

The Lord's Service

The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

JANUARY 23, 2022



Westminster Presbyterian Church

POST TENEBRAS LUX

PRELUDE

*O God, Thou faithful God
All Lands to God in Joyful Sounds*

JOHANNES BRAHMS
SHRUBSOLE / WILLAN

Please use the prelude as a time of silent preparation for the worship of the Triune God.

GREETING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

☒ WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 19:

Q. What is the misery of that estate whereinto man fell?

A. All mankind, by their fall, lost communion with God, are under His wrath and curse, and so made liable to all miseries in this life, to death itself, and to the pains of hell forever.

☒ CALL TO WORSHIP

ISAIAH 40:25-26

To whom then will you compare me,
that I should be like him? says the Holy One.

Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these?

He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name;
by the greatness of his might not one is missing.

☒ PRAYER OF THE DAY

God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you, that, loving you above all else, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

☒ HYMN OF PRAISE

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

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CONFESSION OF SINS

Holy God, you see us as we are, and know our inmost thoughts. We confess that we are unworthy of your gracious care. We forget that all life comes from you and that to you all life returns. We have not always sought or done your will. We have not lived as your grateful children, nor loved as Christ loved us. Apart from you, we are nothing. Only your grace can sustain us. Lord, in your mercy, forgive us, heal us and make us whole. Set us free from our sin, and restore to us the joy of your salvation now and forever. Amen.

THE KYRIE ELEISON

*Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

☒ THE PEACE

☒ GLORIA PATRI 735
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.

INTERLUDE *O God, to us Show Mercy* (TRINITY #437)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Eternal God, Your love for us is everlasting; you alone can turn the shadow of death into the brightness of the morning light. Help us to turn to you with believing hearts. In the stillness of this hour, speak to us of eternal things, so that, hearing the promises in scripture, we may have hope and be lifted above our distress into the peace of your presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING ISAIAH 40:12-17, 21-23 *p. 712*

NEW TESTAMENT READING ROMANS 11:33-36 *p. 1126*

⊗ PSALM OF RESPONSE: PSALM 72 *Christ Shall Have Dominion* 439

⊗ GOSPEL READING MATTHEW 22:34-40 *p. 984*

⊗ RESPONSE
The Word of the Lord
Praise be to God.

SERMON *God: An Introduction*

⊗ THE APOSTLES' CREED 845
I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY *My Faith Looks Up to Thee* IRA D. SANKEY / ARR. WHITSETT

⊗ DOXOLOGY 731

*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.*



SURSUM CORDA

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING



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.



HYMN OF DEPARTURE

Thee We Adore, Eternal Lord!

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CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fugue in G minor

CHARPENTIER

PREACHER: Rev. Kevin Chiarot

WORSHIP LEADER: Adam Kuliszewski

ORGANIST: Elaine H. Simpson

God: An Introduction

ISAIAH 40:12-17; ROMANS 11:33-36

1. God and X

Christians are ____ much interested in God.

We have a “God and X” p_____.

X becomes ____; God f____ into the background.

God is w_____ for the American church.

God is un_____; in_____ different from us.

All the nations are a ____ from a bucket; less than n_____.

The whole realm of nature is a present ____ too s_____.

of times God or heaven are mentioned in Hebrews: ____.

2. Ends and Means

Everything goes forth _____ God; everything returns ____ God.

God is the o_____ who is always s_____.

We cannot c_____ loving God into our m_____.

The long quote on the study of God is from ____ _ _____.

The proper study of God’s ____ is _____.

No subject of c_____ will so h_____ the mind.

The subject of God is also eminently c_____.

High _____ is highly _____.

We easily make God merely a _____ to an _____.

Christ died to _____ us to _____.

Our blessed hope is to _____ him as ____ _.

The problem here is the _____ and p_____.

A_____ p_____ is clearly where the p_____ lies.

_____ is a drop in the bucket & the _____ are super important.

God is in_____ more interesting than all other things.

Missions Work Highlight

TONI & DUBRAVKA URUMOV

Strumica, Macedonia

By God's grace the church in Strumica, Macedonia, is doing well. I preach regularly and recently went through our statement of faith. We are also in the process of establishing a membership track and then, forming a team of elders. I also teach a bible studies on Thursday and Friday. My wife, Dubravka, prepares the study questions for both the men's and the women's groups. She is studying theology at the Theological School in Serbia where she recently completed her first semester.

In our church's outreach in the town of Josifovo things are also going well. People are coming to our house group even from the villages outside of Josifovo. Some of these people come from difficult backgrounds and are facing persecution from their families for leaving the Eastern Orthodox Church. We covet your prayers for them. And would you pray that we remain loyal to Christ and protected from the evil one.

May the Lord bless you and the church in Rock Tavern. Your support in God's work here is much appreciated.

Announcements

This month's fellowship meal has been cancelled. February's fellowship meal will be on Sunday, 2/13.

Next Sunday, 1/30, we will have the Christmas movie followed by the fellowship time hosted by the Chiarots.

Sunday School classes will resume on Sunday, 2/06.

WELCOME TO WESTMINSTER

Westminster Church is both a place and a people. We gather in this sacred space to worship, to learn, and to serve God as he meets us in Christ. To this end we dedicate our time, our talent, and our resources. Here the Gospel of Christ is freely proclaimed: *We are weaker and more sinful than we ever dared admit, but through Christ we are more loved and accepted than we ever dared hope.* As a community of Christians, we are building a bridge to the future through faith and friendship. To this end, we pray God will give us strength, vision, and wisdom. We are thankful that you could join with us today. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Welcome to Westminster!

Westminster Stated Services

Worship	10:00AM
Sunday School (<i>Sept–June</i>)	11:45 AM
Sunday Evening Service	6:00 PM

Westminster Kingston

Sunday School	10:00 AM
Worship	11:00 AM

Church & Office Location

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Cover

The Celtic cross reminds us, as Presbyterians, of our historical roots in the British Isles dating back at least to the fifth century. *Post Tenebras Lux* is a Latin slogan from the 16th-century Protestant Reformation meaning *After Darkness, Light*. The cross and the slogan combine to express our desire to be rooted in the ancient faith and to embrace the attainments of the Protestant Reformation.

Westminster was organized in 1854 and is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).

Senior Minister

The Reverend Kevin Chiarot, Ph.D.

Session (Ruling Elders, with Class Year)

Ron Bonagura (2022), Steve Flewelling (2022),
Bob Maucher (2023), Johnson Chang-Fong (2024),
Adam Kuliszewski (2024)
Elder Emeritus: Neil Fick

Board of Deacons (with Class Year)

Joe Schlegel (2022), Tim Elmendorf (2022),
Paul Mowat (Chair: 2023),
Jim Rutigliano (2023), Joe Hall (2024)

Board of Trustees

Steve Flewelling (Chairman)
Bob Maucher (Vice-Chairman)

Staff

Administrative Secretary	Jo-Anne Weber
Christian Education	Brenda Grammer
Choir Director	Elaine H. Simpson
Evangelism	Johnson Chang-Fong
Fellowship	JoAnn Maucher
Financial Recording Secretary	Esther Riffard
Organist	Elaine H. Simpson
Property Manager	Joe Schlegel
Sexton	Rachel McDuffie
Treasurer	Kevin Quirk
Worship Committee	Lori Steinberger