

The Lord's Service

The Epiphany of the Lord

JANUARY 03, 2021



Westminster Presbyterian Church

POST TENEBRAS LUX

PRELUDE

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

☒ CALL TO WORSHIP ISAIAH 60:1,3
Arise, shine, for your light has come!
The glory of the Lord has risen upon you!
Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising!

☒ PRAYER OF THE DAY
Everlasting God, the radiance of faithful souls, who brought the nations to your light and kings to the brightness of your rising: Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the nations; through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

☒ HYMN OF PRAISE *Arise, O God* 442 (vv. 1, 2)

CONFESSION OF SINS

Almighty God, rich in mercy to all who call upon you: Hear us as we come to you humbly confessing our sins and transgressions, and imploring your mercy and forgiveness. We have broken your holy laws by our deeds and words, and by the sinful affections of our hearts. We confess before you our disobedience and ingratitude, our pride and willfulness, and all our failures and shortcomings toward you and our neighbors. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father, and of your great goodness grant that we may serve you in newness of life; through the mediation of Jesus Christ, your Son and our Savior. Amen.

THE KYRIE ELEISON

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSIVE READING OF THE LAW

You shall have no other gods before me.
For from him and through him and to him are all things.

You shall not make for yourself a graven image.

In Christ we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation

You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.
Let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work; but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God.
Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teach and admonish one another in all wisdom, and sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land which the Lord your God gives you.
Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.

You shall not kill.
Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

You shall not commit adultery.
You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

You shall not steal.
Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his hands, so that he may be able to give to those in need.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor
Rather speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house, or anything that is your neighbor's
Take heed, and beware of all covetousness; for a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.



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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Send out your light and your truth, O Lord, that your Word would lead us to your holy hill, and into communion with Christ, the light of the world. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

ISAIAH 60:1-6

NEW TESTAMENT READING

TITUS 2:11-14



GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 2:1-12



RESPONSE

The Word of the Lord
Praise be to God.

SERMON

Epiphany: Past, Present, and Future



THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and 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 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 at 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 forgiveness of sins. And we look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING

(not collected, brought up by deacons)



STANDING IF COMFORTABLE

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: **spoken, sung**

⌘ DOXOLOGY

731

⌘ 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.

THE COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

420

At the lamb's high feast we sing
praise to our victorious King,
who hath washed us in the tide
flowing from his pierced side;
praise we him whose love divine
gives his sacred blood for wine,
gives his body for the feast,
Christ the victim, Christ the priest.

Where the paschal blood is poured,
death's dark angel sheathes his sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go
through the wave that drowns the foe.
Praise we Christ, whose blood was
shed; paschal victim, paschal bread;
with sincerity and love
eat we manna from above.

⌘ HYMN OF DEPARTURE

Christ Is Coming!

324 (vv. 1,4)

⌘ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

⌘ POSTLUDE

PREACHER: Rev. Kevin Chiarot

WORSHIP LEADER: James Phillips(9:00AM)
Ron Bonagura (11:00AM)

ORGANIST: Elaine H. Simpson

Epiphany: Past, Present, and Future

TITUS 2:11-14

Epiphany means m_____ or a_____.

1. Epiphany Past (Grace) v.11.

The in_____ is an epiphany.

The Epiphany was predicted in Is_____ chapter _____.

In Christ, the _____ of _____ has appeared.

2 Cor. _____ benediction: The grace of the _____ J_____ C_____.

This is mighty, tr_____, ap_____ grace.

In the incarnation we see _____ as the great m_____.

Salvation is u_____ in range, c_____ in triumph.

2. Epiphany Present (Godliness) vv.12, 14.

Grace t_____ us for v_____.

The time of the training: this _____ a_____.

R_____ is the foundation of all virtue.

The first class in the school of virtue is entitled: _____!

Ethics toward ou_____, our n_____ and toward God.

Always and ever _____, and then _____.

The l_____ of grace educates us in the _____ of godliness.

3. Epiphany Future (Glory) v.13.

We yearn for Epiphany to be fully c_____.

The first question in the school of virtue: what _____ is it?

Our blessed hope is the future e_____ of Jesus Christ.

Christian ethics is the ethics of y_____.

Missions Work Highlight

TONI URUMOV

PASTOR/TEACHER IN SERBIA

The spiritual situation in Serbia is desperate. There are 0.01% Christians in the country. Serbia also has the least number of missionaries in all of Europe. It is challenging, but a huge privilege to be a useful tool in God's hands in Serbia. I have been serving as Pastor since September 2017. By God's grace the congregants are growing spiritually as well as in numbers. The Word is being preached regularly, and God is faithfully building His church. We are evangelizing in town through preaching and distribution of Gospel tracts.

Thank you all for your prayers.

Announcements

Help Needed: Kids, please remember to clean up after yourselves at church. Parents, please remember to clean up after your kids, especially food, clothes and games in the youth room.

The Fellowship Committee is requesting donations of boxed or wrapped cookies, crackers, cheeses, biscotti, muffins, granola bars, etc. for the Fellowship Coffee Times following each service. Nothing homemade at this time. Donations can be left in the kitchen.

Scripture Texts

ISAIAH 60:1-6

- ¹ “Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.
- ² See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you.
- ³ Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
- ⁴ “Lift up your eyes and look about you: All assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the hip.
- ⁵ Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come.
- ⁶ Herds of camels will cover your land, young camels of Midian and Ephah. And all from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming the praise of the Lord.

TITUS 2:11-14

- ¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people.
- ¹² It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age,
- ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ,
- ¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

Scripture Texts, *continued*

MATTHEW 2:1-12

- ¹ After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem
- ² and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”
- ³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.
- ⁴ When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born.
- ⁵ “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:
- ⁶ ““But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.””
- ⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared.
- ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”
- ⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.
- ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.
- ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

The LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Is. 60:2

1. A - rise, O God, and shine in all thy sav - ing might,
 2. Bring dis - tant na - tions near to sing thy glo - rious praise;
 3. Send forth thy glo - rious pow'r, that Gen - tles all may see,
 4. To God, the on - ly wise, the one im - mor - tal King,

and pros - per each de - sign to spread thy glo - rious light:
 let ev - 'ry peo - ple hear and learn thy ho - ly ways:
 and earth pre - sent her store in con - verts born to thee:
 let hal - le - lu - jahs rise from ev - 'ry liv - ing thing:

let heal - ing streams of mer - cy flow, that all the earth thy
 reign, might - y God, as - sert thy cause, and gov - ern by thy
 God, our own God, thy church O bless, and fill the world with
 let all that breathe, on ev - 'ry coast, praise Fa - ther, Son, and

truth may know, that all the earth thy truth may know.
 righ - teous laws, and gov - ern by thy righ - teous laws.
 righ - teous - ness, and fill the world with righ - teous - ness.
 Ho - ly Ghost, praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Christ Is Coming!

*We wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior,
Jesus Christ. Titus 2:13*

1. Christ is com - ing! Let cre - a - tion from her groans and
 2. Earth can now but tell the sto - ry of thy bit - ter
 3. Long thine ex - iles have been pin - ing, far from rest, and
 4. With that bless - ed hope be - fore us, let no harp re -

tra - vail cease; let the glo - rious proc - la - ma - tion
 cross and pain; she shall yet be - hold thy glo - ry,
 home, and thee: but, in heav'n - ly ves - tures shin - ing,
 main un - strung; let the might - y ad - vent cho - rus

hope re - store and faith in - crease: Christ is com - ing!
 when thou com - est back to reign: Christ is com - ing!
 they their lov - ing Lord shall see: Christ is com - ing!
 on - ward roll from tongue to tongue: "Christ is com - ing!"

Christ is com - ing! Come, thou bless - ed Prince of Peace.
 Christ is com - ing! Let each heart re - peat the strain.
 Christ is com - ing! Haste the joy - ous ju - bi - lee.
 Christ is com - ing! Come, Lord Je - sus, quick - ly come!"

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	9:00 AM, 11:00AM
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.

Assistant Minister

The Reverend Mark D. Diedrich

Session (Ruling Elders, with Class Year)

Robert Van Gent (2022), Ron Bonagura (2022),
Robert David (2021), Steve Flewelling (2021),
James Phillips (2021), Bob Maucher (2023),
Elder Emeritus: Neil Fick

Board of Deacons (with Class Year)

Tim Elmendorf (2022), John Grammer (2021), Matt Kniffin (2022), Joe Schlegel (Chair: 2022), Ed Weber (2021), Paul Mowat (2023), Eric Moller (2023)

Board of Trustees

Robert Van Gent (Chairman)
Robert David (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
Organists	Neil Fick, Elaine H. Simpson
Sexton	Rachel McDuffie
Treasurer	Kevin Quirk
Worship Committee	Lori Steinberger