

# The Lord's Service

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*The Baptism of the Lord*

JANUARY 12, 2025



Westminster Presbyterian Church

POST TENEBRAS LUX

PRELUDE

*Silent Night  
Christmas Night*

ARR. NOEL JONES  
VINZENZ GOLLER

*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

*As with Gladness Men of Old*

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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

FROM 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

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*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

*Away In A Manger*

ARR. NOEL JONES

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

DANIEL 6

NEW TESTAMENT READING

ACTS 8:14-17

⌘ PSALM OF RESPONSE: PSALM 46 *God Is Our Strength and Refuge* 89

⌘ GOSPEL READING LUKE 3:15-17, 21-22

⌘ RESPONSE

The Word of the Lord.  
Praise be to God.

SERMON

*"In the Lions' Den"*

⌘ WESTMINSTER CONFESSION OF FAITH (CHAPTER 28, PARAGRAPHS 1, 6)

**Baptism is a sacrament of the New Testament, ordained by Jesus Christ, not only for the solemn admission of the party baptized into the visible church, but also to be unto him a sign and seal of the covenant of grace, of his ingrafting into Christ, of regeneration, of remission of sins, and of his giving up unto God, through Jesus Christ, to walk in newness of life: which sacrament is, by Christ's own appointment, to be continued in His church until the end of the world.**

**The efficacy of baptism is not tied to that moment of time when it is administered; yet, notwithstanding, by the right use of this ordinance, the grace promised is not only offered, but really exhibited and conferred by the Holy Spirit, to such (whether of age or infants) as that grace belongs unto, according to the counsel of God's own will, in His appointed time.**

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

*When Jesus Came to Jordan*

WILLIAM WALKER

⌘ 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

☒ 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)*

*At the lamb's high feast we sing  
praise to our victorious King,  
who hath washed us in the tide  
flowing from his pierced side;  
praise we him whose love divine  
gives his sacred blood for wine,  
gives his body for the feast,  
Christ the victim, Christ the priest.*

*Where the paschal blood is poured,  
death's dark angel sheathes his sword;  
Israel's hosts triumphant go  
through the wave that drowns the foe.*

*Praise we Christ, whose blood was  
shed; paschal victim, paschal bread;  
with sincerity and love  
eat we manna from above.*

*Mighty victim from the sky,  
pow'rs of hell beneath thee lie;  
death is conquered in the fight,  
thou hast bought us life and light:  
hymns of glory and of praise,  
risen Lord, to thee we raise;  
holy Father praise to thee,  
with the Spirit, ever be.*

☒ HYMN OF DEPARTURE

*Once in Royal David's City*

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☒ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

☒ POSTLUDE

*He Is Born, The Divine Child*

LEON ROQUES

MINISTER: Rev. John Hanna

WORSHIP LEADER: Robert David

ORGANIST: Diane Pedrosa



## Missions Work Highlight

TONI & DUBRAVKA UROMOV

Toni and his wife Dubravka live in Strumica, Macedonia with their three boys. He serves as an elder at the Baptist Church Strumica. He also serves in the church, through preaching and teaching regularly. Our church is also planting a new church in another place called Josifovo. They recently opened a Bible School in Strumica which is called the “Macedonian Bible Institute”, it is in cooperation with “Grace To You” and “The Masters Academy International”. Toni and his wife are also translating Christian literature into Macedonian language.

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## Prayer Requests

**Families of the Month:** Cooke Family, Linda Croce, Robert David Family, Sabi David Family, Angela Davis DeMatteo family

**Weekly Prayer Focus:** Pulpit Search Committee, Eton Gayle (Cancer), Mary McCorvey (cancer), Jeanne Phillips ( James’s mother, limited responsiveness), Kameron Riffard (Esther’s grandson battling alcoholism), Susan Roosje (hospice), Megan Brossman (mental health),

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## Announcements

It is our joy to welcome back Rev. John Hanna to minister the 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.

There will be a Fellowship Luncheon today, following Sunday School. All are welcome to attend. Evening service will follow at 2:00pm.

Weekly tithing envelopes for 2025 are now available. Please reach out to the church office if you would like a pack.

## 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)

Robert David (2025), Gary Berg (2025),  
Mike Bonagura (2026), James Phillips (2026),  
Ron Bonagura (2027), Bob Maucher (2027)

### Board of Deacons (with Class Year)

Joe Hall (Chair: 2025), Bill Cooke (2025),  
Ed Timberger (2025), David Babick (2026),  
Noah Watson (2026), John Grammer (2027),  
Ethan Westlund (2027)

### 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       |

