## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Large Print Bulletin Knowing Christ.....Making Christ Known

## **REFORMATION SUNDAY**

November 17, 2024 11:00 A.M. Contemporary



## GATHERING THOUGHT

"There are some realities which are to be lived without first knowing what they are or how to approach them. The wise, the mystics, lovers and poets behave in this way."

> -Luce Irigaray (1930- ) in *Prières Quotidiennes: Everyday Prayers*

## **ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD**

## November 17, 2024 11:00 A.M.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Please sign and pass the Friendship Pad in your pew)

SONGS OF PRAISE Everlasting God Isaiah 40:28-31

Benton Brown & Ken Riley

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord. Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord.

Our God, you reign forever, our hope, our Strong Deliverer.

**Refrain:** You are the everlasting God, the everlasting God You do not faint, you won't grow weary. (repeat from beginning)

You're the defender of the weak, you comfort those in need You lift us up on wings like eagles.

Our God, you reign forever, our hope, our Strong Deliverer.

**Refrain:** You are the everlasting God, the everlasting God You do not faint, you won't grow weary You're the defender of the weak, you comfort those in need You lift us up on wings like eagles.

From everlasting, to everlasting, God, you are everlasting.

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go George Matheson, Christopher Miner

O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee, I give thee back the life I owe,

That in thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.

O Light that followest all my way, I yield my flickering torch to thee, My heart restores its borrowed ray, That in thy sunshine's blaze its day may brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee, I trace the rainbow through the rain, And feel the promise is not vain, that morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee, I lay in dust life's glory dead,

And from the ground there blossoms red,

Life that shall endless be.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

SONG

Breathe in, reach out, touch the hem of your garment now Help me, heal me, my mind, my body, and soul

Refrain: Let the king descend, living word made flesh Lift this heavy heart to your throne, O God In your wounds I find room for all of mine, when from grace I fell, Christ was lower still

Humbly, lowly, Jesus waits in the valley My savior suffers with me, with him I'll rise again

(*Refrain 2x*) *'Til the earth is new Christ is lower still* 

We lift it all up to you, Lord (repeat)

We lift our heads, we lift our hands, We lift it all up to you, Lord We lift our dreams, we lift our plans, We lift it all up to you, Lord We lift our sorrow and our pain, We lift it all up to you, Lord We cast our cares on you again, We lift it all up to you, Lord We cast our cares on you again, We lift it all up to you, Lord We cast our cares on you again, We lift it all up to you, Lord

(Refrain 2x)

'Til the earth is new Christ is lower still

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

## **THOUGHT FOR CHILDREN**

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Question to Congregation: Do we, the members of this congregation, in the name of the whole church of Christ, undertake with these parents the Christian nurture of this child so that in due time she may confess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior? If so, signify by saying, "We do."

## Response: We do.

Question to Children (read by Oliver Philbin): *Children of Westminster, do we promise to share the light of Jesus with Abigail by being her friend and always showing her kindness and love? If so, say, "Yes, we do!"* 

Response: Yes, we do!

## **CONGREGATIONAL GREETING –** *"The Peace of Christ"*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever, Amen.

## **SHARING OUR GIFTS** God's Highway

My feet are strong, my eyes are clear, I cannot see the way from here But on we go, he knows the way, And in his arms he keeps me safe

Refrain: Fear not, keep on, watch and pray Walk in the light of God's highway

I see the shore from troubled seas, this tiny ship that carries me And it is not yet but it will be, so heaven come it's you we need. *(Refrain)* The shadows flee, the valley is deep, But evil cannot conquer me Your rod and your staff they protect me, You give me rest, you give me peace *(Refrain 2x)* 

I'm holding on to You Lord, You're holding on to me. *(Refrain 2x)* 

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON 1 Samuel 2:1-10

(Pew Bible pg. 214)

Hannah prayed and said, 'My heart exults in the Lord;

my strength is exalted in my God.

My mouth derides my enemies, because I rejoice in my victory.

'There is no Holy One like the Lord, no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God.

Talk no more so very proudly, let not arrogance come from your mouth; for the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed. The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble gird on strength. Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread,

but those who were hungry are fat with spoil.

The barren has borne seven, but she who has many children is forlorn. The Lord kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up. The Lord makes poor and makes rich; he brings low, he also exalts. He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honour. For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's, and on them he has set the world.

'He will guard the feet of his faithful ones, but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness; for not by might does one prevail.

The Lord! His adversaries shall be shattered; the Most High will thunder in heaven.

The Lord will judge the ends of the earth; he will give strength to his king, and exalt the power of his anointed.'

Pastor:	The Word of the Lord.
People:	Thanks be to God.

## SERMON

Strength in Song

Leah Hrachovec

## **SONG OF RESPONSE** Blessed Be Your Name

Matt & Beth Redman

Blessed be Your name, in the land that is plentiful Where Your streams of abundance flow, Blessed be Your name Blessed be Your name, when I'm found in the desert place Though I walk through the wilderness, Blessed be Your name

Every blessing You pour out, I'll turn back to praise When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say **Refrain:** Blessed be the name of the Lord, Blessed be Your name Blessed be the name of the Lord, Blessed be Your glorious name

Blessed be Your name, when the sun's shining down on me When the world's all as it should be, Blessed be Your name Blessed be Your name, on the road marked with suffering Though there's pain in the offering, Blessed be Your name

Every blessing You pour out, I'll turn back to praise When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say *Refrain (2x)* 

You give and take away, You give and take away My heart will choose to say, Lord, Blessed be Your name *(2x) Refrain (2x)* 

## BENEDICTION

## **SONG OF SENDING** Benediction

J.Myrn & M.Redman

May the Lord bless you and keep you May the Lord smile on you, Shine his light upon you May the Lord lift you; turn his face towards you Give you his peace; give you his peace.

May the Lord bless us and keep us May the Lord smile on us, Shine His light upon us May the Lord lift us; turn His face towards us Give us His peace; give us His peace.

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#### **Everlasting God**

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#### **Blessed Be Your Name**

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#### Benediction

Jonas Myrin and Matt Redman,©2013 SaidAndDoneMusic, SHOUT!MusicPubl. & ThankyouMusic, CCLI License #2254621



**WELCOME VISITORS!** We are glad you are here today. To help us welcome you personally, please sign the *Friendship Pad* with your name, address, email and/or phone number.

If you are interested in knowing more about being a follower of Jesus, have any questions, or desire follow-up information, please speak to one of the pastors. Following worship, they can be found greeting at the doors of the sanctuary.

**LECTIONARY PASSAGES FOR TODAY** are: 1 Samuel 1:4-20 *and 1 Samuel 2:1-10;* Daniel 12:1-3 *and Psalm 16;* Hebrews 10:11-14 (15-18) 19-25; Mark 13:1-8.

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM** is administered this morning at the 9:30am traditional service to Ruth Lauren Lowe, daughter of Andrew and Emily Lowe, granddaughter of Nancy Kovach and at the 11:00am contemporary service to Abigail Joy Reid, daughter of Andrew and Rebecca Reid, granddaughter of Jim and Phyllis Reid and Eric and Linda Johnson.

NURSERY CARE (6 months thru 4 years old) available until 12:15pm in Room 109. If you plan to use the nursery for nursery care and/or if you are willing to serve as a nursery volunteer, please contact Mary Maina at <u>childcare@westminsterpc.org</u>.

**YOUNG CHILDREN & WORSHIP.** Children (pre-K thru grade 5) are dismissed to the Chapel after the Thought for Children.

**WORSHIP BAND:** Jon Frost, acoustic guitar; Mark Beazley, bass guitar; Chris Clark, drums; Erik Sayles, electric guitar; Tom Russell, piano; Daniella Emrich, Lauren Coffey, vocals

**USHERS:** Chuck Lambing and Joyce Carey

## WORSHIP INFORMATION

## WEEKLY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sanctuary

9:30am – Traditional worship

11:00am – Contemporary worship with band

## Wednesday Morning in the Chapel

9:10-9:30am – Prayer and Communion worship

**PRAY GROUNDS ARE LOCATED** along the sides of our Sanctuary and are geared towards young children to engage in items from the cart during worship. This allows a space more suitable for them to be a part of the worship service.

FINANCIAL: Donate from your smart phone. Scan this image using your phone's QR code reader. TEXT GIVING is also available. Text keyword "egivewpc" and then your donation amount to 73256 on your mobile device. Click the response link, make selections, hit continue, and add payment information. Contact Sandy

Kurek at <u>skurek@westminsterpc.org</u> for more information.

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Ministers of Jesus ChristAll the Members of the CongregationPastorsLeah Hrachovec, Eric Dorville, Jon Frost, Ann HatfieldPastor EmeritusBob Young



# NEWS AND EVENTS

October 27, 2024



Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

10 W. Pleasant Grove Rd. West Chester, PA 19382 610-399-3377 www.westminsterpc.org

## NOVEMBER VESPERS/DINNER TODAY, 4:00-6:30PM

Join us for this intergenerational opportunity for prayer and worship. This month we will:

- Explore the theme of gratitude in prayer and worship.
- Help hang the greens for the Christmas season on the exterior of the church building.
- Share a meal together.

To register, type the following in your browser so we can plan for the meal accordingly: <u>https://bit.ly/3NYKPFL</u>.

## HELP DECORATE OUR WPC FAMILY CHRISTMAS TREE



The Christmas tree next to Spellman Jr is now designated as our Family Christmas Tree.

The tree will be blessed after the Family Vespers Service today and will be ready for Children and Youth to decorate it! Throughout the Advent season, you are invited to bring in an ornament that you have made, purchased, or brought from home

and add it to the tree. There will be hanging labels to add to the ornament if you'd like. Questions? Contact Gail Lee at <u>pleeglee@comcast.net.</u>



## POINSETTIAS

You can help us adorn our sanctuary with poinsettia plants this Christmas. If you'd like to order a poinsettia plant in memory of or in honor of a loved one or friend,

contact Barb Drain at <u>bdrain@westminsterpc.org</u> or 610-399-3377 ext. 100 with your name and the dedication you would like listed in the bulletin. **Cost is \$10**. Make checks payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church (with poinsettia on memo line) and drop off in the church office. Session also encourages those who wish to contribute to the **Endowment Fund** in memory or honor of a loved one or friend to do so; names will also be listed.

## ILLUMINE OUR HEARTS

SATURDAY, DEC 14 2:00 & 5:00 PM

SUNDAY, DEC 15 3:00 & 6:00 PM

FOR CHRISTMAS CONCERT TICKETS

Westminster Presbyterian Church • West Chester

## **CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

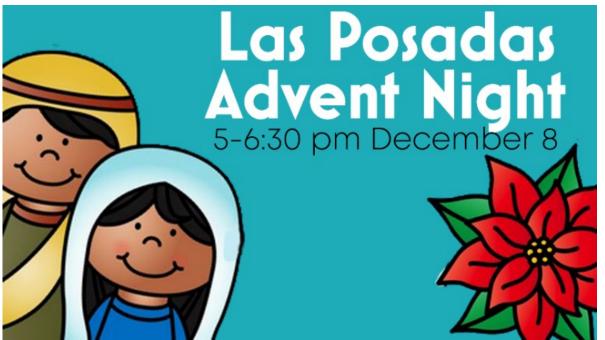
Join us for our 34th annual Christmas concert! Our Chancel Choir returns to perform with a full orchestra. Concerts last approximately one hour. Tickets are free but are required to avoid overcrowding. Your financial gifts help make these concerts possible.

This year ticket requests will be **online only** through TicketLeap. There is a limit of 6 tickets per family. If there are any groups who are interested in more than 6 tickets, please contact the church office. Unused tickets will be released 15 minutes before the program begins. You can still enjoy the concert by watching the live stream concert at 3 pm on Sunday, December 15. <u>The link to order tickets is available on our website.</u>

## Concert schedule this year:

Saturday, December 14	2 & 5pm
Sunday, December 15	3 & 6pm

Childcare for children 4 and under is available at 2 pm on December 14 and 3 pm on December 15 by reservation only. Please contact Mary Maina, our childcare coordinator at childcare@westminsterpc.org if childcare is needed.



Come and join us on December 8 for our Intergenerational Advent Night! The night will begin with an interactive journey of worship. After the journey, there will be opportunities for Advent crafts and activities. We'll cap the night off with a meal together!

- 5:00-5:15 pm: Las Posadas Journey
  - Help Mary & Joseph look for room at an inn around the building!
- 5:15-5:45 pm: Activities in Spellman Hall
  - Family Advent activity/craft
  - Children's activity/craft
  - Games and more
- 5:45-6:30 pm: Dinner
  - Beef/chicken tacos, chips/salsa, veggies, fruit, beans
  - Finish up activities

## WESTMINSTER'S GIVING TREE IS ONLINE !

The Gifts for each organization are posted on separate links including:

Domestic Violence Center, Family Promise, and Bridge of Hope. **<u>bit.ly/2024GivingTree1</u>** 

Migrant Ministries - bit.ly/2024GivingTree2

Pocopson Nursing Home - bit.ly/2024GivingTree3

Simply type the link in your browser, sign up for the gifts you wish to purchase, and follow the directions provided.

Please drop off your gifts in the Narthex on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>December 1 and Sunday</u>, <u>December 8</u>. We will be delivering the gifts on <u>Wednesday</u>, <u>December 11</u>, so please let us know if you need to make other arrangements for drop off.

For questions or assistance with gift delivery please contact <u>Angela Emrich at</u> <u>ang.emrich@gmail.com or Debbie Zakarian at dzakarian@verizon.net.</u>

## Advent Candle Lighting



Anyone interested in participating in lighting the advent candle at either the Traditional or Contemporary service may sign up here.

### **USHERS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**

This Christmas Eve Westminster will offer the following Worship Services:

10 am – Children and Family Worship

3 pm – Contemporary Worship

5 pm – Traditional Worship/Youth Choir

7 pm – Traditional Worship/Chancel Choir

9 pm - Traditional Worship/Chancel Choir

11 pm – Lessons & Carols Worship

Signup sheets for each service will be available in the narthex in the coming weeks. The staff thanks you for your willingness to serve as an usher on Christmas Eve.

#### **DINNER FOR EIGHT**

"Dinner for 8" now welcomes signups for our upcoming spring session! "Dinner for 8" is an opportunity to join a small group of eight people (couples and singles – all are welcome!) to gather for good food, great conversation, and Christian fellowship by rotating dinner at a different household or restaurant each month. The spring session will run from January through May. Please email Scott & Erin Lockledge at wpcdinnerfor8@gmail.com by December 20 if you would like to participate. The spring schedule will be sent to participants by January 4.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### Bag lunch date change to November 18

Normally we meet the second Monday of the month; however, this month the second Monday is Veterans Day. So pack your lunch on Monday, November 18, and join us in Spellman at noon to share some fellowship with friends. All are welcome.

**Westminster's Library-**Please visit the library to see our "Giving Thanks" display. While there, feel free to check out any books or DVDs of interest. Two Westminster members' works are on display, Margaret Yarosh (author) and Terry Hawkins (illustrator).

**Tuesday Fellowship, November 19,** our presentation will be learning about the "*Brief History of Westtown Township: From Farmland to Suburbia*" - the municipality in which the church is located - from Township historian Dave Walter (10-11am in Spellman Jr.). Founded in 1685, Westtown's people, institutions, and events have all contributed to the colorful history of our area. Come out and learn more about the evolution of our township from the Lenape Indians to a busy and vibrant community of 12,000 residents.

Come early at 9:30 am to enjoy coffee / tea, delicious treats and great conversations. David Walter's talk will be in Spellman Jr. from 10 to 11 am For ZOOM link information contact Dave Goodale (<u>dbgpharma@gmail.com</u>) **The annual** *Shop for Hope* event is returning to WPC on **Sunday, December 8**, from **10:30 AM to 12:30 PM** in Spellman Hall. Join us to shop for unique and meaningful gifts for everyone on your list, while supporting partner ministries and spreading hope this Advent season. As you browse this year's market, children can enjoy festive music, crafts, and tasty treats too! We look forward to seeing you there!

Thrift Shop – As Thanksgiving 2024 approaches, and we reflect on our blessings, we recognize and thank our dedicated thrift shop manager and volunteers, and YOU, the congregation for your generosity and continued support.
In celebrating Thanksgiving, the thrift shop's holiday hours schedule is as follows: CLOSED: Thursday, Nov. 28, Friday, Nov. 29, Saturday, Nov. 30

**Westminster's Library-**Please visit the library to see our "Giving Thanks" display. While there, feel free to check out any books or DVDs of interest. Two Westminster members' works are on display, Margaret Yarosh (author) and Terry Hawkins (illustrator).

Alzheimer's/Dementia Support Group. If you are a loved one supporting someone with Alzheimer's/Dementia, please join us! Our meeting is on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6 PM at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Spellman Jr. (in person or on Zoom). Email Page Hinkle at <u>phinkle@brandywineECM.com</u> for Zoom link. Our next meeting is Tuesday, November 26 at 6:00pm.Topic of discussion is "Tips on navigating the holidays with loved ones who may be experiencing cognitive changes."

<u>Food for Our Neighbors</u> November – Canned Meat and Fish

## For questions about any of our activities or events, please visit the website at westminsterpc.org. or call the church office.

## **FINANCIAL**

## September 2024 General Fund – Mission and Church Operations

Year To Date	Actual	Budget	% vs Budget Better/(Worse)
Pledge Giving	\$1,339,061	\$1,193,795	12.2%
Total Revenue	\$1,744,739	\$1,664,991	4.8%
Total Expense	\$1,672,802	\$1,717,335	2.6%
Net Surplus	\$ 71,937	\$ (52,344)	0.0%
(Deficit)			

October giving met budget as we continue to be surprised on the upside. Nonpledged giving has been growing the past two years and is at \$223k through October, the highest it's ever been at this time of the year. Total revenue was helped by strong interest income from maturing CD's as we continue to take advantage of the higher interest rates. Facility revenue also hit a record high, exceeding the annual budget. This reflects the increased activity in the building as the church returns to pre-Covid usage. It does present a challenge to our facility staff however, with cleaning and set-ups.

On the expense side, we benefited in lower Personnel costs as we had budgeted a new pastor starting October 1. Eric Dorville began his ministry here on November 10. Property expenses are slightly below budget, but we are seeing some significant repairs needed on the HVAC system, a chronic issue during my tenure here. The good news is we are converting over to a new controls system that should help considerably. As we approach the holidays and finalizing the budget, we thank you for your generosity and don't forget to send in your pledge! You will find pledge cards in the pews or online at the website.



**Donate from your smart phone.** Scan this image using your phone's QR code reader.

Offering Figures for 11/10/24 (inclu	<u>ides online giving)</u>
General Fund-Sunday Svc/Mailed/Online	e \$27,874.50
Prepaid Pledges (2025)	3,500.00
Concerts	2,547.27
Endowment Fund	10,000.00
Per Capita	20.00
Total	\$43,941.77
<u>Attendance: 11/10/24</u>	
In Person 42	22
Phone	6
Live Stream <u>49</u>	<u>97</u>
Total 92	25

## Calendar for week of November 17, 2024

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Sunday, November 17	
8:30 A.M.	Nursery care (109)
9:00 A.M.	Turkey Drop-off (Portico)
9:30 A.M.	Traditional Worship / WeeConnect 3-4 yrs
	KidsConnect (K-5 <sup>th</sup> grade)
10:45 A.M.	Journey Class (Spellman Jr.)
11:00 A.M.	Contemporary Worship (Sanctuary),
	Young Children & Worship (Chapel)
4:00 P.M.	Vespers (Chapel)
5:00 P.M.	Youth Choir (Music Room)
5:30 P.M.	Youth Group (Spellman Hall)
Monday, November 18	
9:00 Å.M.	Thrift Shop workday until 3 P.M.
12:00 P.M.	Brown Bag Lunch (Spellman)
1:00 P.M.	Women's Retreat Planning (Spellman Jr.)
3:30 P.M.	Racial Justice Study Group (Spellman Jr.)

Tuesday, November 19

- 9:30 Å.M. Tuesday Fellowship (Spellman Jr.)
- 9:30 A.M. Tuesday Women's Circle (414)
- 10:00 A.M. Thrift Shop Open until 3 P.M.

7:00 P.M. Session Meeting (Spellman Jr. and zoom)

Wednesday, November 20

- 9:10 A.M. Prayer and Communion Service (Chapel)
- 9:30 A.M. Women's Bible Study (Spellman Jr.)
- 10:00 A.M. Thrift Shop Open until 3 P.M.
- 4:15 P.M. Cherub Choir (Spellman Hall
- 4:45 P.M. Children's Choir (Spellman Hall)
- 7:00 P.M. Handbell Rehearsal (Spellman Hall)
- 7:00 P.M. Worship Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 7:00 P.M. Gathering of Men (Spellman Jr.)

<u>Thursday, November 21</u>

Thrift Shop Closed

- 10:00 A.M. Tech Time with Lynn via Zoom
- 7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts (Spellman Hall)
- 7:00 P.M. Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
- 7:00 P.M. Celebrate Recovery (The Site)

Friday, November 22

10:00 A.M. Thrift Shop Open until 3 P.M.

Saturday, November 23

9:00 A.M. Thrift Shop Open until noon

Sunday, November 24

- 8:30 A.M. Nursery care (109)
- 9:30 A.M. Traditional Worship / WeeConnect 3-4 yrs KidsConnect (K-5<sup>th</sup> grade)
- 10:30 A.M. Baptism Class (405)
- 10:45 A.M. Journey Class (Spellman Jr.)
- 11:00 A.M. Contemporary Worship (Sanctuary), Young Children & Worship (Chapel)
- 5:00 P.M. Youth Choir (Music Room)
- 5:30 P.M. Youth Group (Spellman Hall)