

The Lord's Service

The Third Sunday of Advent

DECEMBER 15, 2019



Westminster Presbyterian Church

POST TENEBRAS LUX

PRELUDE

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
Come Unto Him*

MENDELSSOHN / ARR. K. CHAPMAN
G. F. HANDEL

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

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

☒ WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM

Q27. Wherein did Christ's humiliation consist?

Christ's humiliation consisted in his being born, and that in a low condition, made under the law, undergoing the miseries of this life, the wrath of God, and the cursed death of the cross; in being buried, and continuing under the power of death for a time.

☒ CALL TO WORSHIP

PHILIPPIANS 4:4

Rejoice in the Lord always;
again, I will say, Rejoice.

Let your gentleness be known to everyone.

The Lord is near.

☒ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal God, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for your Son. Grant us wisdom to see your purpose and openness to hear your will, that we too may prepare the way for Christ who is coming in power and glory to establish his kingdom of peace and justice; through Jesus Christ our Judge and our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



STANDING IF COMFORTABLE

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: *spoken, sung*

CONFESSION OF SINS

God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not sought or expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, we excuse our sins, and fail to love our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek the things that will endure, when Christ comes to judge the world. 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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of love and power, you are revealed to us in your Word, in accounts of prophecy and fulfillment that direct us to Jesus Christ. Illumine us now as we hear your Word proclaimed, that we may open our hearts to him, yearn for his coming in glory, and serve him with joy. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING ISAIAH 60: 1-3, 19-21

NEW TESTAMENT READING PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7

☒ HYMN OF PREPARATION *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* 203

☒ GOSPEL READING LUKE 1:57-79

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

SERMON *Benedictus*

☒ 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 *Breath of Heaven* EATON/GRANT

⌘ 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 *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies* 398

⌘ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Fantasy in C Major* J. S. BACH

PREACHER: Rev. Kevin Chiarot
WORSHIP LEADER: Robert David
ORGANIST: Elaine H. Simpson
SOLOIST: Patricia Moller

Announcements

Greeters

This Week: Jason & Beth Wendell

Next Week: David & Jane Reiss

Nursery Workers

This Week: R. Bonagura/J. Chiarot

Next Week: L. Spagnola /L. David

Service Assistants

This Week: J. Schlegel, M. Kniffin,

E. Timberger, T. Elmendorf

Next Week: J. Grammer, S. David,

E. Timberger, T. Elmendorf

Deacon of the Month

Ed Weber

Weekly Sunday Morning Prayer: 9:20AM in the library. Join us to pray for the worship and work of WPC.

Proclaim – On the First Sunday of every month the beginning of both Sunday School classes will be dedicated to praying for outreach opportunities. All are encouraged to join us.

Pastor Chiarot's sermons may be heard on Redeemer Broadcasting at 11:00AM and 5:00PM every Sunday on frequencies 90.3 FM and 102.5 FM. They are also available on iTunes and on our website.

If you would like to meet with Pastor Chiarot, please connect with him in person or contact the church office.

Evening Service at 6:00PM.

Today is the last day to submit donations for the 2019 Christmas Decorations donation.

12/22 – At 11:45AM we will have a program called **Seeing and Hearing the Carols**. This will be a different look at some of the familiar Christmas carols. Come see and hear.

12/24 – Christmas Eve Candle Light Service 7:30PM.

REDEEMER BROADCASTING

WHVC 102.5 FM AND 90.3 FM

Christian Radio for the Hudson Valley

Redeemer Broadcasting, hosts our church worship service each Sunday 11 am and 5 pm, along with other reformed programming and calm music. You can find promotional literature in the Narthex. Finances continue to be tight. As we enter Advent, let us thank God for this radio ministry and prayerfully consider your financial support. A great opportunity exists of a matching grant for first-time donations till year's end. Please help this small, local radio network meet budget and spread the gospel message of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Benedictus

LUKE 1:57-79

Zechariah can neither _____ nor _____.

The silence has turned the p_____ into a p_____.

1. Blessing for Christ (vv. 68-75)

Benedictus is Latin for b_____.

This is w_____ that t_____.

Visited: A mighty act of d_____ in_____.

Redemption: An act of l_____ out of b_____.

The Visitor is the _____ of Is_____.

The mighty _____ is the Davidic _____.

The church's enemies are _____, d_____, and the p_____.

This m_____ is rooted in the promises to _____.

Holiness: _____ table of law; Righteousness: _____ table.

2. Blessing for John (vv. 76-79)

John is the _____ prophet of the Old Testament.

Deepest bondage: not to the _____, but to sin and death.

The essence of salvation: f_____ of _____.

Salvation is rooted in the t_____ m_____ of our God.

The visitation is of k_____, healing l_____.

Zechariah is alluding to Isaiah chapter _____.

Slogan rooted in this text: P_____ T_____ L_____.

This Visit: “an inv_____ defense against d_____.”

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	10:00 AM
Sunday School	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)

Mike Bonagura, Ron Bonagura, Robert David,
Steve Flewelling, James Phillips, Dave Reiss
Elder Emeritus: Neil Fick

Board of Deacons

Sabi David, Tim Elmendorf, John Grammar,
Matt Kniffin, Joe Schlegel, Ed Timberger, Ed Weber

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	Dave Reiss
Fellowship	JoAnn Maucher
Financial Recording Secretary	Esther Riffard
Organists	Neil Fick, Elaine H. Simpson
Sexton	Rachel McDuffie
Treasurer	Kevin Quirk
Worship Committee	Lori Steinberger