Westminster Presbyterian Church

December 4, 2022 **9:00 am**

The Second Sunday of Advent

GATHERING

Please greet each other warmly as the congregation gathers for worship.
Take a moment and sign the virtual friendship register.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

♦SONG OF PREPARATION

While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

Come, Savior, quickly come; come, Savior, quickly come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

♦LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE — The Anderson Family

One: We wait for the coming of the Lord with Hope and Peace.
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 NO. 82 — Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus — HYFRYDOL

At this time, youth and children who want to participate in hanging the Chrismons on the tree may exit to the Narthex.

♦LITANY FOR DECORATING THE SANCTUARY

One: On this second Sunday of Advent, we see the sanctuary decorated with symbols that point us toward the hope we have in Jesus Christ. The greenery, the wreaths, the poinsettias, the tree, the lights, and the ornaments all have special meaning that remind us of the coming of the Lord.
All: As we are at work preparing this sanctuary, may God be at work preparing our hearts. Come, Lord Jesus!
One: We see wreaths of evergreen to signify the eternal reign of Jesus Christ.
All: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end.
One: We see poinsettias, known as the Flower of the Holy Night, to signify the star of Bethlehem.
All: Magi followed a star to Bethlehem so that they might worship the new born Savior.

One: We see a tree, adorned with lights to signify the One who brings light to our darkness, healing to our brokenness, and peace to all who receive him.

All: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."

One: We hang chrismons: stars, crosses, triangles, the "alpha" and the "omega" to remind us of the Trinity and the incarnation.

All: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

One: We worship God and give thanks for the blessings of the coming King.

All: Come, Lord Jesus!

♦HYMN NO. 134 Joy to the World! ANTIOCH

♦PASSING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

THE WORD

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Administered to James Bennett Openlander, son of Robert and Lauren Openlander.
Dee Bee Wright, assisting Elder.

♦DECLARATION OF FAITH THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen

TIME FOR CHILDREN TO SHINE Laura Patrick

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 1:1-17 PEW BIBLE N.T. PAGE 1

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON The Family History

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

♦HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 93 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates TRURO

THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

PRAYER 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.

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER

♦SONG OF RESPONSE NO. 106 Prepare the Way, O Zion BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

SENDING OUT

♦BLESSING

♦RESPONSE

We sing together: **Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel;**
God with us, revealed to us; his name is called Em-man-u-el!

♦*Please stand, if able*

Leading the service today: Daniel Smoak, Pastor; Lissa Long, Pastor; Sarah Shayban, Music.

11:00 am Livestream at www.wpccharleston.org, YouTube (Westminster Presbyterian Charleston)

Ushers are Regina Keene, John Wright, Grahame Long.

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. In the ancient world, various peoples lit fires to mark the turning of the light into winter's season and to pray for the return of the light. To us, these 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 in Holy Spirit 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.

The Christmas tree is adorned with lights and Chrismons. Lights remind us that Jesus is the light of the world. Chrismons are symbols that illustrate aspects of the Christian.

WELCOME TO WESTMINSTER

- We are delighted you have joined us for worship, and we hope you are encouraged and strengthened in the faith.
- New here? Please fill out a Connect Card and place it in the offering plate.
- The nursery is available for children 2 and under in the Children's Building. We'll gather pertinent information upon check-in and be able to contact you during the service should a need arise.
- Parents who need to step out of the sanctuary for a while to tend to the needs of infants or small children can find privacy down the hall in the church parlor, family restroom, or in the church nursery.
- Worship bags and worship worksheets are available in the narthex for preschool and elementary age children.
- Following Time for Children (11:00 only) children age 2-5k (Wee Church and Children's Church) will gather in the narthex with adult leaders and then be led to the Children's Building. Parents may pick them up following the service.
- Hearing devices, magnifying sheets, and large print hymnals are available in the narthex.
- If you have a prayer request or questions about faith, life, or being part of the Westminster family, we invite you to reach out 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 www.wpccharleston.org

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO JOIN THE WESTMINSTER FAMILY?

Here's how you can do it.

1. Please fill out a Connect Card and place it in the offering plate or you may fill out an online New Member form under the visitor tab at wpccharleston.org or using the QR code.
2. One of our Pastors or someone from the Membership Committee will quickly be in touch, providing an opportunity individually or with a group to learn more about the church.
3. On a Sunday morning, you'll attend a meeting with the Session for reception into membership. We'll handle paperwork if you're transferring from another church or arrange baptism if you've never been baptized.
4. That same Sunday morning, you'll be introduced to the congregation during worship.

Questions? Speak with an usher or one of our pastors following the service.

NEW HERE? MAKE SOME CONNECTIONS AT WESTMINSTER

Connections: An opportunity for those visiting or new who want to meet others and learn more about LIFE at Westminster. The next Connections Class is January 8, 2023. We meet from 10:00 – 10:40 in Pastor Daniel's office at the end of the Admin Hall. Kids are welcome or can go to Sunday School/Nursery. Save your spot at the January 8 Connections class by emailing office@wpccharleston.org.

TODAY WE SHARE THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

All who profess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are invited to share in the sacrament. For those in the Sanctuary, Elders will distribute the prepared bread and juice cups during the service. As a sign of our unity in Christ, we will partake together once everyone is served. For those worshiping online, gather juice and bread (or wine or crackers) to participate. Children are invited to the table provided they've had instruction at home or in Westminster's worship prep class (1st grade).

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS IN YOUR INBOX!

Beginning December 1, we're sending out daily devotionals, prepared by some of the Westminster leaders, during the season of Advent and Christmas. These devotionals are based in Scripture and the lyrics of three hymns: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel; Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus; and Hark! The Herald Angels Sing. Each devotional will be delivered via email with a link to the hymn lyric for the day. If you are already on the WPC email list (receiving the Tuesday/Sunday ENews), you're all set. If you would like to receive the devotionals, please subscribe to the ENews at wpccharleston.org.

WE'RE GOING TO STUDY MATTHEW!

On Sunday December 4, Pastor Daniel will begin a sermon series on Matthew (We're starting in 1:1 with the genealogy of Jesus!) During Advent and all through 2023, we'll be engaged in a verse-by-verse study of the Gospel. If you would like a special copy of Matthew from The Illuminated Scripture Journal for following along and taking notes, they are available for you in the narthex. They are a gift for you provided you read it and use it!

THE ANGEL TREE IS IN THE NARTHEX!

The Angel Tree, complete with 125 angels, is in the Narthex! Each angel represents a child in need at Mary Ford Early Childhood Center. Grab an angel from the tree or donate money in the church office or online at wpccharleston.org. The youth of the church will have an evening of shopping at Target for these children. All gifts should be returned in a gift bag by December 11.

AV/SOUND SYSTEM/ LIVESTREAM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Westminster PC is searching for a team of folks, with knowledge or experience, to help with our weekly AV/Sound System/ Livestream needs. If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please reach out to Dee Bee Wright at 843.729.7005. Thank you!

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, December 7 enjoy a delicious supper for adults and children at 6:00 pm in Covenant Hall. Nursery is available. Join us for fun, food, and fellowship with your church family. Menu is tacos with all the makings, nancho chips, fajitas with chicken, salad , dessert

SUNDAY SCHOOL DURING ADVENT COME AND JOIN US!

During Advent Pastor Daniel and Pastor Lissa will be leading a four week series on *Faith and Film* using holiday classics to discuss Advent theological themes. Film clips will be shown as part of the discussion. The class will be meeting in Covenant Hall during the Sunday School hour and all are welcome!

Today	How the Grinch Stole Christmas
December 11	Bishop's Wife
December 18	Charlie Brown Christmas

STEWARDSHIP FOR 2023

GROWING IN CHRIST

THANK YOU to those who have already made those commitments for 2023! To date, there are 154 responses totaling $634,416. Our goal is 100% participation, so if you have not yet turned in your 2023 estimate of giving card (they are available in the narthex), you may do that by placing it in the offering plate or making your pledge online at www.wpccharleston.org. Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness!!

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, December 4

9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service
5:00 pm	Youth Group, Christmas Party
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Monday, December 5

9:50 am	4's Chapel, Sanctuary
12:00 pm	Preschool Dance, Covenant Hall
7:00 pm	Scout Troop 79

Tuesday, December 6

6:30 am	Toastmasters, Covenant Hall
9:30 am	3's Chapel Time, Sanctuary
10:00 am	Staff Meeting, Pastor's Office
1:00 pm	Staff Christmas Lunch, Covenant Hall– Church Office Closed
7:00 pm	Handbell Choir, Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 7

9:00 am	Preschool Funnastics, Covenant Hall
6:00 pm	Wonderful Wednesday, Covenant Hall, tacos
7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall Room 3

Thursday, December 8

9:30 am	3's Music, Sanctuary
10:00 am	4's Music, Sanctuary
10:00 am	Lowcountry Smocking, Room 4

Friday, December 9

3:00 pm	Piano Recital, Sanctuary

Sunday, December 11

9:00 am	Worship Service
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service
12:00 pm	Second Sunday Social, Covenant Hall
4:00 pm	Club 3, 4, 5, Covenant Hall
5:00 pm	Youth Group, Angel Tree Shopping
7:00 pm	AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

NEXT WEEK IS SECOND SUNDAY SOCIAL

Please join us following the 11:00 am worship on December 11 in Covenant Hall for lunch and fellowship. Fried chicken will be provided, please bring a side to share. There will be a basket set out for donations to cover the cost of the fried chicken. All are welcome!

VIRTUAL FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

Please let us know you're here by completing the Virtual Friendship Register. Simply scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to open or find on our website under the Quick Links, Virtual Friendship Register

WAYS TO GIVE TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Church Pew Envelope: Place cash or check in the Pew Envelope and drop it in the Offering Plate in the Narthex.
Online: Click the "Give Now" button in the top right of our homepage at wpccharleston.org.

FROM THE WESTMINSTER PULPIT

Today: The Second Sunday of Advent
Matthew 1:1-17

9:00 & 11:00 am	Worship; The Lord's Supper Children Hang the Chrismons

December 11: The Third Sunday of Advent
Matthew 1:18-25

9:00 & 11:00 am	Worship

December 18: The Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00 am	Blue Christmas A special service designed for those who aren't feeling so joyful during the holidays.
11:00 am	Lessons and Carols A festival of readings and singing that point us to the Messiah's birth.

December 24: (Saturday) Christmas Eve

3:00 & 5:00 pm	Families & Young Children Two options to attend. We recreate the nativity with help from the congregation and all the children who wish to participate. Costumes provided; it's wiggly and wonderful.
7:00 pm	Carols and Candlelight A more reverent service with traditional carols, a sermon, and candle lighting.
	5:00 and 7:00 pm will both be livestreamed.

December 25: Christmas Morning!
Luke 2:1-20

11:00 am	Worship for the whole family Come as you are. One service only No Sunday School, Nursery or Children's Church

January 1: New Year's Day
Matthew 2:1-12

11:00 am	Start the New Year with The Lord's Supper Come as you are. One service only. No Sunday School. Nursery and Children's Church available

Westminster Prays

Carol Cummings
Bill Pennekamp
Kate Pennekamp
Love Moody
Lisa Wilcox
Harold Fountain
Nancy Plowden
Gary Brooks
Steve Buddin
Dick Unger
Anderson Scruggs
Pam Smith
Chad Waldrop
Libba Palmer
Marion Woodbury
Bryan Thomas
Gloria Purcell
Will Edwards
Bob Ferguson
Meg Powell
Keith Gordon
Larry Salley
Lydia Crosby
David Morris IV
Brian Carlow
Frances McLean
David Kerr
Sharon Hutchinson
Harper Croft
Monnie Privette
Eleanor Woodbury
Evan McMillan
Bruce Hamilton
Don Sumner
Lauren Wilson
Reed Family
Charlotte Griggs
Debby Ferguson
Summer Garris
Mary Ashley Barbot
Joyce Aydlett
Daryn Baker
Curtis Sponseller
Sean Fitzgibbon
Thom Penney
Nikolai Fruth
Mary Martschink
Maryalice Vann
Christina Miller
Meghan Hatfield
Rachel Singletary
Fran Ligon
Molly Griggs
Howard Fulwiler
Lance Lewandowski
Ann Froneberger
Cynthia Ebigwei
Chrissie Bosworth
Ginger Siefring
Martin Davis
Kevin Ritzel
Gloria Underhill
Barbara Johnston
Nita Rodemann
Jackie Epstein
Edward Godshall
Towne Family
Charles Reeves
Merrily Burnette
John Martschink
Brenda Jonsson
Judy Tag
Rose Derrick
Robin Zemp
Pat Skees

Friend of the Week
Robbie Yarnall
1565 N. Pinebark Lane
Charleston, SC 29407

Mission of the Week
Food Pantry
1157 Sam Rittenberg Blvd.
Charleston, SC 29407

Student of the Week
Amber Appell
404 Waterwood Dr.
Goose Creek, SC 29445

Church Family
Chris and Anna Kerr
Emma, Molly
Robert and Debra Luhn

Westminster Session Members and Committees

Administration: Tom Whetstone and Matthew Patrick; **Buildings and Grounds**: Earl Frasier and Matt Teitsort; **Christian Education:** Lindy Coleman and Laura Patrick; **Fellowship:** Nathan Ward, Betsy McLaughlin, and Mike Niblock; **Finance:** Norman Hook and David Boyd; **Membership:** Karen Norman and Matthew Akery; **Mission:** Brenda Gibson and Chuck Towne; **Preschool:** Abbie Mobley; **Worship:** Dee Bee Wright and George McAbee; **Clerk:** Carole Russell; **Assistant Clerk:** Lindy Coleman; **Treasurer:** Nancy Dixon; **Assistant Treasurer:** Patty Stokes

Westminster Presbyterian Church
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Rev. Lissa Long, Associate Pastor, mlong@wpccharleston.org
Mrs. Laura Patrick, Interim Director of Children's Ministries, LPatrick@wpccharleston.org
Mr. Robin Zemp, Director of Music, rzemp@wpccharleston.org
Mrs. Nita Rushton, Office Administrator, office@wpccharleston.org
Mrs. Tommye Owen, Financial Administrator, finance@wpccharleston.org
Mrs. Alicia Crosby, Preschool Director, preschool@wpccharleston.org
Mrs. Meg Dorsel, Communications Coordinator, mdorsel@wpccharleston.org