

Church Staff

Pastor • Chad Reynolds
Assistant Pastor • Trevor Downie
Director of Music Ministries • Catie M. Hane
Pianist • Nancy Bruyere Sperling
Communications Director • Jen Partee
Administrative Assistant • Penny Greer
Custodian • Richard Dowdle

Elders

Adam Bruyere
Dennis Campbell
Bruce Marshall
Paul Moore
Pete Partee
Jim Potts
Bruce Senn
Wayne Smith

Deacons

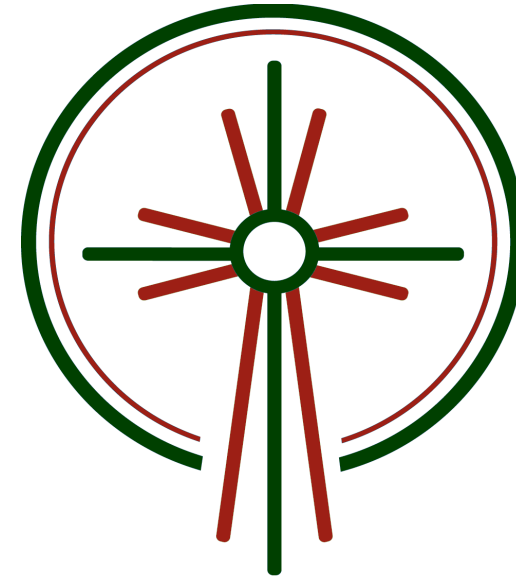
Jim Davidson
Randy Davis
Reed Edwards
Shuler Spigener
David Underwood
David Zwan

Church Website • wmpres.com



Westminster
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The vision of Westminster Presbyterian is to know God in his glory, grow in grace together, and show the Gospel of Jesus Christ to our community and beyond.



Westminster
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Know • Grow • Show

A Service for the Worship of God

December 3, 2023

We Gather to Know God in His Glory

Welcome and Announcements

Advent Reading • James Crim, James Marler, Caroline Rairigh
Campus Outreach

Prelude

Prelude on "GENEVN 42" (based on Isaiah 40) • arr. David Lasky
Catie M. Hane

Comfort, comfort ye my people, speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning 'neath their sorrow's load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them!
Tell her that her sins I cover, and her warfare now is over.

Yea, her sins our God will pardon, blotting out each dark misdeed;
All that well deserved His anger He will no more see nor heed.
She hath suffered many a day, now her griefs have passed away;
God will change her pining sadness into ever-springing gladness.

For Elijah's voice is crying in the desert far and near,
Bidding all men to repentance, since the kingdom now is here.
O 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.

Make ye straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain,
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits His holy reign;
For the glory of the LORD now o'er earth is shed abroad,
And all flesh shall see the token that His Word is never broken.

Announcements

- Forms for poinsettia donations are available at sanctuary exits
 - Children's Caroling • December 6 • 5:00 pm
- Christmas carol sing and supper • December 10 • 5:00 pm
- Service of Lessons and Carols • December 24 • 5:00 pm

• **LARGE PRINT BULLETINS ARE
AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX EACH WEEK** •

See your weekend newsletter for additional details.

November Financial Report	
Current Week's Income	\$10,882.00
Income MTD	\$35,113.83
Income YTD	\$410,768.72
Budgeted income YTD	\$396,947.60
Expenses MTD	\$30,094.89
Expenses YTD	\$390,494.37
Budgeted Expenses YTD	\$396,875.12
YTD Income over/(under) expenses	\$29,274.35

Prayer Concerns

The Church at Large

Presbytery • Blue Ridge PC • Greer • Rev. Thomas Griffith
Denomination • Reformed Theological Seminary • Dr. Ligon Duncan
Missionaries • Seth and Liz Ledford • CO • PC
National and Regional Leadership

Church Member Requests

Jen Partee • recovery from shoulder surgery
Beth Miller • low blood counts
Strength and compassion for those caring for elderly parents
Eunice Edgeman, Pat Watt's mom • strength and stamina
Hope Natiello • pain management
Al LiCalzi family • comfort

Those Expecting

Hannah Davidson Smith • due in January
Sarah (Downie) Mitchell • due in May
Eliza (Wheeler) Smith • due in July

*Call to Worship

From Psalm 89 • Rev. Trevor Downie

Let us sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;
with our mouths we will make known your faithfulness to all generations.
For the psalmist has said, "Steadfast love will be built up forever;
in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness."
You, O God, have said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:
'I will establish your offspring forever,
and build your throne for all generations.'" Selah

**Of old you spoke in a vision to your godly one, and said:
"I have granted help to one who is mighty;
I have exalted one chosen from the people.
I have found David, my servant;
with my holy oil I have anointed him,
so that my hand shall be established with him;
my arm also shall strengthen him.**

I will make him the firstborn,
the highest of the kings of the earth.
My steadfast love I will keep for him forever,
and my covenant will stand firm for him.
I will establish his offspring forever
and his throne as the days of the heavens."

**Let us praise God together, who has faithfully kept his promise to his people
by sending Jesus Christ, the eternal King of kings!**

*Hymn of Adoration

Angels, from the Realms of Glory • Hymn 218

*Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Confession of Sin

Call to Confession • Isaiah 6:1-5

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon • Isaiah 6:6-7

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming • arr. Jean Anne Shafferman
Choir

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming by faithful prophets sung.
It came, a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter
When half-gone was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind:
With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright she bore for us a Savior,
When half spent was the night.

Congregational Prayer

with "The Lord's Prayer"

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

We Go Forth to Show the Gospel to Others

*Hymn of Praise

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly • Hymn 216

*Benediction

Postlude

He Is Born • arr. Mary McDonald
Catie M. Hane

*Hymn of Response

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel • Hymn 194

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Invitation to the Table

The Words of Institution

Luke 22:14-20

And when the hour came, [Jesus] reclined at table, and the apostles with him. And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves. For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."

The Prayer of Consecration

The Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Song of Preparation

I Will Wait for You (Based on Psalm 130) • Getty, Kauflin, Merker and Townend

Lord, from the depths I call to you; Lord, hear me from on high,
And give attention to my voice when I for mercy cry.

Lord in Your presence who can stand, if You our sins record?
But yet forgiveness is with You, that we may fear You more.

Out of the depths I cry to You; in darkest places I will call.
Incline your ear to me anew, and hear my cry for mercy Lord.

Were You to count my sinful ways, how could I come before your throne?
Yet full forgiveness meets my gaze. I stand redeemed by grace alone.

I will wait for You, I will wait for You. On your word I will rely.
I will wait for You, surely wait for You, 'til my soul is satisfied.

So put your hope in God alone; take courage in His power to save.
Completely and forever won, by Christ's emerging from the grave.

I will wait for You, I will wait for You. On Your word I will rely.
I will wait for You, surely wait for You, 'til my soul is satisfied.

Now He has come to make a way, and God Himself has paid the price,
That all who trust in Him today find healing in His sacrifice.

I will wait for You, I will wait for You, through the storm and through the night.
I will wait for You, surely wait for You, for Your love is my delight.

I wait my soul waits for the Lord; my hope is in His Word.
More than the watchman waits for dawn, my soul waits for the Lord.

We Receive the Word to Grow in Grace Together

Scripture Reading • Rev. Chad Reynolds

Luke 1:5-25

Sermon

A Promise Beyond Belief

I. The Problem of Barrenness

II. The Promises of God Are Always Met

III. His Promises Require Faith

IV. The Preparation of a People

V. Application and Discussion

- Zechariah and Elizabeth were righteous before God, yet she was still barren. What does this juxtaposition tell you about the connection between present human suffering and God's gracious will?
- What hope does this give you in the face of your own sufferings?
- John was the fulfillment of God's promise in Malachi 3:1 and 4:5-6. What promises to his Church are we still awaiting from God? Why is it important to know that he always remembers his promises?
- In what ways is the Spirit at work in and through you to prepare for himself a people, made ready for the second coming of Christ?