

The Lord's Service

The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

JANUARY 21, 2024



Westminster Presbyterian Church

POST TENEBRAS LUX

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 1 PETER 2:9-10

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once we were not a people, but now we are God's people.

Once we had not received mercy, but now we have received mercy.

⊗ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you built your church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Jesus Christ himself as the cornerstone. Join us together by their teaching, so that we may be a holy temple in whom your Spirit dwells; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

⊗ HYMN OF PRAISE *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation* 342

CONFESSION OF SINS

Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the body of Christ. We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from our sisters and brothers in Christ. We cling to destructive ways, hold grudges, and fail to welcome and love one another; we allow the past to hold us hostage. In your lovingkindness, have mercy on us, and free us from sin. Remind us of the promises you make in baptism, so that we may rise to new life, and live together in grace. For the sake of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

✠ OUR LIFE OF GRATEFUL OBEDIENCE

MATTHEW 5:1-12

Jesus opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

Blessed are the poor in spirit,

For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn,

For they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,

For they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,

For they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful,

For they shall receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart,

For they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,

For they shall be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake,

For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you

And utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad for your reward is great in heaven,

For so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

✠ THE PEACE

✠ GLORIA PATRI

735

INTERLUDE

The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

WILLIAM H. HAVERGAL

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON EXODUS 19:1-6 *p. 71*

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON ACTS 15:12-21 *p. 1098*

⊗ PSALM OF RESPONSE: PSALM 29 *Now Unto Jehovah, Ye Sons of the Mighty* 45

⊗ GOSPEL READING LUKE 19:41-44 *p. 1044*

⊗ RESPONSE

The Word of the Lord.
Praise be to God.

SERMON *James at Jerusalem*

⊗ WESTMINSTER CONFESSON OF FAITH OF THE CHURCH CHAPTER XXV 1-2

The catholic or universal church, which is invisible, consists of the whole number of the elect, that have been, are, or shall be gathered into one, under Christ the head thereof; and is the spouse, the body, the fullness of Him that fills all in all.

The visible church, which is also catholic or universal under the gospel (not confined to one nation, as before under the law), consists of all those throughout the world that profess the true religion, and of their children, and is the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ, the house and family of God, out of which there is no ordinary possibility of salvation.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY *Das Alte Jahr Vergangen Ist* J.S. BACH

⊗	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		
	THE COMMUNION		
	COMMUNION HYMN	<i>Shepherd of Souls, Refresh and Bless</i>	424
	<i>Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless your chosen pilgrim flock with manna in the wilderness, with water from the rock. Hungry and thirsty, faint and weak, as you when here below, our souls the joys celestial seek which from thy sorrows flow. We would not live by bread alone, but by your word of grace,</i>	<i>in strength of which we travel on to our abiding place. Be known to us in breaking bread, but do not then depart; Savior, abide with us, and spread your table in our heart. There sup with us in love divine; your body and your blood, that living bread, that heav'nly wine, be our immortal food.</i>	
⊗	HYMN OF DEPARTURE	<i>The Church's One Foundation</i>	347
⊗	CHARGE AND BENEDICTION		
⊗	POSTLUDE	<i>The Heavens Rejoice</i>	TODD KENDALL

MINISTER: Rev. Kevin Chiarot
 WORSHIP LEADER: James Phillips
 ORGANIST: Elaine H. Simpson

James at Jerusalem

ACTS 15:12-21

James was the leader of the _____ church.

1. The People (v. 14)

This language was used when God visited _____.

Zechariah: God has visited and r_____ his people.

Jerusalem did not know the _____ of their visitation.

From _____ of the Gentiles, God takes a people for his _____.

This language is used of Gentiles in 1 _____ chapter 2.

There is _____ people of God consisting of _____ and G_____.

2. The Prophets (vv. 15-17)

Scripture is the s_____ authority in the church.

James cites _____ chapter 9.

This is a text about restoring the _____ monarchy.

The risen _____ sits on the h_____ throne of David.

That the r_____ of mankind may seek the Lord.

Elect Gentiles are gathered out of the n_____.

3. The Judgment (vv. 19-21)

We should not t_____ those Gentiles who turn to God.

Gentiles don't have to become _____ but must f_____ idolatry.

There is no greater n_____ than bearing God's name.

Jesus as king is a reference to the D_____ c_____.

Missions Work Highlight

THE URUMOV FAMILY

Strumica, Macedonia

Here in Macedonia, we continue to serve the Lord at Baptist Church Strumica as we preach, teach and conduct Bible studies for men and women. We are planting a new church in Josifovo in the near future. We appreciate everything you do for us and our ministry in Macedonia. We appreciate your prayers and financial help.

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

Christ's Church of the Hudson Valley

Worship	11:00 AM
Sunday School	12:30 PM

Church & Office Location

614 Station Road
Rock Tavern, NY 12575

T 845.496.7971 | F 845.496.7916
www.westminsterchurch-ny.org
office@westminsterchurch-ny.org

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 Pastor

Rev. Kevin Chiarot, Ph.D.

Assistant Pastor

Rev. Justin Chiarot

Session (Ruling Elders, with Class Year)

Johnson Chang-Fong (2024), Adam Kuliszewski (2024), Robert David (2025), Mike Bonagura (2026), James Phillips (2026)

Board of Deacons (with Class Year)

Joe Hall (Chair: 2024), Bill Cooke (2025), Ed Timberger (2025), David Babick (2026), Noah Watson (2026)

Board of Trustees

Robert David (Chairman)
Adam Kuliszewski (Vice-Chairman)

Staff

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

