

The Lord's Service

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

DECEMBER 22, 2019



Westminster Presbyterian Church

POST TENEBRAS LUX

PRELUDE

Pastorale
Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

K. CHAPMAN
POLISH CAROL/ ARR. FRED BOCK

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

Q29. How are we made partakers of the redemption purchased by Christ?
We are made partakers of the redemption purchased by Christ, by the effectual application of it to us by his Holy Spirit.

⊗ CALL TO WORSHIP

ISAIAH 9:6

A child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulder,
and he is named:
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⊗ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you have made us and all things to serve you, now prepare the world for your rule. Come quickly to save us, so that wars and violence shall end, and your children may live in peace, honoring one another with justice and love; through Jesus Christ, who lives in power with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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

MICAH 5:2-5A

NEW TESTAMENT READING

GALATIANS 4:4-7

☒ HYMN OF PREPARATION *Away in a Manger* 204

☒ GOSPEL READING LUKE 2:1-20

☒ RESPONSE

The Word of the Lord
Praise be to God.

SERMON

The Birth of the True Sovereign

☒ 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

Sing and Rejoice

R. W. THYGERSON
(CHOIR AND HANDBELLS)



STANDING IF COMFORTABLE

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: **spoken, sung**

☒ 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 *Angels We Have Heard on High* 214

☒ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Angels We Have Heard on High* ARR. DALE WOOD

PREACHER: Rev. Kevin Chiarot
WORSHIP LEADER: James Phillips
ORGANIST / CHOIR DIRECTOR: Elaine H. Simpson

Announcements

Greeters

This Week: David & Jane Reiss

Next Week: Maria Beach

Nursery Workers

This Week: L. Spagnola /L. David

Next Week: Sarah David/ K. Spanjer

Service Assistants

This Week: J. Grammer, S. David,

E. Timberger, T. Elmendorf

Next Week: J. Schlegel, M. Kniffin,

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 – 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.

01/04/2020 – Book Club 10:00AM.

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.

The Birth of the True Sovereign

LUKE 2:1-20

1. Caesar and the Baby (verses 1-7)

There is a note of un_____ here.

This is the f_____ of t_____.

The famous peace: P____ R_____.

The census is for the purpose of _____g.

God directs the _____ of _____ as he pleases.

Christianity makes particular _____ claims.

There is always a _____ under the narrative of kings.

The humility is majestic because of _____ the baby is.

2. Angels and the Baby (verses 8-14)

Micah promised that the Messiah would be a s_____.

The glory: v_____ on earth; v_____ in heaven.

The first lesson of Christmas: _____.

Caesar's birth announcement used the word for g_____.

Luke is ir_____ re_____ the birth stories.

Gospel in 5 words: L_____, M_____, S_____-for _____.

The angels sing in a new _____ and a new _____.

3. Shepherds and Baby (verses 15-20)

The shepherds b_____ the gospel.

The shepherds p_____ the gospel.

Mary p_____ the gospel.

The shepherds pr_____ God.

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

614 Station Road
Rock Tavern, NY 12575

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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