

The Lord's Service

The Epiphany of the Lord

JANUARY 04, 2026



Westminster Presbyterian Church

POST TENEBRAS LUX

PRELUDE

*Softly Rest within the Manger
Sheep May Safely Graze*

JOHANN CHRISTOPH BACH
J. S. BACH / ARR. NEVINS

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.



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

Who are we, Lord God, that you should come to us? Yet you have visited your people and redeemed us in your Son. As we celebrate his birth, make our hearts leap for joy at the sound of your word, and move us by your Spirit to bless your wonderful works. We ask this through him whose second coming is certain, whose day draws near, your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**



HYMN OF PRAISE

O Worship the King

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

Hear, O people of God, the law that the Lord speaks in your hearing this day, that you may know his statutes and walk according to his ordinances.

Teach us, O Lord, the grace of your law, and give us life by your Word.

The God who saved us in Jesus Christ gave this law, saying: I am the LORD your God! You shall have no other gods before me.

We will worship the LORD our God and serve only him.

You shall not make for yourself an image of anything to worship it.

Living no more in bondage to earthly gods, we will worship the LORD our God in spirit and in truth.

You shall not misuse the name of the LORD.

We will use the holy name of God with reverence, praising him in everything we do and say.

You shall observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy, for in six days you shall labor and do all your work.

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

You shall honor your father and mother, that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving to you.

As children we will be obedient to our parents in the Lord; as parents we will correct our children and guide them in the training and instruction of the Lord; we will respect the lawful authorities appointed by God.

You shall not murder.

We will be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave us.

You shall not commit adultery.

We will use our bodies in ways that are holy and honorable, and abstain from immorality and impurity.

You shall not steal.

We will do what we can for our neighbor's good, and work faithfully so that we may share with the poor.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

We will speak the truth with our neighbor in love, render judgments that are true and make for peace, and not devise in our hearts any evil against anyone.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

We will be content whatever the circumstances through the strength of Christ within us.

Thus we must love our neighbor as ourselves.

For the Lord requires of us to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God. Amen!



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

Star Carol

ALFRED S. BURT

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from your mouth. Make us hungry for this heavenly food, that it may nourish us today in the ways of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

JEREMIAH 31:7-14

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

EPHESIANS 1:3-14

⊗ PSALM OF RESPONSE: PSALM 5 *Lead Me Lord, Lead Me in Thy Righteousness* 727

⊗ GOSPEL LESSON JOHN 1:1-18

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

SERMON

The Word Became Flesh

⊗ 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

OFFERTORY

Sleep, Holy Child

SETTING BY ROB ROY PEERY

⌘ 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, 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 WITH 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 *(Outer ring alone is grape juice)*

COMMUNION HYMN *Thy Life Was Given for Me* 639

*Thy life was giv'n for me, thy blood, O Lord, was shed,
that I might ransomed be, and quickened from the dead;
thy life was giv'n for me; what have I giv'n for thee?*

*Thou, Lord, hast borne for me more than my tongue can tell
of bitt' rest agony, to rescue me from hell;
thou suff' redst all for me; what have I borne for thee?*

*And thou hast brought to me down from thy home above
salvation full and free, thy pardon and thy love;
great gifts thou broughtest me; what have I brought to thee?*

⌘ HYMN OF DEPARTURE *How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds* 647

⌘ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

⌘ POSTLUDE *Postlude in C* HENRY PURCELL

PREACHER: Rev. John Hanna
WORSHIP LEADER: Adam Kuliszewski
ORGANIST: Elaine H. Simpson, D.M.A.

Missions Work Highlight

NEW LIFE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH – ITHACA, NY

New Life Presbyterian Church has been a conservative Reformed presence in Ithaca, NY for over 30 years. We minister to students, faculty, and staff of Cornell University and Ithaca College. This mission is of utmost importance as we evangelize and disciple future leaders who come from all over the country and the world. Our church is over half students, so we also depend on the faithful support of churches like you to continue this mission.

Website: newlifeithaca.org

Prayer Requests

Saints/Families of the Month: Noah Watson family, Jo-Anne Weber, Westervelt family, Carl Wolfe, Helena Wolfe, and Yao family

Weekly Prayer & Praise Focus: Rich Family, Pulpit Search Committee, Esther Riffard, Kameron Riffard (Esther's grandson), Mary McCorvey, Jeanne Phillips (James' mother), Megan Brossman, Alice Watson (Chaz Watson's mother), Barbara Booth (John Grammer's mother), Janis Berg's aunt Marilynn, Liz Berg (with child; Bergs' daughter-in-law), Jeff Cooke (Bill's brother)

Announcements

It is our joy to welcome back Rev. John Hanna to minister Word and Sacrament to us this morning. Rev. Hanna is a PCA minister from New Jersey involved in "Ministry to State" to NJ State government officials.

No evening service today.

Sunday School resumes 01/11/26

The Fellowship Committee will be holding the January luncheon on 1/11/26. The congregation is asked to bring main dishes, casseroles, salads, side dishes and desserts. Beverages will be provided.

The Sunday School Prayer list for January is posted on the bulletin board in the upper hallway. Please sign up today to pray for both the teacher and students by name for whichever class you choose. The commitment is to pray seriously once a week for a month. Thank you for praying.

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	10:30 AM
Sunday School	12:00 PM

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 Pastor

Vacant

Assistant Pastor

Rev. Justin Chiarot

Session (Ruling Elders, with Class Year)

Mike Bonagura (2026), Robert David (2026), James Phillips (2026), Gary Berg (2027), Ron Bonagura (2027), Bob Maucher (2027), Adam Kuliszewski (2028)

Board of Deacons (with Class Year)

David Babick (2026), Noah Watson (2026), John Grammer (2027, Chair), Ethan Westlund (2027), Joe Hall (2028), Ed Timberger (2028)

Board of Trustees

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

Staff

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

