

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, December 13, 2009

11:15 a.m.

Third Sunday of Advent

THE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

It is the aim of this church to present a religion as considerate of persons as the teaching of Jesus, as devoted to justice as the Old Testament prophets, as responsive to truth as science, as beautiful as art, as intimate as the home, and as indispensable as the air we breathe. For the achievement of this goal we bid you welcome, and invite your attendance, your prayers, your gifts, and your service.

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

PRELUDE – Christmas Collage arr. Phillips
CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for you have looked favorably upon your people.

People: You have raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of your servant David.

Leader: By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us,

People: To give light to those who sit in darkness and guide our feet into the way of peace.

Leader: Let us worship God.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Jack & Roxanne Cromartie

The candle of joy is the third candle on the Advent Wreath. It is rose colored to symbolize our joy at the coming of Christ.

* HYMN - No. 11 VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN
"O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?"

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of abounding grace, have mercy upon us. Our valleys are deep when we are encircled by cares and concerns. Our mountains are high when our burdens are heavy. We grope in the maze of our tangled alliances and reap the pain of bad choices and ignorant gambles. You promised that all flesh shall see your salvation. Show us the straight path and the smooth way that lead to your righteousness, through Jesus Christ, who is the way.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

* GLORIA PATRI (Hymnal, No. 579)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP, COMMON CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

MORNING PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SERVICE OF GIVING

Offertory – Christmas Lullaby arr. Thompson

* Doxology (Hymnal, No. 592)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

* HYMN – No. 23 GLORIA
"Angels We Have Heard on High"

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"THE WORLD SINGS NOEL"

The Christmas Story in Global Song

Presented by the Cherub Choir and

Junior and Senior Choristers

Written by Hal Hopson

Christ Comes That We May Have Love from Cameroon

Mary's Song from Russia

The Virgin Mary Had A Baby Boy from the West Indies

Glory to God from Peru

Dance of the Shepherds from Ireland

From a Distant Land from Puerto Rico

Silent Night from France

Ring the Bells

Cherub Choir

Sing Noel! from Liberia

* HYMN - No. 22 REGENT SQUARE
"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE - "Go Tell It On the Mountain" arr. Hayes

THE CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

CHERUB CHOIR

Caroline Alexander, Leif Wilson Busby, May Busby, Owen Clark, Teddy Cobb, Chloe Draganic, Cara DuBose, Riley Dunlap, Grant Eades, Ava Eads, Murray Freedman, Sarah Grace Givens, Ellison Mallico, Cain McCall, Heather Meece, Grant Moon, Ella Newton, Alexander Reid, John Sanders, Trey Sanders, Rylie Shaw, Kristen Schultz, Emma Shurley, Bruce Usher, Grayson White, Brice Woodhouse

JUNIOR CHORISTERS

Cate Alexander, Grace Beasley, Luke Beasley, Emily Broderick, Abigail Cavallo, Addie Cobb, Wilkie Cobb, Luka Draganic, Ellie DuBose, Holly Dumpert, Caroline Eades, Kate Edmondson, Chase Givens, Addison Godwin, Ethan Hammond, Neal Hammond, Madeleine Hopkins, Cooper Kemp, Morgan Key, Logan Leonard, Ellis McLarty, Jackson Miller, Jack Moon, Wiley Phillips, Kailyn Puckett, Kell Runnion, Anna Sanders, Davis Taylor, Davis Usher, Sutton Vanderbloemen, Alec Miller, Riley Smith, Townshend Gillespie

SENIOR CHORISTERS

Timothy Christie, Marion Caroline Crawford, Madison Dumpert, Frances Farmer, Mary Hunter Hyche, Merideth Jones, Tres Key, Robert Matlock, Caroline McCall, Grady Mauney, Kallie Phillips, Erin Schultz, Nathan Schultz, Irene Tate, Grace Taylor, Sloan Wilson, Julianne Wise

* **All who are able may stand**

HEAD USHER: David Massey

GREETERS: Tod Hyche, Mary Ashmore, Tim Madden

LITURGIST: Ludwig Weaver

If you are visiting this morning, we extend a special welcome to you.

Westminster Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is a community of faith open to all who profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PARKING

We have permission to use the parking lots at the Uniform Shop and Augusta Commons Mall.

TRAFFIC POLICE OFFICER

A Greenville city police officer will be on duty from 9:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. to help people cross the street from the other side of Augusta Road.

CHURCH NOTES

The leaders for Children's Church this Sunday, December 13 are:

9:00 a.m. *Brian & Lauren Price*

11:15 a.m. **NO CHILDREN'S**

CHURCH

Musicians leading in worship this Sunday are: *Nancy Smith*, organist

9:00 a.m.

Westminster Bells

11:15 a.m.

Cherub Choir

Junior Choristers

Senior Choristers

To help us maintain the spirit of worship, please DO NOT take pictures or videos during the musical. Audio and video copies will be available in the church office for \$1.00.

BIRTH

A daughter, *Mary Lane Lucas*, was born to Brad & Sarah Lucas, on Monday, November 30, 2009, in Greenville.

BAPTISM

This morning we welcome into our fellowship *Charles Rodgers Rowan*, son of Stuart & Kathryn Rowan, brother of Margaret.

SYMPATHY

We extend sincere sympathy to *Louise McGill* on the death of her daughter, *Mary Louise McGill Calvo*, on Monday, November 30, 2009 in Simpsonville.

CSInfo

Why Creation Stewardship?

"The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world and those who dwell in it."

Psalm 24:1

The Creation Stewardship group will meet this **Sunday, December 13, at 9:00 a.m.** in Room 212.

CHRISTCARE GATHERINGS

ChristCare Small Groups continue to welcome visitors and new members. For more information, go to www.wpc-online.org and click on *Connect* and then *Small Groups*.

This week:

· **Bible Study Group: Monday, December 14 in the Entrance Pavilion at 7:00 p.m., John Macrae**, 268-6569 or jmacrae126@aol.com.

· **Luncheon Group: Wednesday, December 16 in Room 211 at noon, Dot Elmore**, 286-0036 or dotelmore@bellsouth.net.

WESTMINSTER

BLOOD DRIVE

The final blood drive for 2009 will be **Monday, December 14**, from 3:00 - 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. As we approach the Advent Season your gift of donating blood is much needed. Contact *Stephen Demosthenes* at jstephendemosthenes@gmail.com or call him at 918-2563. Give the Gift of Life.

THEOLOGY READING GROUP

The Theology Reading Group will meet on **Monday, December 14, at 7:00 p.m.** in the Charter Room. *Sam Inman* will lead a discussion of the book, The Healing of America: A Global Quest for Better, Cheaper and Fairer Health Care. All are welcome.

2010 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

As of Tuesday, December 8, we have received **\$1,607,591** in pledges toward our 2010 pledge goal of **\$1,812,114**.

For your convenience, pledge cards are in the pews, or you may mail in your pledge or send it by email to the Church Financial Secretary, *Sherri Owens* at secretary@wpc-online.org.

IRA CONTRIBUTIONS

The IRA Charitable Rollover legislation enacted on October 3, 2008 permits taxpayers at the age of 70 and ½ years and older to make tax-free charitable gifts totaling up to \$100,000 per year from traditional Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA) and Roth IRA's during 2009.

SIXERS

This **Sunday, December 13**, we will have our Sixers Christmas Party and gift exchange at the church. Bring a \$5 gift that both a boy or girl would like, and join us for some Christmas fun! If you have any questions about the Sixers group, please call Barbara Stoop at 232-2424.

JUNIOR HIGHS

This **Sunday, December 13**, we will celebrate together on our annual progressive dinner. Plan on being at the church as close to **5:00 p.m.** as possible. The cost is \$5. We will return to the church by **6:30 p.m.** There is *no* meeting on December 20th or 27th. If you have any questions about the Jr. High group, please call Steve Phillips at 232-2424 or 380-5269.

SENIOR HIGHS

We realize that testing begins on Monday, so on **Sunday, December 13**, we want you to take a break and meet us in the Sr. High room at **6:00 p.m.** to exchange our tacky t-shirts, eat dinner, and watch a Christmas movie together. We also ask that you bring at least one can of food that we can collect to feed the hungry. We will finish at **8:00 p.m.** On **Sunday, December 20**, we will go to *Colin and Grayson Stafford's* home (101 Club Forest Ln.) for an oyster roast beginning at **6:00 p.m.** If you have any questions about the Sr. High group, please call Steve Phillips at 232-2424 or 380-5269.

YOUTH WINTER RETREATS

We will be going to Camp Buc this year for our Winter Retreats. Our retreats will be on a Friday through Sunday, with a day trip to Sapphire Valley on Saturday for skiing or tubing. The cost is \$125. For the **Sr. Highs** our trip will be on **January 8-10** (*space is still available - sign up asap*) and for the **Jr. Highs** our trip will be **February 19-21** (*please sign up by January 17th*).

SENIOR HIGHS SUMMER AT MONTREAT

If you are in the Senior High group or an 8th grader, it is time to sign up for our Summer Youth Conference at Montreat. The conference is **July 25 - 31** and the cost is \$350. *Sign up by Sunday, December 27*. Partial or full scholarships are available. Please call Steve Phillips at 232-2424 or 380-5269 if you have any questions.

THE FLOCK

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, December 15**, and *Kevin Lancaster and Stephen Woods* will be leading our study beginning at **6:30 p.m.** If you want to join us for dinner at **6:00 p.m.**, please bring your own take-out. You can enter through the bridge entrance on the side of the Fellowship Hall and we will be upstairs. Childcare is provided. On **Saturday, December 19**, we invite you all to join us for our Christmas party at the home of *Ben & Cathy Alexander* (16 Lanneau Drive) beginning at **6:00 pm**. If you have any questions about The Flock or if you would like to get on our email list, contact Steve Phillips at 232-2424 or 380-5269.

"IT'S ELEMENTARY!"

Next **Wednesday, December 16**, there will be *no* regular "It's Elementary!" or Tweens. **Instead** we will be going to Gatti Town on Woodruff Road for a Christmas party. Parents should drop you off at Gatti Town at **3:00 p.m.** and pick you up there at **5:00 p.m.** The cost is \$12.00 and includes the buffet and a \$10 game card. There are no cherub or children's choirs that day. You do not need to sign up. If you walk from Augusta Circle and cannot get a ride, you can contact Steve Phillips at 380-5269. He has a few places available for those needing a ride to Gatti Town.

THE YOUNG ADULT GROUP

Our next meeting for our new young adult group (aiming at those in their twenties or early thirties) will be on **Wednesday, December 16**, at **6:30 p.m.** in the Sr. High Lounge. If you plan to join us for dinner anytime after 5:30 p.m., please email michelle@wpc-online.org by *Monday, December 14*. Childcare is provided. If you have any questions about this new group or if you would like to get on our email list, please contact Steve Phillips at 232-2424 or 380-5269.

TNT

TNT will be meeting on **Saturday, December 19**, at **3:00 p.m.** at the church for a family mission day. Join us as we decorate cookies, address cards to missionaries, make gifts for loved ones, shop for the Samaritan House and much more. We will end our day by going to Roper Mountain to see the Christmas lights. For more information about this or any other TNT event, please contact *Lisa Bryant* at 220-6629.

THE HARBINGER WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2310 Augusta Road Greenville, South Carolina 29605 (864) 232-2424

www.wpc-online.org

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CHURCH STAFF

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Associate Pastor	Barbara Stoop
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Parish Associate	Jean Weaver
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Office Manager	Michelle Little
	michelle@wpc-online.org
Secretary	Wendy Waldrop
	wendy@wpc-online.org
Maintenance	Rick Thompson
	Ivan Ryder

THE SESSION The Class of 2010

Cathy Bailey	Tim Madden
Wes Bryant	Rob Morgan
Claude Cheatham	Trey Morrow
Christine Edmondson	Paul O'Neal
Jim Gettys	Will Quinn
Joan Herlong	Gaye Sprague

The Class of 2011

Vernon Anderson	Tod Hyché
Mary Ashmore	Suzanne Meece
Denise Broderick	Tina Phillips
Christopher Carsten	Charlie Warth
Trey DuBose	Catherine Whitmire
Anne Holleman	Jim Young

The Class of 2012

Ben Alexander	Amy Grace
Chris Beard	Jennifer Keir
Gayle Blouin	Tim Reed
Howard Boyd	Amanda Sanders
Dorothy Dowe	Paul Schultz
Joe Frasher	Courtenay Williams

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 13 - 19, 2009

SUNDAY

8:15 a.m. Finance Committee Meeting
 9:00 a.m. Worship Service
 Creation Stewardship
 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
 Personnel Committee Meeting
 11:15 a.m. Worship Service
 3:30 p.m. Cub Scouts
 5:00 p.m. Sr. High Choir Rehearsal
 Jr. & Sixers Group Meetings
 6:00 p.m. Youth Dinner
 Education Committee Meeting
 Witness & Service Committee Meeting
 6:30 p.m. Jr. & Sixers Choir Rehearsal
 Sr. High Group Meeting
 7:00 p.m. Stated Session Meeting
 8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous

MONDAY

9:00 a.m. Moms In Touch
 2:00 p.m. Blood Drive
 5:15 p.m. NAMI
 6:30 p.m. Weekday School Committee Meeting
 7:00 p.m. ChristCare: Bible Study Group
 Theology Reading Group
 8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

TUESDAY

12:00 p.m. Al-Anon
 5:00 p.m. Cub Scouts
 6:00 p.m. The Flock
 6:45 p.m. Boy Scouts

WEDNESDAY

11:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
 12:00 p.m. ChristCare: Luncheon Group
 3:00 p.m. "It's Elementary!" and Tweens to Gatti Town
 5:30 p.m. JustFaith
 5:45 p.m. Dinner
 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY

3:00 p.m. Daisy Troop
 8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

FRIDAY

Gift Wrapping at the Mall (6 p.m. - 10 p.m.)
 4:00 p.m. Youth Choir to Atlanta

SATURDAY

Gift Wrapping at the Mall (10 a.m. - 10 p.m.)
 3:00 p.m. TNT Mission Day
 6:00 p.m. The Flock Christmas party



*For unto whomsoever much is given,
 of him shall be much required:
 and to whom men have committed much,
 of him they will ask the more.*

Luke 12:48 (KJV)

No verse in the Bible has caused me more consternation, guilt or worry. By any standard, much has been given to my family. We have four healthy children. We have jobs that are rewarding and that we enjoy. We have a close family and the love of dear friends. Truly, we have been blessed. But it is this knowledge that bothers me so much. I have been given so much, but am I giving back what is required?

We just celebrated Thanksgiving a few weeks ago, and our family focused on being thankful for all the simple things that matter most. But I did not understand the meaning of being thankful until earlier today. This afternoon, I attended the funeral of the four year old grandson of one of my nurses. He was born with Down Syndrome, which left him with numerous medical problems along with the most warm-hearted disposition I have ever seen. At a little over a year old, he was diagnosed with leukemia, a disease unfortunately common in Down children. With a bravery that belied his age, he went through a year of treatments, culminating in a bone marrow transplant. For two years, he was "cured," living as normal a life as possible, always stopping to shake every hand in every room he entered. His time was short, however. Just a few weeks ago, the cancer came back and he died peacefully over Thanksgiving weekend.

The loss of a child is always filled with sadness, but, at this funeral, I was overcome by the sense of thankfulness for the life of this child. His life was a blessing for this family. They felt that through him, they had been given so much. To honor his memory, much would be required of them. The motto for his life was, "he was born different, so that he could make a difference." You just knew that this family would make it their mission to give back to their church and their community. In this instance, thankfulness and responsibility went hand in hand.

As we pass from Thanksgiving to Christmas, I continue to question if I am giving as good as I have gotten. The life of a special four year old boy has shown me that we have all been given so much and that it is our responsibility to give even more in return.

Trey DuBose

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A PLACE FOR EVERYONE

The last part of our A Place For Everyone capital campaign construction is now taking place (you may have noticed the big, ugly dumpster sitting in the parking lot). We are doubling the size of the library by tearing out a wall. Our library is an important element of our educational program. Pat Shufeldt and her able library committee do a magnificent job of providing reading and study materials for all ages. The library has needed additional space for some time, and now we are pleased to be taking care of this last piece of the construction puzzle.

A second element of this process is enhancing the hall lighting and carpeting. These halls are the oldest part of our facility, constructed in the 1960's, and in great need of renovation.

I might also add that as a part of the church budget we replaced all the fire alarm wiring in this old section (at a cost of \$24,000) and you will notice the new parking lot lights. These improvements were needed for both security and to meet electrical requirements.

All of this is possible because of your faithfulness and generosity. We want the Church to be a place where children and adults can meet in safe and secure surroundings, a place where each person finds a home. Thank you for making this a reality.

Ludwig L. Weaver

COLLEGE STUDENTS

It will be great to have you home for the holidays. On Sunday, December 20, we have two events scheduled for you. First, at 12:30 p.m. we ask that you join us in the Entrance Pavilion for lunch. Then, at 6:00 p.m. we ask that you join our Sr. Highs at the home of Maggie Stafford (101 Club Forest Ln.) for an oyster roast. Please call or email Steve Phillips (380-5269 or sphillips@wpc-online.org) to let us know if you will be able to come to either or both events so that we may plan accordingly.

GIFT WRAPPING AT THE MALL

Come join the youth at the mall for our annual fund raiser with the Beth Israel Synagogue and the Temple of Israel. There is one weekend left: December 18 and 19. As we do every year, we are asking for your help. If you can wrap presents or if you just want to come to the mall and lend support, please call Steve Phillips at 232-2424 ext. 116 or 380-5269 or via email at sphillips@wpc-online.org to sign up. Thank you for your help.

LIBRARY/POINSETTIA MEMORIALS

Those who wish to remember loved ones during the Christmas Season may do so in two ways. Poinsettias for the sanctuary may be purchased for \$15.00, or money may be given to buy library books. Poinsettias will decorate the sanctuary at the Lessons & Carols and Christmas Eve Services. Orders must be placed by Monday, December 14. Please fill out the slip below or contact the church office, 232-2424. Donors may pick up their poinsettias after the Christmas Eve Service you choose to attend.

Donor _____
In Memory of _____
In Memory of _____
In Honor of _____
In Honor of _____
Library Amount \$ _____ OR Poinsettias x \$15.00 = \$ _____

over

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Library Amount \$ _____ OR Poinsettias x \$15.00 = \$ _____

over

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2009 BUDGET UPDATE

2009 Pledges \$1,681,690
Amount Received \$1,340,580
Pledges Outstanding (\$341,109)

Our auditing firm has informed us that we must close our books on December 31. Please have any contributions you wish to show on your 2009 statement in by December 31, 2009. By fulfilling your pledge, you enable us to keep faith with our mission partners. Thank you.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S CIRCLES

All PW members, please bring to the church office for redistribution to a neighboring congregation your copy of last year's 2008-2009 *Horizons* Bible study book - "Jubilee! Luke's Gospel for the Poor."

CHRISTMAS TREES

To make our sanctuary, entrance pavilion and sanctuary atrium festive for the Christmas season, the New Members and New Member Assimilation Committee, the Young Adult Group, along with children from the TNT group, decorated this year's Christmas trees.

ADVENT SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

The Third Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Worship Service-Preaching/Advent Wreath Lighting
11:15 a.m. Worship Service-Children's Christmas Musical/Advent Wreath Lighting
5:00 p.m. Junior High Progressive Dinner/Sixers Christmas Party
6:00 p.m. Senior High Christmas Party

Wednesday, December 16

3:00 p.m. "It's Elementary!" and Tweens Christmas party at Gatti Town
6:30 p.m. ChristCare Christmas Party

Friday, December 18

4:00 p.m. Youth Choir to Atlanta (thru 19th)
6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. Senior High Gift Wrap

Saturday, December 19

10:00 a.m. -10:00 p.m. Senior High Gift Wrap
3:00 p.m. TNT Mission Day
6:00 p.m. The Flock Christmas Party

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. & 11:15 a.m. Advent Wreath Lighting/
49th Annual Service of Lessons & Carols
12:15 p.m. College Luncheon
6:00 p.m. Senior High and College Christmas Oyster Roast

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m. Candlelight Worship Service/Advent Wreath Lighting
6:00 p.m. Candlelight Worship Service/Advent Wreath Lighting

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27

10:00 a.m. Brunch (no Sunday School)
11:15 a.m. One Worship Service

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2009 BUDGET UPDATE

2009 Pledges \$1,681,690
Amount Received \$1,340,580
Pledges Outstanding (\$341,109)

Our auditing firm has informed us that we must close our books on December 31. Please have any contributions you wish to show on your 2009 statement in by December 31, 2009. By fulfilling your pledge, you enable us to keep faith with our mission partners. Thank you.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S CIRCLES

All PW members, please bring to the church office for redistribution to a neighboring congregation your copy of last year's 2008-2009 *Horizons* Bible study book - "Jubilee! Luke's Gospel for the Poor."

CHRISTMAS TREES

To make our sanctuary, entrance pavilion and sanctuary atrium festive for the Christmas season, the New Members and New Member Assimilation Committee, the Young Adult Group, along with children from the TNT group, decorated this year's Christmas trees. trees.

ADVENT SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

The Third Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Worship Service-Preaching/Advent Wreath Lighting
11:15 a.m. Worship Service-Children's Christmas Musical/Advent Wreath Lighting
5:00 p.m. Junior High Progressive Dinner/Sixers Christmas Party
6:00 p.m. Senior High Christmas Party

Wednesday, December 16

3:00 p.m. "It's Elementary!" and Tweens Christmas party at Gatti Town
6:30 p.m. ChristCare Christmas Party

Friday, December 18

4:00 p.m. Youth Choir to Atlanta (thru 19th)
6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. Senior High Gift Wrap

Saturday, December 19

10:00 a.m. -10:00 p.m. Senior High Gift Wrap
3:00 p.m. TNT Mission Day
6:00 p.m. The Flock Christmas Party

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. & 11:15 a.m. Advent Wreath Lighting/
49th Annual Service of Lessons & Carols
12:15 p.m. College Luncheon
6:00 p.m. Senior High and College Christmas Oyster Roast

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m. Candlelight Worship Service/Advent Wreath Lighting
6:00 p.m. Candlelight Worship Service/Advent Wreath Lighting

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27

10:00 a.m. Brunch (no Sunday School)
11:15 a.m. One Worship Service

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2009 BUDGET UPDATE

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THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
Sunday, December 13, 2009
9:00 a.m.

Third Sunday of Advent

THE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

It is the aim of this church to present a religion as considerate of persons as the teaching of Jesus, as devoted to justice as the Old Testament prophets, as responsive to truth as science, as beautiful as art, as intimate as the home, and as indispensable as the air we breathe. For the achievement of this goal we bid you welcome, and invite your attendance, your prayers, your gifts, and your service.

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

PRELUDE – Overture to MESSIAH Handel

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for you have looked favorably upon your people.

People: You have raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of your servant David.

Leader: By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us,

People: To give light to those who sit in darkness and guide our feet into the way of peace.

Leader: Let us worship God.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Bill & Ruth Algary

The candle of joy is the third candle on the Advent Wreath. It is rose colored to symbolize our joy at the coming of Christ.

* HYMN – No. 11 VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN
“O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?”

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of abounding grace, have mercy upon us. Our valleys are deep when we are encircled by cares and concerns. Our mountains are high when our burdens are heavy. We grope in the maze of our tangled alliances and reap the pain of bad choices and ignorant gambles. You promised that all flesh shall see your salvation. Show us the straight path and the smooth way that lead to your righteousness, through Jesus Christ, who is the way.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

* GLORIA PATRI (Hymnal, No. 579)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

BAPTISM OF CHARLES RODGERS ROWAN

over

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WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP, COMMON CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

MORNING PRAYERS

THE LORD’S PRAYER

ANTHEMStephenson

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

K5 and first grade children leave for Children’s Church after the anthem.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON – Malachi 3:1-4 (Page 889) *Suzanne Meece*

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON – Luke 1:68-79 (Page 58)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON *Dave Carlson*

“THE Big Moment”

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

SERVICE OF GIVING

Anthem – “Noel Nouvelet” Dobrinski

* Doxology (Hymnal, No. 592)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication

* HYMN – No. 23 GLORIA

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE – “And the Glory of the Lord” from MESSIAH Handel

* ***All who are able may stand***

HEAD USHER: Tim Raney

SPONSOR: Butler Mullins

GREETERS: Paul O’Neal, Jennifer Keir, Jim Young

LITURGIST: Steve Phillips

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