

# The Lord's Service

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*The Baptism of the Lord*

JANUARY 11, 2026



Westminster Presbyterian Church

POST TENEBRAS LUX

PRELUDE

*Cantabile Sacre  
The Shepherds at the Manger*

LEMMENS / ARR. BY ROBERT L. BEDELL  
FRANZ LISZT

*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

PSALM 29:2-4

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name,  
**worship the Lord in holy splendor.**

The voice of the Lord is over the waters;  
**the God of glory thunders over mighty waters.**

The voice of the Lord is powerful,  
**the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.**



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, you sent your Son to be baptized among sinners, to seek and save the lost. May we, who have been baptized in his name, never turn away from the world, but reach out in love to rescue the wayward; by the mercy of Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



HYMN OF PRAISE

*Come, Thou Almighty King*

101

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

⌘ 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

*O Little One Sweet*

HARM. BY J. S. BACH

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God, source of all light, by your Word you give light to the soul. Pour out upon us the spirit of wisdom and understanding that, being taught by you in Holy Scripture, our hearts and minds may be opened to know the things that pertain to life and holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

PROVERBS 24:1-14

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

GALATIANS 1:3-14

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

⌘ GOSPEL LESSON     MATTHEW 2:1-12

⌘ RESPONSE  
The Word of the Lord.  
**Praise be to God.**

SERMON

*The Magi – the Wisdom of God*

⌘ 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

*Unto Us a Child Is Born*

GERTRUDE J. RICHOLSON

⌘ 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

*Angels from the Realms of Glory*

218

⌘ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

⌘ POSTLUDE

*As With Gladness Men of Old*

SETTING BY HENRY J. MARKWORTH

PREACHER: Rev. Steve Froehlich  
WORSHIP LEADER: James Phillips  
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](http://newlifeithaca.org)

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## 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 Marilyn, Liz Berg (with child; Bergs' daughter-in-law), Jeff Cooke (Bill's brother), Arlene Winslow (Becky Melvin's mother)

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## Announcements

We are blessed to welcome back our interim pastor, the Rev. Steve Froehlich, retired from New Life PCA in Ithaca, NY, to minister Word and Sacrament to us this morning.

Sunday School resumes today.

There will be a Fellowship luncheon today following Sunday School. Everyone is invited to attend.

Second service to follow fellowship luncheon.

## 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!

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### 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

560 Station Road  
Rock Tavern, NY 12575

T 845.496.7971 | F 845.496.7916  
[www.westminsterchurch-ny.org](http://www.westminsterchurch-ny.org)  
[office@westminsterchurch-ny.org](mailto: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

*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

