



WESTMINSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Fourth Sunday of Advent  
19 December 2021 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Voluntary

Ceremony of Carols: Interlude

Benjamin Britten

\*Ringing of the Bell

*The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower bell.*

\*Lighting of the Fourth Advent  
Candle and Call to Worship

Linda and Tom Purves

*Solo: While we are waiting, Come!  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel,  
While we are waiting, Come!*

One: People of God, come, for the light of love calls us.

All: **What love is this? How are we to follow?**

One: This love calls from the margins and the center;  
from suffering and comfort;  
from oppression and privilege.

*Solo: With power and glory, Come!  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel,  
While we are waiting, Come!*

All: **We too come from the margins and the center;  
from suffering and comfort;  
from oppression and privilege.**

One: Then let us bring our love, and join it to this  
light of love, and gather in worship to discover the  
greatest love there is.

*Solo: Come, Savior, quickly come!  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel,  
While we are waiting, Come!*

All: **Come, let us listen and speak, sing, pray and give,  
for now is the time to worship.**

\*Hymn 110

Love Has Come

*Bring a Torch*

\*Prayer of Confession

Long-awaited Messiah, we come before your humble throne to admit that we are far too ready to receive your love yet we are reluctant to love, we lean on your grace yet not easily moved to forgive. God of boundless love, forgive us and restore us, let your face shine upon us, and help us become a reflection of abounding love. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

\*Sung Response

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us

Hymnal, Back Cover

**\*Declaration of Pardon**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.  
People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**  
Leader: The peace of Christ be with you;  
People: **and also with you.**  
All: **Thanks be to God, Amen.**

**\*Response of Praise** Gloria Patri Hymnal, Back Cover

**Children's Sermon**

**Congregational  
Response**

**Come, Savior, quickly come; come,  
Come Savior, quickly come.  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, come, Savior, quickly come.**

*Children in grades Pre-K to 5 are invited to experience the Christmas Story and Nativity in Sunday School.*

**First Scripture Reading** Micah 5:2-5a Pew Bible, OT page 865

**Second Scripture Reading** Luke 1:35-45 Pew Bible, NT page 57

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** Believe the Fulfillment Rev. Christian K. Choi

*Text: And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord. Luke 1:45*

**Anthem** In the Bleak Midwinter Stephen Main  
The text for the anthem is 144 in the hymnal.

**\*Affirmation of Faith** *A Brief Statement of Faith*

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit  
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.  
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,  
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God  
and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers  
in the one body of Christ, the Church.**  
**The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles  
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,  
engages us through the Word proclaimed,  
claims us in the waters of baptism,  
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,  
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.**  
**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,  
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even  
as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"  
With believers in every time and place,  
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in  
Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

**The Church at Prayer**

Choir: Surely the presence of our God is in this place,  
I can feel God’s mighty power and God’s grace.  
I can hear the brush of angels’ wings  
I see glory on each face;  
Surely the presence of our God is in this place.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And with your spirit.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

**Prayers of the People  
and The Lord’s Prayer**

**The Presentation  
of our Gifts**

*At this time all worshipers are invited to sign and pass  
the Ministry of Friendship folders in the pew racks.*

**Offertory**

Aria in Classic Style

Marcel Grandjanay

**\*Offertory Response**

Doxology

Hymnal, 606

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Holy God of redemption, thank you for your love magnified in the gift of  
your Son, whom you so freely share with us. Accept our gifts as signs of our  
gratitude for what you give us every day and as honor to your presence in our  
world. Amen.**

**\* Hymn 134**

Joy to the World

*Antioch*

*Sunday School children process and conclude on the Chancel*

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**Voluntary**

On This Day Earth Shall Ring

David Spicer

*(\*) The congregation is invited to stand.*

**IN MEMORIAM**  
Gordon E. Cozadd  
02/07/1936 – 12/10/2021  
United with Westminster 10/03/1971

**IN MEMORIAM**  
Elder William A. Irvine  
12/10/1942 – 12/10/2021  
United with Westminster 10/02/1988

## 2021 CHRISTMAS MUSIC FUND

In memory of Donna Wolaver by Sandy Bellatti

In Honor of Dale Rogers for wrangling the choir and St. Andrews Sisters  
by Bob and Julie Blythe

In loving memory of our nephew James Blythe, whom we miss every day,  
by Bob, Julie, Brian and Sarah Blythe.

In loving memory of Terry Wells by Julie, Bob, Brian and Sarah Blythe

In loving memory of Heather Huitt, whom we miss every day,  
by Julie, Bob, Brian and Sarah Blythe

In loving memory of Jennie Davis Moy, dear friend and sister, gone too soon,  
by Julie, Bob, Brian, and Sarah Blythe

In memory of Mary Lou Cochran by Art Cochran

In memory of Morris D. Cooper, Sr. by Virginia Cooper & family

In loving memory of my father, Arthur C. Cragoe by Cathy Cragoe

In honor of Lyle VanDeventer by Bill Deemer, Jr.

Leah Duling

In memory of Paula Stewart by the Clayton, DeLugo, and Gaines families

In honor of Ann Collins who creates beautiful music  
by Christie, Robyn, & Will Hovey

In loving memory of Rev. Irving and Mrs. Rhea Kenyon by Kathy Kenyon

In memory of family by Mary & Robert Leffler

In memory of Dr. Robert A. Lynn by Naomi Lynn

Kate, Michael, & Walter Morthland

In memory of Dr. Glen D. Pittman with love from Julie and Jim McDonough

In honor of Dale Thomas Rogers and the Westminster Choir by Bill Post

Sharon & Larry Reynolds

Julie & Randy Robbs

Linda & Bill Schlosser

In honor of loved ones and for the glory of music by Eleanor & Lyle VanDeventer

Gary Vitale

In loving memory of Martha Havey from her loving family,  
Meredith, Darren, Eva, and Mae Volle

In loving memory of H.D. Zerfas by Sarah, Bob, Danielle, and Jack Zerfas

## 2021 CHRISTMAS DECORATION FUND

In memory of Robert Bellatti by Sandy Bellatti

In loving memory of Fred and Betty Blythe by Bob, Julie, Brian and Sarah Blythe

In loving memory of Ken and Lois Davis and Kathy Stittsworth by Julie & Bob Blythe

In loving memory of Aunt Viola by Julie Blythe

In memory of our grandparents by Meridith & James Bryans

In memory of loved ones by Linda & Ed Caupert

The Art Cochran Family

In memory of Judy Ridinger by Virginia Cooper & family

In loving memory of Anthony J. Leone, Jr. by Cathy Cragoe

In memory of the Rev. Dr. William & Mrs. Ruth Cross by John Cross

In honor of Elsie & Bob Fox by Bill Deemer, Jr.

In loving memory of Wally Henderson by Brynn Henderson

Melanie & Bud Green

Judy & Dale Huston

In memory of Ellis Hutcheson with love from the Robbs family

Sue & Steve Scaife

In memory of Heather Huitt, Dan VanDeventer and Dave, Marilyn, and Roy Tungett  
by Eleanor & Lyle VanDeventer

Susan & Brinton Wilkey

## **2021 CHRISTMAS MUSIC AND DECORATION FUND**

George Botanga

Ellen & Rance Carpenter

In memory of our son David Matthew Coontz by Deb & Dave Coontz

In memory of family and friends by Carol & Dick Cordier

Sophia & Christian Choi

With appreciate and thank Dale Rogers for his expertise in music by Sue Cull

Remembering our parents Mary & Bill Schnirring and Helen & Harvey Dungan  
by Carolyn and Dan Dungan

In memory of loved ones by Linda & Roland Folse

In loving memory of Jim, Rick, and Leland Orr by Debbie & Tara Fritsch

Deanna & Donald Funk

In loving memory of Henry & Darleen Germeraad and Bill & Mary Schnirring  
by Kathy & Randy Germeraad

In memory of Gerry Grigsby Hale by her family

In memory of Don Harmon by Aggie Harmon

Terry and Caroline Haynor

Elaine Hoff

In appreciation of friends and family by Pat & Al Hymans

In memory of Sara & Frank Jenkins and Mary, Al, and Jim Matters  
by Mary Jo & David Jenkins

Mary & Charlie King

In loving memory of Betty Jellema Denham by Blythe & Peter Kieffer

In memory of Rev. Ralph & Mrs. Bernie Kluge and Dr. George & Mrs. Harriet Maher by Priscilla & Tim Kluge

In gratitude for the ministry of music at Westminster by Judy & Todd Knox

Eleanor & Richard Leary

In memory of Janet & Bob Massey and Earl Tucker by Camille & Tom Massey

In loving memory of John by Pat McNutt

In memory of Marjorie and Claude Nicholson by their children

In memory of Megan & Ralph Salisbury and Georgia Norton by Maribeth Norton

Mary & Morley Peura

In loving memory of Glen D. Pittman by Jeanne Pittman and family

Marilyn & Jim Rigney

Dale Rogers

In memory of Helen and Clyde Knock by Mary Gail & Steve Romack

In memory of loved ones by Betsy Ruklick

In memory of family members by Nancy & Lon Scott

Susan & Michael Shaw

To the glory of God and in loving memory of Dick Maldaner and Jane Smith  
by Anne & Andy Smith

Judy & Harvey Stephens

In memory of Lois Strom by Bruce Strom

In memory of our parents by Marty & Alan Stutz

Julie & Mike Sundquist

In memory of Vivian Shire and Frances V.G. Carman, our mothers, who filled our lives  
with the gift of music by Jeanne & Peter VanGieson

Joyful holiday wishes to our friends at Westminster by Nell & Jay VanSice

In honor of Dr. Elvin by Sharon Zook



## SERVING THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **Sunday Liturgist:** Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer
- **Greeter:** Sally Godbey
- **Advent Candle Lighters:** Linda and Tom Purves
- **Ushers** Pat Moore (Head Usher), Rich Canady, Terry Haynor, Mary King, Julie McDonough, Bruce Strom. Jess Weitzel, Brinton Wilkey
- **Safety Team:** Charlie King and Todd Knox
- **Music:** Ellie Kirk, Harp, The Westminster Choir, Eleanor VanDeventer, soprano, Lyle VanDeventer, bass, Jessica Borland, soprano, and Dale Rogers, organist

## EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT WESTMINSTER

- **9:20 a.m. Deacon Poinsettia Delivery Meeting (Parish Hall)** Deacons delivering Poinsettias following worship will meet to delegate the work. S
- **9:45 a.m. – 12 noon Infants, toddlers, 2 & 3 year olds (Nursery)** gather for play and Bible Story. This week: Celebrate Baby Jesus at Christmas. *Caregivers: Leigh Milward, Sara Eldridge, Abigail and Louisa Eldridge*
- **10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Children in Pre-K – Grade 5** begin in worship & following the Children's Sermon are invited to **the Second Floor classroom** to celebrate the Nativity Story led by Sue Cull. The children will process through the Sanctuary during the final hymn in costume and conclude in the Chancel with the pastors for the benediction. They will remain in the Chancel where parents are invited to meet them following worship. *Pageant Helpers: Cara Barnett, Meridith Bryans, Cathy Brower, Sue Cull, and Karen Sherrick*
- **11:15 a.m.- 12 noon**
  - **Christmas Eve Pageant Practice All Sunday School Children, Confirmands and participants for the Christmas Eve Pageant are gathering for practice** after worship in the Chancel for a brief rehearsal reading of their scripts for the Children's Christmas Eve Service.
  - **11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. A Service of Lessons and Carols Rehearsal.** Our senior class will gather in the Youth Room at 11:15 a.m. to review readings to rehearse for the traditional 7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols.
  - **Adult Ed Forum (Library)** Join Dr. Berkowitz in the final session of "Twentieth Century Creeds to explore "A Brief Statement of Faith."
- **4:00 p.m. Christmas Vespers (Sanctuary)** Westminster's Christmas Vespers program will include choral music and carols sung by the Westminster Choir and the St. Andrew's Sisters. Featured in the program will be harpist, Ellie Kirk and oboist, Lucy Yockey. Deb Watts Elliott will accompany the Westminster Choir and Dale Rogers will play organ works based on Christmas carols.
- **5:00 p.m. Choir Dinner (Parish Hall)**



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WE WELCOME VISITORS!** Information about who we are is on our website at [www.wpcspi.org](http://www.wpcspi.org). Please complete the Ministry of Friendship folder located on the end of each pew. If you are interested in joining Westminster, speak to Rev. Choi or Dr. Kieffer.

**CHRISMON BOOKLETS**, which outline the history and meaning of the ornaments displayed on Westminster's Chrismon Tree located in the Chancel, can be found in the pew pockets.

**CONTACT MINISTRIES DISTRIBUTION** on Wednesday, December 15 was a great success. This is the 30<sup>th</sup> consecutive year Westminster has hosted this community event to meet the needs of those in Springfield with less resources. Over 275 seniors and families were served this year with over 50 volunteers from the community participating. Thank you to those from the Westminster community who served: Krista Steller, Coleman Moore, Diane Rutledge, and Eleanor VanDeventer. Thank you to Elizabeth Circle who donated 75 mittens and gloves and to Westminster's Junior and Senior High who purchased \$1,400 in gifts for the youth in our community. Special thanks to Gary Warnick and our custodial staff for their assistance, and to Executive Director Cindy Drum who organizes this generous extravaganza.

**2022 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN - As of Friday, December 17**, we have received **216 pledges** for a **total \$763,949**. This is **96%** toward our dollar amount goal of \$797,000. If you have not yet pledged and intend to, please do so online or contact Lisa Runkle ([lrunkle@wpcspi.org](mailto:lrunkle@wpcspi.org)).

**TOYS FOR TOTS** box is in the West Narthex **until December 20**. Place unwrapped gifts in it for children of any age. This is a program of the Marine Corps Reserve.

**THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING** is an annual special collection of the Presbyterian Church. It supports church workers and their families in times of need and funds scholarships for racial/ethnic students. Please look for the offering envelopes to give toward this special fund and nurture the promise of future leaders and those who serve the church. **A GIFT OPENS DOORS** is this year's theme.

**NEW NURSERY GUILD** is being formed to create an intergenerational space in our church nursery. Please prayerfully consider signing up as a Ministry partner in the nursery on Sundays from 9:55-11:00 and contact Karen Sherrick ([ksherrick@wpcspi.org](mailto:ksherrick@wpcspi.org)). Our plan is that the rotation would be once every six or eight weeks beginning in January 2022.

**NEW MEMBER CLASS** Friends and visitors are invited on **Sundays, January 9 and 23, 11:15 a.m. – 12 noon** in the Pastor's Study. Anyone who has been visiting and would like to learn more about the church, its mission, and becoming a member is invited. New members will be received at the 10:00 a.m. service on January 30 following a Special Session meeting at 9:30 a.m.

**DR. KIEFFER'S THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY** resumes Thursday, January 13, 6:00 – 7:15 p.m. to begin exploring the parables of Christ in Dr. Amy-Jill Levine's book and DVD Series entitled Short Stories by Jesus. Books are available in the church office for \$15.

**APOSTLES READ LIBRARY BOOK GROUP BEGINNING IN JANUARY!** The Adult Education Committee is introducing a new book group called "Apostles Read" which will gather on the **Fourth Tuesday of the month from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.** in our newly renovated Ziegler Library beginning in January. The group will be led by Aaron Berkowitz. Participants may sign up on the church website and are responsible for purchasing their own books. Peaceful Neighbor: Discovering the Countercultural Mister Rogers by Michael Long is the book selected for the first discussion on Tuesday, January 25.

## **CHRISTMAS EVE AT WESTMINSTER**

### **5:00 P.M. CHILDREN'S SERVICE**

The Confirmation Class will read the Christmas story and lead the children as they participate as shepherds, angels, and magi. Rachael, Chris, and Madelynn Hickman will be the Holy Family.

All our children are invited to participate in the 5:00 p.m. Children's Christmas Eve Service as the confirmands read the Christmas story. Children will be shepherds, angels, and magi under the direction of a designated junior high leader. Children ages three and under are invited to be lambs.

**Children are invited to a walk-through rehearsal on Sunday, December 19, 11:15 a.m. – 12 noon in the Sanctuary.**

**Children need to arrive on Friday, December 24 at 4:30 p.m. and gather in the Second Floor Classroom,** where they will receive a costume and be given instructions if they missed the rehearsal on December 19.

### **6:00-7:30 P.M. ANNUAL CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER**

#### *HOSTED BY THE BOARD OF DEACONS*

Do not miss this special event that includes a delicious meal of roast turkey, baked ham, two types of potatoes, gravy, vegetables, garden salad, rolls, and fresh fruit pies. Adults are \$20, children 6-12 are \$13 and children ages 5 and under are no charge. Please go to our website or send your payment and number attending to the church. This year we are limiting the gathering to 100.

**Reservations are still being received through Tuesday, December 21.**

### **7:30 P.M. SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS**

The Westminster Choir will provide the choral music and our high school seniors and juniors will read the Christmas Story in this Annual Service of Lessons and Carols. Dr. Kieffer will give the meditation.

In ancient times, church bells did not ring during Advent; however, on Christmas at the singing of the angel's song "Gloria in Excelsis Deo" the bells rang out. We follow that tradition by ringing bells during the singing of the closing carol.

*SO BRING YOUR SILVER BELLS, BRASS BELLS,*

*JINGLE BELLS, AND EVEN COW BELLS*

*TO THIS SERVICE AND BE PREPARED TO RING OUT IN PEALS OF JOY!*

*CHILDREN ARE WELCOME AT BOTH WORSHIP SERVICES!*

*CHILDCARE WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE ON CHRISTMAS EVE.*



## THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

### Monday, December 20

### Tuesday, December 21

10:30 AM Staff Meeting

12:00 PM Lydia Circle Holiday Luncheon (Parish Hall)

### Wednesday, December 22

10:00 AM Pastors Pray in the Chancel

10:30 AM Worship Planning

### Thursday, December 23

7:30 PM Choir

### Friday, December 24

Noon Church Offices Closed

5:00 PM Children's Service

6:00 PM Christmas Eve Dinner

7:30 PM Lessons & Carols Candlelight Service

### Saturday, December 25

**Merry Christmas!**

### Sunday, December 26

10:00 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)

10:15 AM Sunday School (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Classroom)

### Monday, December 27

Church Office Closed

Westminster Presbyterian Church  
533 S Walnut St., Springfield, Illinois 62704  
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wpcspi.org

## WESTMINSTER STAFF

**The Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer**  
*Pastor and Head of Staff*

**The Reverend Christian K. Choi**  
*Associate Pastor for Parish Life*

**The Reverend Gerald W. Boutelle**  
*Parish Associate*

**Dale T. Rogers**  
*Director of Music and the Arts*

**Deb Watts Elliott**  
*Saturday Worship Pianist and  
Music Coordinator*

**Karen Sherrick**  
*Director for Children's Ministry*

**Leigh Milward**  
*Nursery Coordinator*

**Ellen Carpenter**  
*Parish Nurse*

**Pat Hymans**  
*Hospitality Coordinator*

**Emily Rowley, Kacey Belitsos**  
*Cooperative Preschool Teachers*

**Lisa Runkle**  
*Financial Administrator*

**Jennie Alt**  
*Church Administrative Assistant*

**Krista Steller**  
*Webmaster*

**Gary Warnick**  
*Building and Property Manager*

**Terry Gietl, Bill Hibbert,  
Eddie Hubbard, Steve Stapleton**  
*Part-time Custodians*