



WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • BUFFALO

DECEMBER 1, 2019

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:15 AM IN THE HOLMES CHAPEL

10:30 AM IN THE SANCTUARY

THE REVEREND DR. THOMAS H. YORTY
PASTOR



Worship in the Sanctuary • 10:30 AM

Welcome to this Place of Christian Worship

Do not wait for someone else to begin worship. Pray silently for yourself, for those about you, for the poor and the oppressed, for those present, for those who will shortly lead our common worship. Latecomers may enter the Sanctuary during the singing of the first hymn or during the Response to the Assurance. Ushers are available for assistance. Please turn off all cell phones

Opening Voluntary

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

It is the tradition of this congregation to remain silent during the Opening Voluntary as we collectively prepare for worship.

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Nutter Dowling

Order of Worship

Chiming of the Trinity

The sounding of the chimes, invoking Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit, is an invitation to prepare for worship through a time of silent reflection. Please be respectful of those who are praying.

Introit

O Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem
O pray for the peace of Jerusalem.
They shall prosper that love thee.

Thomas Tomkins (1572-1656)

Lighting of the First Advent Candle

Lavera and Stephen Johnson will light the first Advent candle.

The Gospel of Luke speaks about the future:
"There will be signs in the sun, the moon,
and the stars, and on the earth, distress among nations.
People will faint from fear and foreboding."

Because the world is full of fear and distress,
we light the first candle as a prayer for hope and longing
that God's glory may be revealed on earth,
through justice, peace and faithful love."

Living Christ, give us faith to trust you.
We trust you, we love you, we praise you. Amen.

Call to Worship

The people stand and remain standing for the hymn that follows.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill my promise to my people.
Justice and righteousness will fill the land and all will live in peace and safety.

Hymn in Procession, No. 9

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**God of night and day, there is no shadow that can conceal our sin from you
And no secret that you will not bring to light.
For our reveling and drunkenness, forgive us, O God.
For our debauchery and licentiousness, forgive us, O God.
For our quarreling and jealousy, forgive us, O God.
O God, forgive us our sins, renew us in love,
And teach us to live in a way that brings honor and glory to your name;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Time for silent prayer.



Gospel Acclamation

Glo - ry to you, O Word of God, Lord Je - sus Christ!

Sermon

Redefining the Wait

Affirmation of Faith

The people stand and remain standing for the hymn that follows.

**We believe in God whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives,
 Whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth,
 Whose love was crucified by the evil that awaits to enslave us all,
 And whose love, defeating even death, is our glorious promise of freedom.
 Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and full of doubt,
 We trust in God; and in the name of Jesus Christ we commit ourselves,
 In the service of others, to seek justice and to live in peace,
 To care for the earth and to share the commonwealth of God's goodness,
 To live in freedom of forgiveness and the power of the Spirit of love,
 And in the company of the faithful so to be the Church, for the glory of God. Amen.**

("The Iona Community" from The Iona Abby Worship Book, published by Wild Goose Publications.

Hymn, No. 2

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
The people stand to sing.

HYFRYDOL

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Anthem

The Wisdom of God

Roland Martin (b. 1955)

The Creator, the Wisdom of God draws near, the mist of the prophet's promise is dispersed.
 Joy clears the skies, truth is resplendent, The dark shadows are dispelled,
 The gates of Eden are opened, Adam dances in exultation:
 Our Creator and God wills to fashion us anew.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

It is the practice of this congregation to welcome all baptized persons, including those children whose parents have given their permission, to join in receiving the elements. Unfermented grape juice is used.

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you

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.

How can we thank you, O God? For sun and moon and stars, for breath and life and all things good, for your steadfast promises and your faithful love. You set us in this world to love and serve you, and to live in peace with each other and all you have made, and we live in hope - for the day is surely coming when all things will be made new. With saints and angels, and with the whole creation, we join in the ancient and eternal hymn of praise:

Thomas Pavlechko

Ho - ly, ho - ly ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
 might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



We give you thanks, Holy God, for Jesus, who came to be your living Word, to baptize us with Spirit and fire, to live among us, to share in human suffering, to feed the hungry, to humble the mighty, to establish justice for the oppressed, and to announce the good news of your coming realm. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us - this bread, this cup, these people - Christ's body and blood given in love for the world. Make us one in the Spirit, one in the church, and one with Christ our Lord, dedicated to your service.

Great is the mystery of faith:

The people sing.

Thomas Pavlechko



God of Mercy...

**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 trespasses,
As we forgive those Who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil;
For thine is the kingdom And the power and the glory, Forever and ever. Amen.**

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

We distribute the elements of communion by intinction - simply take the bread and dip it in the cup. It is appropriate to say "Amen" or "Thanks be to God" when receiving the bread and the cup as they are gifts of God for the people of God. Westminster serves only gluten-free and dairy-free bread. Please take the aisle nearest you to the communion station at the front of that aisle, and return to your seat by the same aisle.

Voluntary at Communion

The King Shall Come

George Mabry (b. 1945)

The King shall come when morning dawns, and light triumphant breaks;
When beauty gilds the eastern hills, and life to joy awakes.

Not as of old a little child to bear, and fight, and die,
But crowned with glory like the sun that lights the morning sky.

The King shall come when morning dawns, and earth's dark night is past;
O haste the rising of that morn, the day that aye shall last.

And let the endless bliss begin, by weary saints foretold,
When right shall triumph over wrong, and truth shall be extolled.

The King shall come when morning dawns, and light and beauty brings:
Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy people pray, come quickly, King of kings.

Prayer After Communion

**God of Hope, we give you thanks that you have given us this foretaste of the justice,
Righteousness and peace of your new creation. Strengthen us with this heavenly food as
We seek to serve you. Lead us to live in joyful expectation of the coming of your kingdom
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Sending Hymn, No. 6

Jesus Comes with Clouds Descending
The people stand to sing.

HELMSLEY

Benediction and Choral Response

At Midnight Comes the Cry

Steven Curtis Lance (b. 1954)

Rejoice, all ye believers, and let your lights appear;
The evening is advancing, and darker night is near:
The Bridegroom is arising, and soon he draweth nigh;
Up, pray, and watch, and wrestle: at midnight comes the cry.

Closing Voluntary

Carillon on a Ukranian Bell Carol

Gerald Near[†] (b. 1942)



Immediately following worship, please join us for Meet & Mingle in the Holmes Room.

As we begin the new liturgical year and the season of Advent, it may be noted that a few things in our service change. Our paraments will change to purple, the color of Advent. While the world anticipates Christmas in red and green, the church uses purple, the same color used during the season of Lent. Purple is the color of royalty, but it is also the color of penitence. During these penitential seasons, we do not sing the congregational Gloria or the Alleluia at the Gospel reading; we will sing the Old Hundredth Doxology, which eliminates the Alleluias that we sing during festival days and ordinary time.

Worship Leaders

The Reverend Katelyn Nutter Dowling, Associate Pastor for Christian Education
Marcia Buhl, Liturgist
Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries
The Westminster Schola

Elders Serving Today

Fran Holmes, Kathleen Kelly, Barbara Nelson, Eleanor Seib, Joe Speth, Elizabeth Stewart

Deacons Serving Today

Wisdom Afealete, Peter Ahrens, Drew Dees, Teddie Granville, Candace Marr, Johnpatrick Marr
Jane Morris, Roberta Nickelsen, Roy Stewart, Ron Sutz

Chancel Flowers

The flowers at the Lord's Table are given by James N.Weiland DDS in honor of World Aids Day, December 1st of every year. This gives people an opportunity to unite in the fight against HIV and show their support for the people both present and future who are living with HIV infection and to commemorate those saints who have died from HIV infection. World Aids Day was the first ever Global Health Day and was first held in 1988. A special honor in memory of his friend, Richard Gresham.

The flowers at the Pulpit are given by Sue Adams in loving memory of her parents, John and Dolly Adams, and Mary Kent Prentice in honor of their December birthdays.

Notes on Today's Music

[†]**Gerald Near** is considered one of the finest composers of church music writing today. He studied theory and composition at the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago with Leo Sowerby, continued those studies with Leslie Bassett at the University of Michigan and studied organ with Robert Glasgow. He published organ and choral music, and completed his Master's degree in orchestral conducting while studying under Gustav Meier. In 1989, *Gloriae Dei Cantores* commissioned Mr. Near to compose a work for the choir, *Resurrexi*, based on Gregorian chant motifs. The choir premiered the work, performed it in concerts, and recorded it.

WORSHIP AND PREACHING SCHEDULE

Sunday Worship • 8:15 AM in the Holmes Chapel with Communion • 10:30 AM in the Sanctuary

December 8 • Second Sunday of Advent

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty

Matthew 3:1-12; *Crucible Faith: The Baptist's Burden*

December 15 • Third Sunday of Advent

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty

Matthew 11:2-11; *Crucible Faith: John's Joyful Message*

December 22 • Fourth Sunday of Advent

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty

Matthew 1:18-25; *Crucible Faith: Messiah in Disguise*

December 29 - One Service at 10:30 AM

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty

Matthew 2:13-23; *Crucible Faith: The Teetering Powers*

Live Stream Worship Services Each Sunday

Visit us on Facebook: Westminster Presbyterian Church • Buffalo

WESTMINSTER PRESENTS • MUSIC AND THE ARTS • 2019-2020

Friends of Harmony • December 6 • 7:30 PM

Marshall Kelkenberg, Conductor • Meredith Zimmer, Conductor

The Friends of Harmony, Western New York's premiere barbershop chorus, celebrates music of the Christmas season in their unique, a cappella style. The choir offers performances of varied musical styles throughout the region and compete at regional and national competitions.

Christmas Carols and Classics • December 18 • Noon

The American Caroling Company

No holiday celebration is complete without everyone's favorite carolers.

The American Caroling Company performs traditional and contemporary Christmas classics in Dickens attire.

This truly unique ensemble has performed for Macy's, Nicole Kidman and Keith Urban, NBC's Rockefeller Tree Lighting, and many others.

Christmas at Westminster • December 20 • 7:30 PM

The Choirs of Westminster • The Western New York Chamber Orchestra

The Buffalo Brass • QED Vocal Ensemble • The Westminster Handbell Choir • Rosanna Moore, Harp

Garrett F. Martin, Conductor • Walter S. Mayo, Handbell Choir Conductor

Westminster presents Buffalo's favorite new holiday tradition with something for everyone! Nearly 100 musicians will ring in the Christmas season with classical masterworks, handbell favorites, and treasured congregational Christmas Carols.

Bring your family and friends!

Family Service • December 24 • 5:15 PM

A service of harp, choirs, and carols for all ages.

The QED Vocal Ensemble will present Benjamin Britten's *Ceremony of Carols*.

83rd Annual Lessons and Carols • December 24 • 10 PM

The Westminster Choirs pay tribute to the traditional Lessons and Carols service format

which began at Truro Cathedral, Cornwall. Nine scripture texts alternating with choral anthem and

congregational carols help prepare for the birth of Jesus. The Choirs of Westminster, The Western New York Chamber

Orchestra, The Buffalo Brass, The QED Vocal Ensemble, and the Westminster Handbell Choir

lead us in this festival service — one of Western New York's cherished Christmas traditions.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, December 1 • Advent I

8:00 AM Infant /Toddler Care
8:15 AM Worship W/ Communion
9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds
9:15 AM Spiritual Life
9:15 AM Year of the Bible
10:30 AM Worship W/Communion
11:15 AM Inquirer Class
11:30 AM Meet & Mingle
4:00 PM Compline

Monday, December 2

11:30 AM WECP Poinsettia/Wreath Pick Up
4:30 PM ENERGY/ FLY Program
7:00 PM Year of the Bible

Tuesday, December 3

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
9:00 AM Management Meeting
12:30 PM Passages Lunch
1:15 PM Passages Program
4:30 PM ENERGY/ FLY Program
5:00 PM Church Life Committee
5:30 PM Personnel Meeting
6:00 PM WOW Christmas Party
6:00 PM Zen Dharma
7:00 PM Zen Dharma

Wednesday, December 4

7:15 AM AA Meeting
9:00 AM Worship Planning
1:00 PM Newsletter Deadline
1:30 PM Staff Meeting
4:30 PM ENERGY/ FLY Program
5:30 PM Pathways To Peace
5:30 PM Deacon Meeting
5:30 PM Elder Meeting
6:30 PM Elder/Deacon Dinner
7:00 PM Joint Deacon/Elder Meeting
8:00 PM AA Meeting

Thursday, December 5

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
7:30 AM Coffee @ WECP
4:30 PM ENERGY/ FLY Program
6:00 PM Handbells
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 6

12:00 PM Noontime AI-Anon
4:30 PM ENERGY/ FLY Program
7:30 PM Friends Of Harmony Concert

Saturday, December 7

8:00 AM Zen Dharma Silent Retreat
9:00 AM Poinsettias Delivered
10:00 AM TOY-Intro to Scene Study for Teens

Sunday, December 8 • Advent II

Messiah Sunday

8:00 AM Infant /Toddler Care
8:15 AM Worship W/ Communion
9:00 AM Case Library Conversations
9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds
9:00 AM Messiah Rehearsal
9:15 AM Spiritual Life
9:15 AM Year of the Bible
9:30 AM Dialogue Diner
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:30 AM Worship W/ Messiah
10:40 AM Sunday School
11:30 AM Meet & Mingle
11:30 AM Congregational Meeting
11:45 AM Special Session Meeting
11:45 AM Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
12:00 PM Dream Group
1:15 PM Confirmand Brunch @ Lafayette
6:00 PM Pres.Youth Movement

NEWS AND NOTES

WELCOME TO WESTMINSTER

If you are visiting and would like to learn more about our programming or mission, please fill out a Welcome Card (found in the pews) and return it to a deacon or staff member.

- As a More Light church, we invite all persons of the LGBTQIA+ community to membership and full participation in all ministries of Westminster.
- We light our Peace Candle to pray for peace—both in our own neighborhoods and across the world.
- Bibles and children's worship guides are available at the Sanctuary entrances.
- For the hearing impaired, wireless receivers are available in the Church Conference Room.
- Childcare for children 5 years old and younger is available from 8 AM to 11:30 AM in the school building (across the garden).
- If you need assistance at any time, please ask a Deacon.
- Please pick up your generosity envelopes, which are available on the table in the Holmes Room.

CHURCH LIFE

INQUIRER CLASS

Today's Class Has Been Rescheduled for February 9.

Friends and visitors interested in learning more about Westminster and the ministries we support are invited to attend a meeting immediately following worship. We will share Westminster's history, discuss current outreach and mission programs in the city and region, and answer any questions. At the conclusion of the meeting, those who so desire will be received into the membership of the church. For more information, please contact Sawrie Becker, 884-9437, ext. 315, sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org

MISSION AND OUTREACH

WESTMINSTER'S ALCOHOL/OTHER DRUG EDUCATION AND REFERRAL SERVICE

This service provides support to assist members and friends with issues and questions related to abuse of alcohol or other drugs. If you or someone you love needs help, call for free and confidential advice. Jen Read (228.7526) and Elizabeth Stewart (585.217.7878), Co-Chairs; Dave Carstensen (884.5403), Jane Morris (571.481.1839), Ellen Smith (431.9284), Phil Stevens (247.3824).

BOOKCASES NEEDED FOR ENERGY/ FLY PROGRAMS

Any size (particularly small ones!) will be appreciated. Please drop off at the church. Any questions, contact Betsy Biggar at 716.803.2100.

WEST SIDE BAZAAR

Check out The West Side Bazaar, 25 Grant Street, for lunch and shopping. Sunday and Monday: Closed. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 11 AM-7 PM. Friday: 11 AM-8 PM, Saturday: 10 AM-8 PM.

ENERGY

The name ENERGY reflects what we value: Education, Nurture, Encouragement, Readiness, and Growth for Youth. The ENERGY school-year program gathers Monday through Friday from 3:30 PM-6 PM at Westminster and offers a robust place for children, whose families are refugees and

recently immigrated to this country, to develop English-language skills, self-confidence, and cultural awareness. Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, students receive a one-on-one experience with trained volunteer tutors and staff. If you are interested in reading with children, helping with homework, cooking meals, or leading lessons or activities, contact volunteer@wedibuffalo.org

THE ANGEL TREE Look for the decorated Angels in the Gallery Room! Your gift donations will be distributed to various agencies around WNY to help those in need. Volunteers are needed to help people sign out Angels on Sunday mornings before and after church, and to sort gifts for delivery. A sign-up sheet is on the Information Table in the Gallery Room. Questions? Contact Ardrey Manning 716.310.5395.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Our Confirmation Class is in conjunction with Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church. Confirmation is a "rite of initiation" that welcomes young people that have grown up in the faith (or not) to take the Presbyterian Church as their own set of beliefs and polity. For many students, church has been something they've gone to because of you—their parents. This is a wonderful gift you have given your child: a solid foundation on which to build their own faith. Confirmation is a chance for the student to ask questions, dig deep, and stand in front of our congregation and proclaim the PCUSA to be their church of their own free will and choosing. If your student is in grade 8 or above and have not gone through confirmation, please contact Katelyn at katelynnd@wpcbuffalo.org to sign up and begin the process of finding a mentor!

CONFIRMAND BRUNCH

Sunday, December 8

Students and Mentors, please come for brunch as we celebrate our growing relationships through the process of confirmation and look ahead to spring programming. We'll meet at Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church at 12 PM for lunch and fun.

Let Katelyn or Micah know your commitment ASAP. kddowling@wpcbuffalo.com or mndowling@wpcbuffalo.org

DIALOGUE DINER

Dialogue Diner is a weekly breakfast and fellowship for students 6th-12th grade. We will start back December 8 and go through the 22nd. Come start your Sunday off with good food and good community. We meet in the Parish Hall kitchen from 9:30AM to 10:15AM before heading to worship together at 10:30AM.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: YEAR OF THE BIBLE CLASS

Sunday mornings, 9:15 AM-10:15 AM in the Parish Hall and Monday evenings 7 PM-8:15 PM in the Case Library. Year of the Bible participants have now read 2/3 of the Bible, moving through readings in Old and New Testament, Psalms, and Proverbs. We're now working our way through Paul's letters in the New Testament, and we are beginning our journey with the Prophets in the Old Testament. It's not too late to join our group!

CASE LIBRARY CONVERSATION SERIES

Sundays, 9 AM-10:15 AM in the Case Library

December 1

Case Library will not be meeting this Sunday. Please join Spiritual Life in the Heritage Room.

December 8

The Gospel According to Luke

Presenter: David Weeks

Hear how Luke differs from Matthew and how some of our greatest painters have interpreted Luke's story.

SPIRITUAL LIFE

Sundays, 9 AM-10:15 AM in the Heritage Room

December 1

If you had a Lilly Grant, what would you do?

Presenter: Fred Cooley

Spiritual Life will build on Tom Yorty's Lilly Grant experiences. Given the finances/time frame that were available to our pastor we will have the pleasure of designing our own trip.

December 8 and 15

Honoring the Advent Season

Presenter: Elizabeth Stewart

Christmas is a day of celebration and joyful times with family and friends, good food, and laughter. Yet in the midst of merriment, many of us find ourselves feeling alone. Join us as we learn to reflect on the season of Advent and the practices which bring us closer to a fulfillment of the joy of Christmas.

WOW LUNCHTIME BIBLE STUDY

Monday, December 16 • 1 PM-2:30 PM in the Case Library

Women of Westminster cordially invites you to a Brown Bag Lunchtime Bible study on the 3rd Monday of each month in the Case Library. This year we will explore the Horizons Bible study, *Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments*. Each lesson begins with an exploration of one of the Ten Words in its biblical context. From there, we consider a moment from Jesus' life that shows us how he lived out that Word. We then consider the Word for our own lives and contexts. There will be a nominal fee for the book.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

PASSAGES: A PROGRAM FOR OLDER ADULTS

Tuesday, December 3 • Lunch: 12:30 PM in the Case Library
Lunch: 1:15 PM in the Oak Room

A Christmas program of carols presented by the Nardin Elementary Junior Choir, Mark Mazur, Music Director; Kensia Russell, Assistant Music Director. Please sign up in the Gallery Room if you plan on attending lunch.

(WOW) WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP AND MISSION EVENT

Tuesday, December 3 • 6 PM in the Case Library

Our pot luck dinner is a time for fellowship as we prepare gift bags for shut-ins, many of whom receive this bag as their only Christmas celebration. A list of items to bring for the bags and to sign up for what dish you will bring to share is available on the Information Table in the Gallery Room.

KNITTING GROUP

The next meeting is December 10, 2 PM-4 PM. Our group meets on occasional days throughout the year and works on their individual projects, as well as prayer shawls, scarves, and other handmade items for members of the church. Contact Fran Holmes for information or dates, mfranholmes@verizon.net

ADVENT DINNER

Sunday December 15

Join us in the Parish Hall following 10:30 AM Worship to enjoy a delicious turkey dinner, and wonderful side dishes which will please all ages. Vegetarian meals are available with advance request. \$12 for ages 9 and over (no charge for 8 and under) \$45 for a family. Reservation forms are available on the Information Table in the Gallery Room.

(WOW) WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER WINTER RETREAT

Friday, January 24, through Sunday, January 26, at Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center. We begin Friday evening with a light supper of chili (one is vegetarian) and ends Sunday morning after worship. It is a weekend filled with many things (everything is optional): workshops, relaxing, sharing laughter, and getting to know one another better, spending time in your room, or trekking through the (snowy) woods. The cost is \$130 for a double room and \$ 175 for a single. Rooms are assigned on a first come first served basis, depending on when you turn in your reservation form with at least a 50% deposit. The remainder must be paid by the start of the retreat. Cost includes all meals through Sunday breakfast. We car pool from the church parking lot. More details and reservation forms will be available on the Information Table in the Gallery Room or at our website. under "Church Life." Please consider joining us!

MEET AND MINGLE

Please join us on Sundays following 10:30 AM Worship. Enjoy snacks and fellowship in the Holmes Room with friends old and new! Sponsors, shoppers, and hosts are needed for Meet & Mingle in November. Meet & Mingle is a great way to celebrate a special person or occasion. For more information please sign up in the Gallery Room or contact Sawrie Becker, sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org

AROUND OUR COMMUNITY

Theatre of Youth Company, Inc. (TOY) stimulates the imagination, nurtures the creative spirit, and enhances the education of young people by engaging them in relevant, child-centered, and professionally-produced live theatre programs.

Mad Skills: Intro to Scene Study for Teens, December 7 and 14 in the Parish Hall. For the teen who wants to explore the world of the play and relationships between characters.

DID YOU KNOW...

A full ten percent of all *Preserve the Pinnacle* Capital Campaign funds raised will be designated in support of Mission and Outreach projects. The Session has approved several projects in collaboration with the Bailey Green Community Restoration Project. Many of our WPC neighbors who live East of Main Street face the complex and inter-related challenges of poverty, limited housing choices, and children at risk. Your own individual gift and pledge to the capital campaign will help support this important collaboration. Please give generously.

GIVING 2020 AND PRESERVE THE PINNACLE

Now & Ever Giving 2020 and Preserve the Pinnacle Pledge Packets were distributed over the course of four weeks in November. If you were unable to pick your packet up, it will be mailed to you. Thank you for returning your commitments to these two important campaigns at your earliest convenience.



Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 2:1-5

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. ²In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. ³Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. ⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. ⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Gospel Lesson

The people stand.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Matthew 24:36-44

³⁶But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Meditation

Redefining the Wait

Prayers of the People

Concluding with the Lord's Prayer

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

We distribute the elements of communion by intinction – simply take the bread and dip it in the cup. It is appropriate to say "Amen" or "Thanks be to God" when receiving the bread and the cup as they are gifts of God for the people of God. Westminster serves only gluten-free and dairy-free bread. Please take the aisle nearest you to the communion station at the front of that aisle, and return to your seat by the same aisle.

Hymn, No. 2

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

The people stand to sing.

HYFRYDOL

Benediction

Closing Voluntary

Carillon on a Ukranian Bell Carol

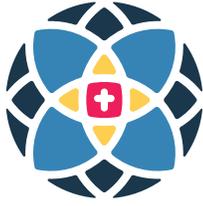
Gerald Near (b. 1942)

Worship Leaders

The Reverend Katelyn Nutter Dowling, Associate Pastor for Christian Education

The Reverend Micah Nutter Dowling, Director of Youth Ministries

Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries



WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • BUFFALO

Westminster Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty, Pastor
tyorty@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 313

The Rev. Katelyn Nutter Dowling
Associate Pastor for Christian Education
katelynd@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 311

The Rev. Beth Hennessy, Pastoral Care Associate
bhennessy@wpcbuffalo.org, 716.697.0919

Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries
gmartin@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 318

Jamie Adamczyk, Administrative Assistant
jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 326

Sawrie Becker, Director of Development
sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 315

Matthew Marco
Assistant to the Pastor and to the Director of Music
mmarco@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 306

Lenore Neiler, Graphic Designer
lneiler@wpcbuffalo.org, ext 302

The Rev. Micah Nutter Dowling
Director of Youth Ministries
micahnd@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 310

Kathryn Wilde, Director of Finance
kwilde@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 305

Westminster Early Childhood Programs

Dr. Cindy Lynn-Garbe, Director
clynn-garbe@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 328

Todd Bothwell, Associate Director of Admissions
tbothwell@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 330

Jessica Mitrovits, Development Associate
jmitrovits@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 332

Lindsay McGuire, Human Resources
lmcguire@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 359

Heather Abbott, Administrative Assistant
habbott@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 300

Facilities

Aaron Vivian, Facilities Supervisor
avivian@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 319, 716.504.7308

Jeff Kaczmarek, Maintenance
ext. 319, 716.345.8013

Austin Becker, Maintenance
716.479.0668

Luigi Sylejmani, Maintenance
716.472.5477