



Westminster Presbyterian Church

Order of Worship for November 29, 2020

The First Sunday of Advent

In-Person and Online at 11:00 a.m.

Facebook Live | YouTube | www.westminstercharleston.org

WELCOME

PRELUDE

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ROBERT J. HUGHES

◆ LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE

The Davis Family

One: We wait for the coming of the Lord with Hope.

All: **Come, Lord Jesus!**

One: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

All: **We wait for you with expectation. Come, Lord Jesus!**

ADVENT HYMN

Prepare the Way, O Zion

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for your coming.
We live in sin, as though there is no justice.
We live in fear, as though there is no grace.
Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and steadfast love.
Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths,
for you are the God of our salvation. Amen

(Silent Confession)

◆ RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

◆ SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

TIME FOR CHILDREN TO SHINE

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON Drop the Mic(ah): Hear Advent!

HYMN OF RESPONSE O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

◆AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

FROM THE NICENE CREED (381)

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

◆BENEDICTION

◆RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

◆POSTLUDE Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

HEMSLEY

◆*Please stand, if able*

Leading the service today: Daniel Smoak, Pastor; Lissa Long, Pastor; Janie Bruce, Youth and Children;
Robin Zemp, Music; Meg Dorsel, Livestream.

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from CCLI License #2778901

The Season of Advent

ADVENT is the Latin word for “coming.” For Christians it refers to the church season that prepares for the coming of Jesus Christ as God in human flesh – the incarnation. We celebrate his humble birth, his coming to us now, and his coming again in glory at the end of time.

The round shape of the Advent Wreath is a symbol of God's never-ending love for us. The evergreens represent everlasting life, and the purple candles are for him who comes royally as King of kings and Lord of lords. The pink candle is for the joy of the season, and in the center of the wreath is the white Christ candle lit on Christmas Eve. The candles are signs of the growing light of Christ who is coming again in all fullness into the darkness of our world. Until the dawning of that Great Day, we watch and wait for Christ's coming into the darkness of our world, lighting candles of hope, peace, joy, and love; and remembering the promises of God with prayer.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT WESTMINSTER

November 29: The First Sunday of Advent

11:00 Morning Worship; In-person and livestreamed

December 6: The Second Sunday of Advent

11:00 Morning Worship; The Lord's Supper; In-person and livestreamed

5:00 Movie Night. Join us for an outdoor viewing of “The Star,” an animated version of the Christmas Story.

December 13: The Third Sunday of Advent

10:00 A special “Blue Christmas” service designed for those who aren't feeling so joyful during the holidays. We meet in the Prayer Garden.

11:00 Morning Worship; In-person and livestreamed

December 20: The Fourth Sunday of Advent

11:00 Morning Worship; In-person and livestreamed

6:00-7:30 A drive-thru nativity. Scenes from the Christmas story recreated in the parking lot. Drive through with friends and family.

December 24: Christmas Eve

5:00 & 7:00 A 45 minute service for all ages. We'll conclude with candlelight singing in the parking lot. Reservations are required and can be made at the church website.

December 27: The First Sunday of Christmas

11:00 Morning Worship; In-person and livestreamed

January 3: Epiphany

11:00 Morning Worship; We gather to worship the one who is a light to the nations.

The Lord's Supper; In-person and livestreamed

*all events follow Covid protocols.

CHRISTMAS EVE AT WESTMINSTER

Two services are offered on Christmas Eve: 5:00 and 7:00 pm. Both will be family-friendly, last about 45 minutes, and conclude with candlelight and carols in the parking lot. Covid protocols observed. Reservations are required for attendance and can be made at www.westminstercharleston.org or by calling the church office.

DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE HYMN?

One that comforts you? One that brings joy to you? At this time when we cannot sing together, we want to bring you opportunities to sing at home. Send us a request for a hymn you would like to hear, and we will create a video with someone from the Music Ministry playing the hymn along with some background information about it. The videos will be posted online for you to use and enjoy. To view the videos or make a request, check out westminstercharleston.org/hymns/

Prepare the Way, O Zion 106



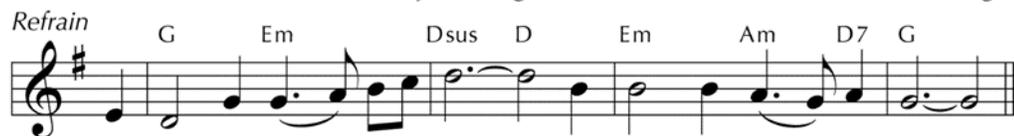
1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
 2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
 3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sav - ior's rule em - brace,



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
 His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
 and ti - dings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
 Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
 All lands will bow re - joic - ing, their ad - o - ra - tion voic - ing.



O blest is Christ who came in God's most ho - ly name.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This engaging Advent text based on Isaiah 40:3-5 and Psalm 24:7-10 has been in use in the Church of Sweden for almost two hundred years. It is set to a version of an even older Swedish tune, which in turn seems to be derived from a German folktune that spread to Scandinavia.

TEXT: Frans Mikael Franzen, 1812, rev. 1819; trans. Augustus Nelson, 1958;
 adapt. Charles P. Price, 1980, alt.
 MUSIC: *Then Svenska Psalmboken*, 1697; arr. *American Lutheran Hymnal*, 1930
 Text © 1982 Hope Publishing Company

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN
 7.6.7.6.7.7 with refrain

WELCOME TO WESTMINSTER

We are delighted that you have joined us for in-person or online worship, and we hope you are encouraged and strengthened in the faith. If you have a prayer request or questions about faith, life, or being part of the Westminster family, we invite you to reach out by call or text to one of our pastors.

Pastor Daniel Smoak: 843-872-1001

Pastor Lissa Long: 843-810-2232

For more information about Westminster or to subscribe to our weekly ENews and email updates visit our website at www.westminstercharleston.org



O Lord, How Shall I Meet You 104



1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how wel-come you a - right?
 2 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you down to me;
 3 You come, O Lord, with glad - ness, in mer - cy and good-will,



Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light!
 your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro-cured my lib - er - ty.
 to bring an end to sad - ness and bid our fears be still.



O kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, a lamp with - in my breast,
 O love be - yond all tell - ing, that led you to em - brace
 In pa - tient ex - pec - ta - tion we live for that great day



to do in spir - it low - ly all that may please you best.
 in love, all loves ex - cel - ling, our lost and fal - len race.
 when your re - newed cre - a - tion your glo - ry shall dis - play.

Though many Advent hymns address Christ with entreaty and invitation, this more contemplative text considers how an individual prepares for and responds to Christ's coming. It also brings together a recollection of the First Coming with an anticipation of the Second Coming.

POINSETTIAS

If you would like to help beautify our sanctuary for this year's Advent and Christmas season through the gift of one or more poinsettias, please complete the red insert in the bulletin or submit the form on the website: <https://westminstercharleston.org/poinsettias/>.

CHILDREN'S GIFT MAKING WORKSHOP

Saturday, December 5 from 9:00 am–10:30 am in Covenant Hall. A chance for all children 1st–5th grades to visit different stations and make Christmas gifts for family and friends. 20 spots available. Sign-up in the church office by Sunday, November 29 to reserve a spot. Cost is \$10 donation to help cover cost of supplies.

COLLECTING WINTER COATS AND JACKETS FOR MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN IN NEED

Westminster's Mission Committee is collecting winter coats and jackets in all sizes for men, women and children. The smaller sizes for children ages 2 through 5 will be donated to Mary Ford Early Childhood Development and Family Center, while the adult and larger children sizes will be donated to Tricounty Ministries. If your children have outgrown their winter coats or you have extra adult coats hanging in a closet, please donate them by December 15 to this worthy cause. We would appreciate that you either wash them or dry clean them before donating (although this is not required). A box will be located near the church office. For additional information contact either Brenda Gibson at 843-478-0026, or Jim Frye 843-729-2183.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TRICOUNTY FAMILY MINISTRIES

Tricounty Family Ministries assists those in our local community with food, clothing, medical needs, and so much more. To assist families during the holiday season, Tricounty is hosting The Four Days of Christmas event on December 14, 16, 18, and 19 from 9:00 am to 1:30 pm. Volunteers are needed to place holiday food, clothing, coats, and gift cards into the car trunks of families in need. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Brenda Gibson at 843-478-0026 or you may view all Tricounty volunteer opportunities and sign up directly at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084AAAAC2BAAFE3-Wednesday>.

ANXIOUS TO TALK ABOUT IT

Small groups are being formed for a 12 week study on Racial Justice. Those interested will be gathered into groups of up to 8 people to be facilitated by members of the Racial Justice Listening Group. Beginning in January, Zoom and in-person options available on Mondays 7:30– 8:30 pm and Tuesdays 10:30–11:30 am. For more information, view the RJLG report (with study description), view the Pause and Refresh presentation, and sign -up online at www.westminstercharleston.org.

"FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU," DECLARES THE LORD, "PLANS TO PROSPER YOU AND NOT TO HARM YOU, PLANS TO GIVE YOU HOPE AND A FUTURE." JEREMIAH 29:11

THANK YOU to those who have already made your financial commitments for 2021! Our goal is 100% participation, so if you have not yet turned in your commitment card (they are available in the narthex), you may do so by placing it in the offering plate or making your pledge at www.westminstercharleston.org (select the 2021 Pledge button). Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness!!

JOIN US FOR DISCIPLESHIP!

CHILDREN - Join us Sunday, November 29 in Sunday School Zoom at 9:00 am.

- Meeting ID: 867 718 0847
- Passcode: 1776

YOUTH - Check your emails! Mrs. Janie has a great schedule planned for Middle School and High Schoolers. If you haven't received an email, please let the Church Office know.

ADULTS - We meet each Sunday morning from 9:00am – 9:45am via Zoom to study the scriptures together. Come join us! NEW Meeting ID: 856 1961 4490 Passcode: 12345

From The Westminster Pulpit

The Prophet Micah called people to hear the Word of the Lord. Memorably, he prophesied about the coming of one who would rule over God's people. *"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."* (5:2) The prophecy is fulfilled in the birth of Jesus. During this festive season, we'll listen for God's Word to us through Micah, asking God to get our hearts ready for the coming of the King!

November 29	Micah 1:1-7	Drop the Mic(ah): Hear Advent! <i>The First Sunday of Advent</i>
December 6	Micah 4:1-5	Drop the Mic(ah): Hear Renewal! <i>The Second Sunday of Advent</i> <i>The Lord's Supper</i>
December 13	Micah 5:1-5	Drop the Mic(ah): Hear Peace! <i>The Third Sunday of Advent</i> <i>Stoney Baptisms</i>
December 20	Micah 6:1-8	Drop the Mic(ah): Hear Justice! <i>The Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>
December 27	Micah 7:18-20	Drop the Mic(ah): Hear Forgiveness! <i>The First Sunday of Christmas</i>

COVID PROTOCOLS FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP

When You Arrive

1. Everyone is required to wear a mask upon entering the church. If you don't have a mask, the ushers will have plenty available for you and your children (older than 2). Wearing a mask, along with social distancing, is the best way for us to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among our church family, especially given the fact that up to half of all people who have the virus don't feel or display any symptoms.
2. Hand sanitizer will be available and should be used upon entering.
3. In the sanctuary, every other pew will be roped off and closed to provide as much social distancing as possible. Hymnbooks, Bibles, and other materials normally found in the pews have been removed. You may bring your own Bible to use during the service; the hymns are printed in the bulletin. In order to minimize touch contamination, please pick up your own bulletin from the narthex table.
4. Ushers will guide you and your family to a properly distanced seat, starting with the front of the sanctuary. Please graciously allow them to do so in order to maintain social distancing while safely maximizing occupancy.
5. All restrooms will be open for use, one at a time please.

During the Service

1. We will not be singing, as singing has been found to increase significantly the risk of spreading the virus.
2. During time for children, the children will remain with their family and not gather on the chancel steps.
3. Offering plates will be at the entrances/exits to receive your offering.
4. Please keep your mask on through the entire worship service.
5. If you have young children, this may be their first time back in the sanctuary in a long time. You may be worried about how they will behave, if they will make too much noise, or if they will be too wiggly. Please don't worry at all! We welcome the signs of life- especially after going so long without it! Please note: we won't have the worship bags (with crayons and coloring pages) available for children, but you are welcome to bring things from home.

After the Service Ends

1. The ushers will dismiss the congregation by row from the side aisles, beginning at the rear of the sanctuary, in order to keep us distanced as we exit.
2. Please place your used bulletins in the recycling baskets at each exit or take them home with you. Please do not leave them on the pews.

Westminster Prays

Joe Smith	Meg Powell	Summer Garris	Andria Sanchez Freeman
Carol Cummings	Keith Gordon	Mary Ashley Barbot	Chrissie Bosworth
Bruce Yarnall	Shirley Seay	Doris Fox	Ginger Sieftring
Bill Myers	Larry Salley	Joyce Aydlett	Martin Davis
Anna Lee Myers	John Ligon	Daryn Baker	Kevin Ritzel
Dart Willer	Dot Dangerfield	Curtis Sponseller	Gloria Underhill
Bill Pennekamp	Lydia Crosby	Sean Fitzgibbon	Jeff Bryant
Kate Pennekamp	David Morris IV	Thom Penney	Rosalind Howell
Sara McCoy	Brian Carlow	Nikolai Fruth	Barbara Johnston
Love Moody	Frances McLean	Allan Scott	Michael Morgan
Molly Griggs	David Kerr	Riley Nunes	Lydia Howell
Karen Dangerfield	Chris Thrasher	Mary Martschink	Ken Pugh
Lisa Wilcox	Sharon Hutchinson	Sally Rogers	Lee Zack
Harold Fountain	Harper Croft	Marilyn Camburn	Joye and Kurt Teachman
Holli Hughes	Deb Sloan	David Wiggins	Nita Rodemann
Francis Williams	Gary Brooks	Jamie Brooks	

Friend of the Week

Clif Green
201 W. 9th North St. Unit 209
Summerville, SC 29483

Mission of the Week

Thornwell Home for Children
302 South Broad Street
Clinton, SC 29325

College Student

Emma Kerr
1833 Chelwood Circle
Charleston, SC 29407

Church Family

Priscilla Holtzclaw
Norman and Virginia Hook
Harry and Joan Hutchins

WESTMINSTER SESSION

Class of 2021

Allyn Bruce
John Dounian
Norman Hook
Dale Norman
Michael Patrick
Paul Patrick

Class of 2022

Nancy Dixon
Sandra Pell
Kendall Ramsay
Carole Russell
Nathan Snider
Graham Wade

Class of 2023

Matthew Akery
David Boyd
Earl Frasier
Brenda Gibson
Tim Platts
Nathan Ward

Clerk - Priscilla Holtzclaw
Treasurer - Doug Earnst

Assistant Clerk - Carole Russell
Assistant Treasurer - Patty Stokes

Westminster Presbyterian Church

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Rev. Lissa Long, Associate Pastor, mlong@wpccharleston.org
Mr. Robin Zemp, Director of Music, rzemp@wpccharleston.org
Mrs. Janie Bruce, Director of Children and Youth Ministries, jbruce@wpccharleston.org
Mrs. Nita Rushton, Office Administrator, office@wpccharleston.org
Mrs. Tommye Owen, Bookkeeper, finance@wpccharleston.org
Mrs. Alicia Crosby, Preschool Director, preschool@wpccharleston.org
Mrs. Meg Dorsel, Communications Coordinator, mdorsel@wpccharleston.org