

Westminster Presbyterian Church

THE LORD'S DAY OF WORSHIP — 3 December 2023

The Sanctuary: A House of Prayer and Preparation

Welcome to Westminster! We offer a short time for meditation at 9:40, before the service starts. Join us to prepare your heart for worship, and we will begin our time of announcements and the call to worship at 9:45.

Offering Stones

If you give financially to Westminster online or by mail, please take a stone as you enter the sanctuary. You may place your stone in the offering plate as it comes your way during the offertory as a physical token of your offering to the LORD. (This is also a great way to teach children and others about sacrificial giving.)

Meditation: Preparing our Hearts for Worship (Colossians 1:15-20)

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. ESV

Welcome + Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Assi Family

First Week of Advent: The Prophets Candle (purple candle)

The first candle is the Prophets Candle, signifying the Light of Hope to the prophets. The prophets were men called by God to speak His Word to the people of Israel. At times the prophets spoke promises made by God that would come true many years in the future. Often the promises related to the coming of the Messiah, God's Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

God Calls Us to Worship Him (Isaiah 9:6-7)

Call to Worship:

Leader: For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called

People: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Leader: Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,

All: to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Prayer of Invocation + Adoration

Hymns of Praise + Adoration

O Come, All Ye Faithful (Hymn #208) *4 verses**

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God Graciously Renews Us in Christ

Corporate Confession of Sin:

Leader: *For thus said the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel, "In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength." But you were unwilling... (Isaiah 30:15)*

Therefore, let us confess our sins saying ...

People: Lord God, our lives are filled with sin.
We forget our neighbor's needs
And do not love You above all else.
We need a Savior.
Help us to be ready for Jesus in our own hearts.
O come, O come, Savior of the world, we pray...

Silent Confession & Reflection

The Words of the Gospel for those who repent and believe:

Leader: *Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. (Isaiah 1:18)*

People: Amen!

Hymn of Renewal:

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (Hymn #529)

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Baptism Of Covenant Child

Blythe Bagby

Covenant child of Titus and Crystal Bagby

God Calls Us to Make Offerings

Tithes + Offerings:

The Offering of the Prayers of the People: Titus Bagby

Missionaries: Nono and Kate Beale

Ministry: Deaf community at Isaiah 55 Ministries, Reynosa,
Tamaulipas

People: 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

The Collection of our Tithes + Offerings

While there are many ways to contribute financially to God's Kingdom, the church is the primary means by which that kingdom is established on earth. Thus, God calls us first and foremost to be faithful in the regular, ongoing support of one's local church body through tithes and offerings. If you haven't made tithing a practice, please consider adopting tithing or generous giving as a spiritual practice—that you might grow in faith and that together we might increase Westminster's capacity to be the body of Christ in Bryan & College Station for the world.

If you give to Westminster online or by mail, please take a stone as you enter the sanctuary. You may place your stone in the offering plate as it comes your way as a physical token of your offering to the LORD. (This is also a great way to teach children and others about sacrificial giving.) If you would like to participate with your giving in real time, visit wpcbryan.org to give online, and navigate to the Giving + Membership tab. You may give online using a credit card or bank draft through our ChurchTrac portal. If you prefer to set up text giving, text the number of an amount to 844-987-4483 and you'll be guided through setup.

Offertory

The Presentation of our Tithes + Offerings

Prayer of Dedication

God Gives Us His Word

Morning Lesson

Radiance of Christ

Hebrews 1:1-3a

REV WADE COLEMAN

Hymn of Response:

Fullness of Grace (Songbook #47)

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God Feeds Us His Covenant Meal

The Lord's Supper:

Preparation for Communion

Words of Institution: I Corinthians 11:23-26

Invitation + Warning

Prayer + Setting Apart the Bread and Wine

Holy Communion

Distribution of Communion Elements

Communion Hymn:

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (Hymn #193)

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Taking Together the Bread and Cup

Confession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only- begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven, and is seated on the right hand of the
Father;
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the
dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, and giver of Life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;
who spoke by the Prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen

God Blesses Us and Sends Us Forth

Benediction:

Jude 24-25

Leader: *To Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before His glorious presence without fault and with great joy – to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore!*

People: **AMEN!**

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow (Songbook #44a)

Passing of the Peace

Minister: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also, with you.**

GREET ONE ANOTHER WITH A SIGN OF FRIENDSHIP SUCH AS:
"THE PEACE OF CHRIST BE WITH YOU" & "AND ALSO WITH YOU."