

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2155 University Ave, Dubuque, IA 52001 | (563) 583-1729 | <http://wpcdbq.org>

Inviting All. Exploring Faith. Experiencing God.

MORNING WORSHIP, 9:30AM

DECEMBER 4, 2022

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. Luke 1:26-27a (NRSVUE)



WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT WESTMINSTER!

We're delighted to worship with you today and hope your experience of worship is meaningful and uplifting. If you need assistance during your visit, any of our greeters will be happy to help.

Parents: We provide nursery care for children 5 years of age and under. All children are welcome to use any of the resources in our Pray Ground (located behind the pews).

Please note that assisted listening devices are available at the back of the sanctuary. Our worship service is always livestreamed, so there are multiple cameras in the sanctuary. You may be on camera during your worship experience with Westminster.

** Everyone who is comfortably able to stand is welcome to do so during the portions of worship marked with an asterisk.*

PRELUDE

The beginning of the prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for the worship of God.

TIME OF WELCOME

Leader: God be with you!

People: And also with you!

*GATHERING SONG GTG #314: *Christ Be Our Light* (vs 1-2)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Leader: Just when life seems cozy and comfortably predictable,

People: Angels appear unexpectedly: to point us in directions we would not have chosen, and to pose uncomfortable questions that we would rather not face.

Leader: Just when we have done all we can do and lived through more than we thought we could take,

People: Angels appear unexpectedly and remind us that all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well.

Leader: For the God of Love works for good in all those who trust Him.

People: The God of Peace works through those who dare to listen to angels.

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; Those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined.

People: The light grows gradually brighter as we move through Advent together. The candle of Hope already burns bright. Today, we light the candle of PEACE.

Leader: As we wait for the coming of the day of God, we want to be ready.

People: Seeking the Advent path, we light this candle to guide our steps. Together, we prepare the way and strive to lead lives of love and peace.

Leader: "Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy that will be for all people.'" Today we remember angels:

People: Bearers of the Good News, heralds of God's coming kingdom of peace, fearsome reminders of God's call to reconciliation and shalom.

Leader: Today we give thanks for the angels among us:

People: Those who bear God's grace and peace in the margins, on the edges, at the boundaries.

Leader: On this second Sunday in Advent, we light the second candle as a symbol of the angels: messengers of redemption, harbingers of peace.

*HYMN GTG #362: *Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers*

*TIME OF CONFESSION

Invitation to Confession

Silent Prayer

Unison Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we are coming unraveled, pulled apart from every angle, because we have chosen our own way. Too often, we have rejected your way to true peace, true wholeness. We are in need of a way back from the messes we make for ourselves. We are lost, and we need Christ to come quickly.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Leader: You are forgiven. Rejoice and be at peace.

People: Thanks be to God!

Leader: Live now as PEOPLE OF PEACE and welcome the Christ in all whom you meet.

People: Amen.

Sung Response GTG #133: *O Come All Ye Faithful* (vs. 3)

ANTHEM: *People Look East*, arr. Jason W. Krug (ASCAP)

Be Thou My Vision, arr. Jason W. Krug (ASCAP)

TIME WITH YOUNGER DISCIPLES

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON – The Song of the Angels

Scripture: Luke 1:26-38 (NRSVUE)

Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25 (NRSVUE)

Scripture: Ezekiel 1:4-14 (NRSVUE)

Scripture: Isaiah 6:1-4 (NRSVUE)

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Invitation to the Table

The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our god.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

Leader: These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Prayer After Communion

*HYMN GTG #101: *No Wind at the Window*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from the Confession of 1967)

Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus. His faith and obedience were the response of the perfect child of God. He was the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel, the beginning of the new creation, and the pioneer of the new humanity. He gave history its meaning and direction and called the church to be his servant for the reconciliation of the world.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastoral Prayer

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.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Offertory

*Sung Response GTG #113: *Angels We Have Heard on High* (vs 3)

*Prayer of Thanksgiving



*HYMN GTG #350: *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning*

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

Leader: And all God's people said:

People: Alleluia! Amen.

*SUNG RESPONSE GTG #314: *Christ Be Our Light* (vs 5)

POSTLUDE

Westminster Presbyterian Church is a Certified Hunger Action Congregation and Earth Care Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

WESTMINSTER CONGREGATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join Us TODAY at 2:00 p.m. To go Christmas Caroling on a Trolley!

Meet in Fellowship Hall. **Afterwards enjoy some Hot Chocolate!**

TODAY'S SINGLE ROSE is in celebration of Tom & Linda Stovall's new grandson, Edgar Quincy McMahon, son of Lisa and Mike McMahon, born on November 30th. Congratulations to all!

CHECK THE LOST AND FOUND – If you are missing **black gloves**, an umbrella, a Madison Mallards hat or a fleece jacket, please check the lost and found tub in the hallway by the office.

ADVENT STUDY – *The Journey to Bethlehem* by Adam Hamilton - 10:45 in the board room.

YOUTH GROUP TONIGHT! – 6th through 12th graders will meet up from 5:00-6:30 in Westminster's Media Room. Come join us and our friends from First Presbyterian!

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL – Join us after worship today! Pick up at **noon** in the Sunday School rooms downstairs.

MISSED OUT ON LAST YEAR'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT? Experienced such joy you want to do it again?! Please join the Youth Sunday School after church on December 18th in Fellowship Hall for a second rendition of "A Very Messy & Chaotic Christmas Pageant!" Youth and adults are invited to re-tell the Christmas story complete with costumes, props, and live music as we re-imagine and celebrate the wonderfully timeless, unexpected, and even chaotic story of the Christ child coming down to us at Christmas, born in a smelly stable to a teenaged mother in a land under military occupation! Sound familiar?! See you there!



"For I was hungry and you gave me food."

Saturday, December 17th

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. SIGN UP TODAY!

Contact Tom Stovall 563-581-7220 or tomstov@aol.com or call or visit the church office. Invite family & friends to help!



	Amount	QTY
Child	\$25	
Groceries	\$50	
Total		

Like 2021, the agency that we get our families from does not want purchased items but have requested gift cards. So, AGAIN, this year we are asking the congregation to drop off or mail in checks to purchase Gift Cards by **December 12th**. We will buy gift cards from Hy-Vee, Target, Fareway, Wal-Mart/Sam's Club through scrip. Any donations received more than what we need, will be donated to Opening Doors. There is a huge need in our community, and we hope you consider donating. **Thank you.**

There are forms available in the office OR found in the stand behind the information counter in church.



Wreaths for Church Decorations

Would you like to donate a Christmas wreath in honor of or in memory of a special someone? Fill out an envelope found in the stand behind the information counter in church or email Mary Kay at marykay@wpcdbq.org and mail your check for \$18. Include the name of who your wreath is in memory of. **Need 12 more sponsors yet!**



Deacons Fund: Poinsettias for Christmas

Donations accepted through Dec. 16.

Fill out a form found in the stand behind the information counter in church. You can also email marykay@wpcdbq.org, or call the office at 583-1729 and mail your \$15 or \$25 memorial donation. Include who your Poinsettia is in memory of or in honor of.

LESS THAN A MONTH TO PLAY MISSION BINGO! - Check off things as you complete them and let the Mission Team know when you get a BINGO! **Turn in your cards BEFORE Dec. 18 and Win PRIZES!** Prizes will be given out **BEFORE** church on Dec 18th.

THINK CHRISTMAS purchase Fair Trade: Help people live better lives by purchasing from SERRV. 20% of our sales will go to the Lantern Center. You must use our web address for us to receive the 20%! Go to Westminster's Website: serrv.org?a=WPC1

WESTMINSTER LIFE AND MINISTRY

Church Office Number: 563-583-1729 | For Pastoral Care emergencies: **563-279-4545**

Pastor: Rev. MargaretAnne Overstreet

Director: Christian Formation: Bonnie Sue Lewis

Care Ministry Coordinator: Lisa MacNaughton

Director of Music: Dr. Luke Tyler

Adult Choir: Steve Peake

Timbrel & Lyre Director: Dr. Luke Tyler

Adult Handbells Director: DeLano Cain-Watson

WPC Band & Beginner Handbells: Sally Stulken

Organist/Pianist: Dr. Luke Tyler

Church Administrator: Mary Kay Pancratz

Financial Secretary: Becky Jenkins

Custodian: Tim Till

Digital Storytelling Director: Clare Kysely

Worship Technology: Monson Nguyen

Greeters: Tom & Linda Stovall

Ushers: Bonnie Sue L./Carolyn Dausener

Hospitality Set Up: Pat Judge

Clean Up: Pat Edwards

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Prayers for the family of Bob Miller, who passed away on Nov. 23rd. A private family service was held on Tuesday at Bethany Home so both Donna & Doug could attend. They both reside now at Bethany. Cards may be sent to Kevin & Lynne Oyen, 2092 Hidden Meadows Dr. Asbury 52002
- Prayers for Gini Gordon who has inoperable abdominal cancer and is now on hospice.
- Prayers for Dale MacNaughton, Neil's brother, who has a severe knee infection after a recent knee replacement.
- Prayers for Wally Brown who is at Dbq. Specialty Care recovering from pneumonia.
- Prayers for Teresa Miller as she recovers from rotator cuff surgery and will be in a sling for 6 weeks.
- Prayers for Leona Hibben who is dealing with heart issues at this time.
- Prayers for Hanna Rose, daughter of Adam and Tarra Etheredge, undergoing treatment for brain health.
- Prayers for Chuck Whalen, who is facing health issues.
- Prayers for Howard Wallace who is in failing health.
- Prayers for Nancy Wallace as she deals with health issues.
- Prayers for a friend of Shelley Malone's, Mark, who has Multiple Myeloma.
- Prayers for Mary Kay's friend, Mary Schroeder, who will be having a stem cell transplant after the holidays.
- Prayers for Tom Stovall who is receiving chemo treatments for prostate cancer.

If you would like to have your name on our Bulletin Prayer Request list or want to be added to the Prayer Chain for prayers, please advise the church office (583-1729).

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

DECEMBER 4 – DECEMBER 11

Sunday, December 4

9:00 a.m. Coffee & Donuts

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:45 a.m. Advent Study, BR

10:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School

2:00 p.m. Christmas Caroling, FH

5:00 p.m. Youth Group, WPC Media Rm.

Monday, December 5

9:00 a.m. PEO, V. Jirsa, FH

5:00 p.m. Eckstein Christmas Party, FH

6:00 p.m. Pack 20 Parent Mtg., BR

7:00 p.m. Adult Handbells Rehearsal, SA

Tuesday, December 6

9:00 a.m. Tai Chi, FH

4:00 p.m. NAMI Christmas Party, FH

Wednesday, December 7

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Loft

Thursday, December 8

2:00 p.m. Green Team Mtg., BR

Sunday, December 11

8:40 a.m. Band Rehearsal, SA

9:00 a.m. Coffee & Donuts

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:45 a.m. Advent Study, BR

10:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School

10:45 a.m. Property Mtg., FH

OPENING DOORS – is in dire need of paper towels AND toilet paper! Teresa Shelter has been at capacity since March. Items can be dropped at their admin office (2100 Asbury Road/2nd brick bldg.) or at Teresa Shelter 1111 Bluff Street. OR...bring to Westminster and Ann Lorenz will deliver them. Thanks!



SUPPORT THE YOUTH PROGRAM BUY SCRIP!
YOUR FAVORITE STORE IS MISSING FROM THE LIST! See Lisa

Buy
Scrip
in
the
WPC
office

THE DUBUQUE FOOD PANTRY

will again be distributing Christmas Baskets this year to the food insecure in our community. We are asking your church to contribute cash to purchase milk, eggs, and meat. We are also collecting items for the baskets:

- canned vegetables and canned fruits
- boxed potatoes
- soup
- Mac & Cheese
- candy bags/cookies
- individual hot chocolate packets
- stuffing mix (turkey, chicken, pork)
- gravy mix
- Personal Care Items: soap, shampoo & conditioner, toilet paper, paper towels, & Kleenex.

Distribution of the baskets will be Mon., Dec. 19th, Tues., Dec. 20th and Wed., Dec. 21st. We ask that all items be here by Friday, December 16th.

Let's make this Christmas Season special for our less fortunate neighbors.

Blessings! Theresa Caldwell, Exec. Dir.
We are located at 1310 White Street.