

Westminster Presbyterian Church



Children's Christmas Program
"One Blustery Evening"
December 12, 2021

Westminster At Worship

A Celebration of Worship

Third Sunday of Advent

Children's Christmas Program

December 12, 2021

10:30 a.m.

Please silence your cell phones prior to entering the sanctuary.

†Those who are able to stand may do so.



GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Wendy Tally

†CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: The story begins with hope for a child —

PEOPLE: A child, born of woman, like us;

LEADER: A child who will lead us,

PEOPLE: A child who will inspire us.

LEADER: A child who will be our living hope.

PEOPLE: We give thanks for the coming child, Jesus.

OPENING HYMN

"While We Are Waiting, Come"

Children of Westminster

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

READER 1: How can we share hope?

READER 2: When others are weary and broken, we strengthen them.

PEOPLE: The candle that takes its light from another has light to share.

LEADER 1: How can we share hope?

READER 2: When we are weary and tired, we lean on the hope others provide.

PEOPLE: Jesus says, “Come to me all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”

LEADER: On this third Sunday of Advent, let us light a candle to share hope.

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the future, you are coming in power to lead all people.

We confess that we are impatient and do not wait for your kingdom. We do not listen for your truth, we do not help others when we are able, we forget that you love others, as much as you love us.

In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome you into our lives, today, and everyday. Help us to hear, to see, and to share the hope of our salvation.

— *A Time of Silent Confession* —

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God. Amen.

[†]SHARING GOD'S PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

God of all kindness, you gave your only Son, because you loved the world so much.

We pray for the peace of the world. Move among us by your Spirit, break down barriers of fear, suspicion, and hatred. Heal the human family of its divisions and unite it in the bonds of justice and peace.

We pray for our country. Enrich our common life; strengthen the forces of truth and goodness; teach us to share prosperity, that those whose lives are impoverished may pass from need and despair to dignity and joy.

We pray for those who suffer. Surround them in your love, support them with your strength, console them with your comfort, and give them hope and courage beyond themselves.

We pray for our families, for those who we love. Protect them at home; support them in times of difficulty and anxiety, that they may grow together in mutual love and understanding, and rest in one another.

We pray for our many siblings in Christ, our friends and family members who need to feel your presence in their lives this day: (Daily Prayer Concerns)

We pray for the Church. Keep us true to the gospel and responsive to the gifts and needs of all. Make known your saving power in Jesus Christ, by the witness of our faith, our worship, and our life. Hear us as we pray together:

The Lord's Prayer

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.

SHARING HOPE

“One Blustery Evening”

MUSIC

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

“Canticle of Turning (My Soul Cries Out)”

“Away in A Manger”

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

“Happy Birthday, Jesus”
Junior Choir

[†]UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Loving God, your story of salvation and rescue has been told from the beginning. We give you thanks that you came to us in Jesus, and we await his return with hope and anticipation. Use these our gifts, to share your message of hope, love, and salvation with all the world. Amen.

BEING SENT WITH GOD’S WORD

HYMN OF DEDICATION

“Joy to the World”
Children of Westminster

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Liturgical texts used with permission from:

Opening Prayer by John Birch, www.faithandworship.com

Call to Worship adapted from Beth Merrill Neel, www.holdfasttowhatisgood.com

Other liturgy from Book of Common Worship (2018). WJK Press.

“One Blustery Evening” is based on the book “One Wintery Night” by Ruth Bell Graham and was adapted for this service by Brandi Higgins.

“One Blustery Evening”

Director:
Brandi Higgins

Assistant Directors:
Ray Weatherwax
Reverend Jamie Milton

Narrator: John Tapley

Zeb: Max Weatherwax

Lady: Reverend Linda Williams

Snake: Sabine Sivy

Eve: Luna Bucec

God: Reverend Jamie Milton

Adam: Brevin Chambers

Noah: James Graves

Noah's Family: Averi Bucec, Josie Bucec, Emerson Chambers, Lillian Chambers, Harper Lindahl Milton, Everett Morse, Ivy Morse, Camilla Schmidt

Moses: Dylan Heidtman

Pharaoh: Michaela Call

Israelites: Luna Bucec, Brevin Chambers, Everett Chambers, Isaiah Lindahl Milton, Lillia Shelagowski, Karma Weatherwax

Isaiah: Emerson Chambers

Micah: Karma Weatherwax

Angel 1: Lillian Chambers

Mary: Lauren Graves

Joseph: Lillia Shelagowski

Child 1: Josie Bucec

Child 2: Harper Lindahl Milton

Child 3: Emily Majchrzak

Child A: Camilla Schmidt

Child B: Isaiah Lindahl Milton

Child C: Everett Morse

Shepherds: Luna Bucec, Michaela Call, James Graves, Lilly Graves, Dylan Heidtman, Harper Lindahl Milton, Everett Morse, Sabine Sivy

Angel 2: Averi Bucec

Angels: Josie Bucec, Brevin Chambers, Emerson Chambers, Lillian Chambers, Emily Majchrzak, Ivy Morse, Karma Weatherwax

Other honorable mentions:

Costumes: Reverend Jamie Milton, Tami Sivy, Sandra Graves, Judy Hudson

Set Design: Lilly Graves, Brandi Higgins, Harold Miller, Reverend Jamie Milton

Set painting: Michaela Call, Lillian Chambers, Lilly Graves, Ray Weatherwax, Karma Weatherwax

Tech Crew: Colin Heidtman, Rick Hebner, Aaron Morse, John Tapley

Special thank you to Sandy Graves, Allie Higgins, Tami Sivy, Faith Sneller, Leah Sneller, and Amy Weatherwax for their help during rehearsals and performance time; whether it be helping the youth paint and clean, or sitting with our young children and helping to keep them occupied and on task.

A very special thank you to all parents and families that made sure all the children and youth were able to be here for practices and extra rehearsals. We couldn't have done this without you!

MINISTERS
PASTOR
PARISH ASSOCIATE
DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY
NURSERY SUPERVISOR
CHOIR DIRECTOR
HAND BELL DIRECTOR
ORGANIST
TREASURER
CUSTODIAN
SECRETARY
CCLI License #2328090

All the People
Rev. Jamie Milton
Rev. Linda Williams
Brandi Higgins
Elaine Edwards
Dawn Auger
Peggy Hanson
Wendy Tally
Heather Heidtman
Harold Miller
Judy Harrelson

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 12, 2021

PRAYERS are extended to the family and friends of Gay Greene. Gay passed away on Saturday, December 4, 2021. A Memorial Ceremony will take place at Westminster on Wednesday, December 15 at 1:00 p.m. Visitation will take place with the family at 12:00 p.m. until the time of the service.

FLOWERS today are given by Beth and Joel Corey in memory of Elizabeth Rowley.

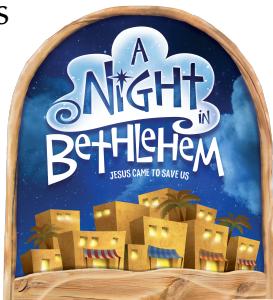
OFFERING ENVELOPES: 2022 envelopes are available for pickup in the hallway outside the Chapel.

PER CAPITA: If you have not paid your 2021 per capita (\$28.76) you can still get that in this month. Per capita for 2022 is \$29.00. Please do not pay your 2022 per capita until January 1 or after.

CONTRIBUTIONS you would like credited for 2021 must reach Heather Heidtman (or be postmarked) by December 31, 2021. Anything received or postmarked after December 31, regardless of the date on the check or offering envelope, will be credited to 2022.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING with children and youth will take place on Thursday, December 16 from 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. Adults are welcome to join! Please see Brandi for details.

A NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM: Join us Sunday, December 19 at 4:00 p.m. for a fun-filled evening for children, youth, family, and friends to walk the streets of Bethlehem at the time Jesus was born. There will be lots to see and do in Bethlehem. Yummy food, shopkeepers to do crafts with, people to talk with about their life in Bethlehem, and even Mary and Joseph will be there. You won't want to miss this!!



LONGEST NIGHT SERVCE: Sometimes, in the midst of the busy Christmas season, we simply need a quiet place to sit with our thoughts, to be, and to worship. We need the space and time to acknowledge our feelings and concerns; we need to know that we are not alone. We need encouragement to live the days ahead of us. Join us for our "Longest Night" Contemplative Christmas Service as we worship together through prayer, scripture, and music that acknowledges God's presence is always with us — and that God's Word comes to shine light into our darkness. Join us Monday, December 20 at 6:00 p.m. Refreshments will follow the service.

INTERGENERATIONAL MOVIE EVENT: For many people, the holiday season feels like it is not quite complete without watching a favorite movie with family or friends. On Tuesday, December 21 — when the kids have already started Christmas break — we will gather in Fellowship Hall at 1:00 p.m. to watch the movie, "The Star." In addition to just the

fun of all being together to watch a movie, we will enjoy snacks together — popcorn, soda, and of course Christmas cookies. If you are an adult who loves to make Christmas cookies or a family who likes to bake together, you are welcome to share your tasty treats with the whole group. Any questions, please call the church office, Brandi Higgins, or Rev. Linda.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES: Join us on Christmas Eve for one of our candle lighting services. This year's services will be held at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Twenty minutes prior to each of these services (12:40 and 6:40), those who wish are invited to gather outside in front of the church around the Advent wreath for a time to sing some of our favorite Christmas carols before proceeding inside for our Christmas Eve candlelight service.

OUR STEPHEN MINISTRY PROGRAM is venturing into volunteering with Hospice. We would like to invite anyone in the congregation to join us. Your time commitment is up to you. The Hospice co-ordinator is great to work with, and will assign you with the job that best suits your interests and time. There will be a training session after Christmas for us all to do together. Please call Jan (989-686-1557) or Pam (989-225-8259) for more information or to be put on our volunteer list.

THE WIRED WORD, “where current events and faith intersect,” meets on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom. News is inevitable — whether good or bad, but what better way to extract hope from this input than to juxtapose scriptures as tools to persevere and navigate our daily walk in Christian faith. Our weekly Wired Word gatherings allow us to reflect on the week’s happenings with others who may not share exactly our same thoughts and opinions, but are equally dedicated to thinking about and talking about how current events intersect with our faith questions and convictions. Any questions, or to receive study material and Zoom information, contact Rev. Linda at 686-1360 or parishassoc@wpcbc.org.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: When we respond to Jesus’ summons to “Follow me” and we choose to follow, we are committing to a lifelong apprenticeship journey — one in which we will continually be formed, reformed, and transformed. Discipleship is not a skill, it’s a way of

life. Bible Study classes will be offered at two different times to accommodate various schedules. Join us on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in the Session Room or Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. The same study materials will be used at both gatherings, and are available for pick-up in the church office. See Rev. Linda or Pastor Jamie with any questions.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD: If you are looking for grief support groups, health clinics, or volunteer opportunities that take place within our community, please check out the community bulletin board located in Fellowship Hall.

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK: Westminster Presbyterian Church - Bay City

This Week at Westminster

Today, Sunday, December 12, 2021

9:00 a.m. First Light (Sunday School)
9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
10:30 a.m. Worship Service - Children's Christmas Program
11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
5:00 p.m. Ignite (Youth Group)

Monday, December 13

6:00 p.m. Finance Meeting

Tuesday, December 14

10:00 a.m. Hearts & Hands
10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
1:00 p.m. Bay City Lions Club
1:00 p.m. The Wired Word via Zoom
6:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 150
6:30 p.m. Joint Committee Meetings

Wednesday, December 15

7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study via Zoom

Thursday, December 16

8:30 a.m. TOPS
5:00 p.m. Food of Faith at Messiah
5:00 p.m. Christmas Caroling for Children, Youth & Adults
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Next Sunday, December 19

9:00 a.m. First Light (Sunday School)
9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
10:30 a.m. Worship Service - Proclaiming Hope in Scripture & Song
11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
4:00 p.m. A Night in Bethlehem

Westminster Presbyterian Church

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email: office@wpcbc.org
website: wpcbc.org

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Friday
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.