised never to leave us or forsake us has come to us in Jesus Christ! He comes to bind up the broken and set the captives free!
In Jesus, we have forgiveness and life.*

Thanks be to God. Amen.

◆ Sung 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.**

◆ Passing of the Peace

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

God's Word to Us

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

John 1:1-5, 14

Second Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

Meditation

Lynne Clements

Responding to God's Word

◆ Affirmation of Faith

from *Our World Belongs to God*, st. 5-6

**God holds this world in sovereign love.
God kept God's promise, sending Jesus into the world.
We rejoice in the goodness of God, renounce the works of darkness,
and dedicate ourselves to holy living.
As covenant partners, called to faithful obedience, and set free for joyful praise,
we offer our hearts and lives to do God's work in this world.
With tempered impatience, eager to see injustice ended, we expect the Day of the Lord.
And we are confident that the light that shines in the present darkness
will fill the earth when Christ appears.
Come, Lord Jesus! Our world belongs to you. Amen.**

- ◆ Hymn 152 **What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright** PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

Prayers of the Congregation

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

Glory to God Hymnal, p. 35

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 God thanks and praise.

Breaking of the Bread and Communion of the People

Communion Music

A Scottish Christmas Song

arr. K. Lee Scott

Ellie Weikle, soprano

Israel came to Zion's city, all the world was taxed then;

Blessed Mary brought to Bethlehem more than all the world again:

A gift so blest, so good, the best that e'er was seen, was heard or done;

A King, a Christ, Prophet and Priest; Jesus to us, to God a Son.

Happy night! a day was never half so happy sweet and fair;

Singing soldiers, blessed ever, fill the skies with sweetest air.

Amazed men fear, they see, they hear, yet doubt and ask how that was done,

'Twas bid, "Behold, it is foretold, this night God hath himself a Son."

There appeared a golden usher, kings attending on its train:

The bright sun could not outblush her, such a star ne'er shone again.

Behold it stays, seeming it says go in and see what there is done:

A babe, whose birth leagues heaven and earth: Jesus to us, to God a Son.

Prayer After Communion

**God of all glory, we give you thanks that you have fed us with your Word made flesh,
filled with grace and truth. As we have received you in this holy meal and believed in
your name, help us to live as your children, sharing light and life with all;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

- ◆ Hymn HS 9 **Jesus, the Light of the World** WE'LL WALK IN THE LIGHT

- ◆ Prayer of Thanksgiving and Benediction

Postlude

Cold December Flies Away

arr. Wilbur Held

- ◆ Please stand, as you are able.

The organist for today's service is Roger Authers.

What's Happening

at Westminster

Wednesday, January 5

7 p.m. 20/30 CreW Wednesday Wind-Down

Thursday, January 6

7 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, January 9

8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. In-person Worship in the Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Church School

12:15 p.m. Singers Rehearsal

Tuesday, January 11

7 p.m. Tuesday Evening Bible Study via Zoom

Thursday, January 13

7 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, January 16

8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. In-person Worship in the Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Church School

12 p.m. UKirk & 20/30 CreW Bagel Brunch at Common Grounds

12:15 p.m. Singers Rehearsal

12:15 p.m. Deacons Meeting

1:30 p.m. Session Meeting

Westminster Staff

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Tom Mullen

Sexton

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Assistant Sexton

Through a series of online and in-person messages, devotionals, and worship opportunities, we hope to keep you connected to — and nurtured by — the Westminster community. Make sure you're signed up for our eNews, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram accounts, @westminsterville.

Visit www.westminsterva.org.