



# Westminster Presbyterian Church

*We are called to be and to make disciples  
who love God and who love our neighbors.*

January 4, 2026

10:00 a.m.

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

PRELUDE

We Three Kings

ARR. CHRISTY HARRILL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

◆ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In the dark of morning,

**All: the stars still shine.**

One: In the depth of winter,

**All: the birds still sing.**

One: At the start of the year, tender and new,

**All: God is here. God is near.**

One: Do not rest in your fear.

**All: God is with us.**

One: So with all of his creation

**All: Let us worship God.**

◆ INVOCATION

◆ HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 152

What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

◆ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ever-loving God, we long for Christmas to usher in a season of peace and joy.  
However, we know that is not how the world works. Even just days after  
Christmas, we find ourselves face to face with fear once again.

So today we pray:

Forgive us when we allow fear to stop us in our tracks.

Forgive us when our own fear prevents us from following your call.

Forgive us when fear is louder than love.

Show us how to turn our fear into action.

Show us how to live like the magi who searched for you in a fearful world.

With hope we pray, Amen.

-Silent Personal Confession-

◆ ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON

◆ SONG OF RESPONSE

Gloria!

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!**

*Please share the peace of Christ with your neighbor*

TIME FOR CHILDREN TO SHINE

Laura Patrick

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12, 16-18

PEW BIBLE N.T. PAGE 2

SERMON

The Magi: Fear Doesn't Stop Us

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

◆ HYMN NO. 527

Eat This Bread

BERTHIER

◆ 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.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up our hearts.

All: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

PASTORAL 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.

◆ HYMN NO. 150

As with Gladness Men of Old

DIX

◆ BENEDICTION

◆ POSTLUDE

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

F.J. HAYDN

◆ *Please stand, if able*

#### LEADING THE SERVICE TODAY:

Priscilla Holtzclaw, Parish Associate; Janie Bruce, Liturgist

Nancy Parrish, Pianist

Acolytes: Annie Robinson, Everett Daniels

Ushers: Dee Bee and John Wright, the Robinson Family

11:00 Livestream at [www.wpccharleston.org](http://www.wpccharleston.org), YouTube (Westminster Presbyterian Charleston)  
Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from CCLI License #2778901

#### TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

All who profess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are invited to share in the bread and the cup. Elders will serve the congregation at the table by intinction. WPC is a safe place for those in recovery – we serve grape juice only. Gluten free is available. Children are invited to the table provided they've had instruction at home or in Westminster's worship prep class (1<sup>st</sup> grade).

#### WELCOME TO WORSHIP! LET US KNOW YOU'RE HERE

Please take a moment to sign and pass the Friendship Register in the pews. If you are visiting and wish to learn more about Westminster, leave your contact information. If you are interested in becoming a member, check 'wish to join' and a pastor will be in touch with you.

LET'S GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER Name tags are available on the name tag cart in the Narthex. Please find yours and wear it on Sunday mornings, returning it before you leave. If yours is missing, please use a sticky badge and put your name on the 'I need a name tag' form.

#### PRAYER REQUEST?

Leave your written requests in the basket next to the main sanctuary doors. WPC staff will pray for your request at our weekly meeting and throughout the week.

#### 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 [wpccharleston.org](http://wpccharleston.org). Text: "charlestonwpc" to 73256.  
Thank you for giving.

#### IS GOD CALLING YOU TO JOIN THE WESTMINSTER FAMILY?

Here's how you can do it. Fill out a New Member Form and put it in the offering plate in the narthex. Forms are available at the Hospitality Table in the narthex, or you may fill one out online under the visitor tab at [wpccharleston.org](http://wpccharleston.org) or using the QR code. 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. 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. 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.



### WORSHIP PREP DISCIPLES

Today we celebrate with Worship Prep Student Caroline Condon Head who is completing her study with Dee Bee Wright and her parents. She has been learning all about worship and will be sharing the Lord's Supper today. We are proud of Caroline and all the students who took part in the class this year.

### ON THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH W.E. PACK!

We have officially kicked off another year of snacks (Weekend Eats) for students! After supper on the first Wednesday of every month, we take about 30-45 minutes to pack snack kits for Goodwin and Mary Ford students who are facing weekend food insecurity. We pack enough for 300 students a week to go home with a bag of nutritious snacks. It is a fun and meaningful mission opportunity for all ages. You can support this important ministry financially. The cost to send snacks home for one child for the month is \$10 or \$90 for the year! Make checks payable to WPC and marked "WePack" or on the WPC website. Click "Give" and choose WEPack on the drop-down menu. Thanks!

### JOIN US FOR WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY!

Gather with friends and family of all ages for food and fellowship at 6:00 p.m. Adults \$8, children \$4 and a family cap of \$25 via cash, card or check.

### BLOOD MOBILE AT WESTMINSTER

On Wednesday, January 7, from 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., the Blood Mobile will be in the Westminster parking lot so you can provide a life saving donation of blood to the American Red Cross. Schedule your appointment online at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=Westminster> or scan the QR code below.



### COLD WEATHER CLOTHING & RAIN GEAR DRIVE FOR MARY FORD STUDENTS

Westminster is collecting cold-weather and rainy-weather clothing for the students and families of Mary Ford Early Childhood Education Center. Most families at Mary Ford live at or below the poverty level, making it difficult to purchase warm or protective clothing. Students range in age from 2 to 6 years old and typically wear sizes XS-M.

A collection box will be placed in the Narthex through **May 1**. Each time the box is filled, items will be delivered to the school and distributed by the Parent Advocate.

#### **Requested items include:**

- *Cold weather:* long pants, sweaters, long-sleeve shirts, coats, jackets, hats, gloves, scarves, mittens, long socks
- *Rain gear:* raincoats, rain hats, rain boots

While new clothing is preferred, gently used items (clean, with no holes or stains) are welcome.

Mary Ford also maintains a clothing closet for siblings and parents. Donations of clean adult clothing—as well as shoes and belts—are also appreciated.

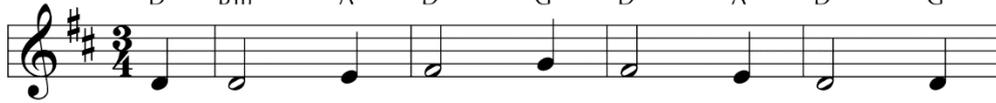
Help support these families during difficult times by donating new or gently used items. Thank you for your generosity!

### PRESCHOOL NEWS

January 5, 2026, Preschool Registration for the 2026-2027 school year will begin. Registration will open to our current families and members of the Church. Then on February 2, 2026, registration will open to the Public. Interested families can contact the Preschool Office for more information and to take a tour of the school.

# What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright 152

Capo 2: (C) (Am) (G) (C) (F) (C) (G) (C) (F)  
 D Bm A D G D A D G



1 What star is this, with beams so bright, more  
 2 'Tis now full - filled what God de - creed, "From  
 3 While out - ward signs the star dis - plays, an  
 4 O Je - sus, while the star of grace im -

(C) (G) (C) (F) (C) (G)  
 D A D G D A



love - ly than the noon - day light? 'Tis  
 Ja - cob shall a star pro - ceed;" and  
 in - ward light the Lord con - veys and  
 pels us on to seek your face, let

(Am) (D7) (G) (C) (F) (C) (Dm)  
 Bm E7 A D G D Em



sent to an - nounce a new - born king, glad  
 lo! the east - ern sa - ges stand to  
 urg - es them, with ten - der might, to  
 not our sloth - ful hearts re - fuse the

(G) (C) (G) (C) (F) (G) (C)  
 A D A D G A D



ti - dings of our God to bring,  
 read in heaven the Lord's com - mand.  
 seek the giv - er of the light.  
 guid - ance of your light to use.

This 18th-century Latin text calls attention to three kinds of light: the light of the star leading the Magi to the Christ-child, the inward light inspiring their journey, and Christ who is the Light of the world. The simple unison melody unites everything in a gentle arc.

## Eat This Bread

527

G C Am D Bm

Opt. A "Eat this bread; drink this cup; come to me and  
 Opt. B Eat this bread; drink this cup; come to Christ and

nev - er be hun - gry. Eat this bread;  
 nev - er be hun - gry. Eat this bread;

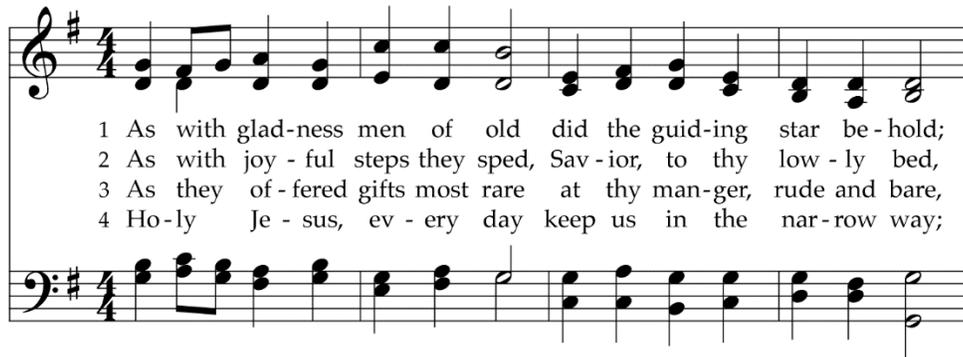
Em Dsus D G D

Em Bm C Dsus D G

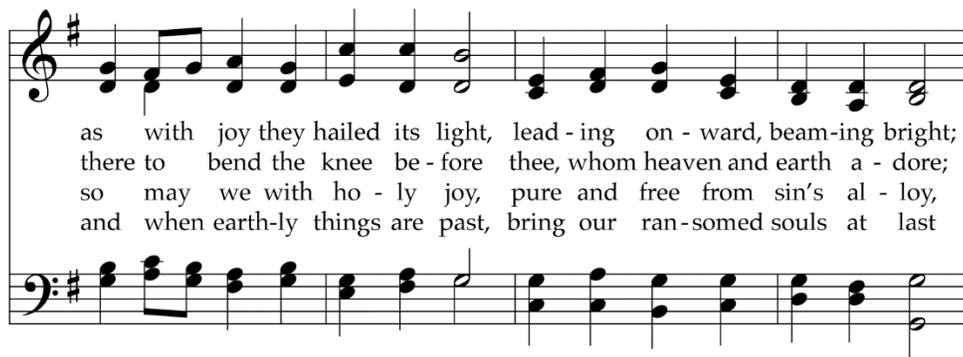
drink this cup; trust in me and you will not thirst."  
 drink this cup; trust in Christ and you will not thirst.

This text from the Taizé Community is based on John 6:35, which is paraphrased here in two styles. The more immediate first version maintains the second-person invitation spoken by Jesus, while the alternative version provides a more general statement in the third person.

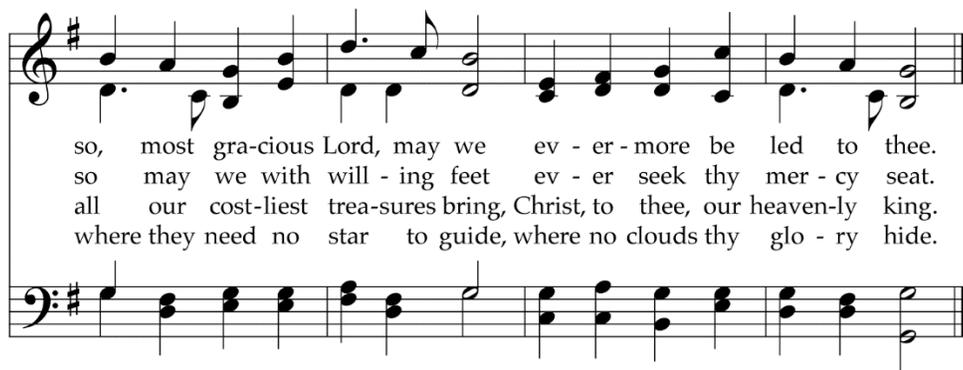
## As with Gladness Men of Old 150



1 As with glad-ness men of old did the guid-ing star be-hold;  
 2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav-ior, to thy low - ly bed,  
 3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy man-ger, rude and bare,  
 4 Ho-ly Je - sus, ev - ery day keep us in the nar - row way;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam-ing bright;  
 there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heaven and earth a - dore;  
 so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,  
 and when earth-ly things are past, bring our ran-somed souls at last



so, most gra-cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led to thee.  
 so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.  
 all our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heaven-ly king,  
 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.

The first three stanzas here use an as/so structure to draw parallels between the coming of the Magi and the spiritual lives of the singers, summed up in the prayer of the fourth stanza. Even though this adapted German tune was named for him, the author did not care for it.

## THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

### Sunday, January 4

10:00 am      Worship Service  
                  No Sunday School  
12:10 pm      CE Committee Meeting, Covenant Hall  
12:15 pm      Worship Committee Meeting, Parlor  
                  NO YOUTH GROUP  
7:00 pm        AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

### Monday, January 5

6:00 pm        Troop 79 Leadership Meeting, Covenant Hall

### Tuesday, January 6

10:00 am      Staff Meeting  
5:30 pm        Charleston County Public Works Meeting, Covenant Hall

### Wednesday, January 7

12:00 pm      American Red Cross Blood Drive, WPC  
6:00 pm        Wonderful Wednesday, Covenant Hall  
6:30 pm        WE PACK, Covenant Hall  
6:30 pm        Handbell Choir  
7:15 pm        Choir Rehearsal  
7:30 pm        AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

### Thursday, January 8

10:00 am      Lowcountry Smockers Guild, Covenant Hall

### Friday, January 9

### Saturday, January 10

9:00 am        Sandhurst Civic Association Meeting, Covenant Hall  
10:00 am      Charleston Area Multiple Myeloma Group, Preschool

### Sunday, January 11

9:00 am        Worship Service  
10:00 am      Sunday School  
11:00 am      Worship Service  
12:00 pm      Second Sunday Potluck, Covenant Hall  
4:00 pm        Club 345  
5:00 pm        Youth Group  
7:00 pm        AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

## COMMUNITY SUPPORT NUMBERS

Al-Anon (843) 762-6999

Community Resource and Support Hotline 211

Neighbors Together (843) 747-1788

Narcotics Anonymous (843) 852-3001

Mental Health Crisis Hotline 988

PostPartumsupportchas.org

## WESTMINSTER PRAYS

Cary Alexandre (WPC)	Janie Hammersmith (WPC)	Julie Pell (Sandy & Debbie Pell)
Acker Family (WPC)	Megan Hatfield (Debbie McQueeney)	Crystal Pluck (Jennifer Binnicker)
Daryn Baker (Jane Acker)	Betsy Henson (Ashley Snider)	Pratt Family (WPC Preschool)
Mary Ashley Barbot (Lisa Couch)	Anna Hewitt (Dee Bee Wright)	Donna Purcell (WPC)
Allyn Bruce (WPC)	Charlie Howell (Debbie Baskin)	Stan Rich (Suzanne & Tim Fox)
Diane Byers (Deb Frasier)	Chris Huff (Gloria Purcell)	Cliff & Liz Shelor (WPC)
Susie Cashion (WPC)	Emerson Jones (Molly Griggs)	Tradd Shepard (WPC)
Lauren Choate (Sara Dwyer)	Lynn Koger (WPC)	Rachel Singletary (Sara Bobo)
Cherie Couche (Dana Tumbleston)	Mary Laird (Ashley Snider)	The Jerry Smoak Family (WPC)
Allen Croft (Gwen Croft)	Fran Ligon (WPC)	Ray Thomas (Sara Dwyer)
Lydia Crosby (WPC)	Ray Long (Ellen Bollinger)	Towne Family (WPC)
Martin Davis (Kevin Mikles)	John Martschink (WPC)	Gloria Underhill (Laura Nunn)
Hosanna Eadie (Katie Baturin)	Mary Martschink (WPC)	Kathy Unger (Keith Gordon)
Roxanne Eadie (Katie Baturin)	Jay Massalon (Dana Tumbleston)	Jacqueline Vance (Sara Dwyer)
Ann & Ellen Farrar (Beth Georgen)	David McEachern (Debra Luhn)	Mark Warner (Kendall Ramsay)
Edward Fitzgibbon (Joan Frye)	Gavin McLeod (Dana Tumbleston)	Aileen Wiese (WPC)
Randleson Floyd/Daniels (Gloria Purcell)	Marley Miller (Dee Bee Wright)	Janet Wilson (Gloria Purcell)
Harold Fountain (Henry Shepard)	Jennifer Morgan (Susie Cashion)	Betty Winter (Dee Bee Wright)
Keith Gordon (WPC)	Joe Nuchols (Debbie McQueeney)	Robbie Yarnall (WPC)
Margaret Ellen Hamman (Suzanne Fox)		

## PRAYER LIST UPDATED DECEMBER 2025

If you need to add or remove someone from the prayer list, please email [office@wpccharleston.org](mailto:office@wpccharleston.org)

<b>Friend of the Week</b>	<b>Mission of the Week</b>	<b>Student of the Week</b>	<b>Church Family</b>
Keith Gordon 1759 River Front Drive Charleston, SC 29407	Water Mission Int'l 1150 Molly Greene Way Building 1605 N.Charleston, SC 29405	Kyle Jonsson 2167 Forest Lakes Blvd. Charleston, SC 29414	Kirk & Jennifer Smith Kirkland & Ashleigh

## **ELDERS AND SESSION COMMITTEES**

**Administration:** Michael Patrick and Paul Patrick; **Buildings and Grounds:** Randy Davis and Tim Fox; **Christian Education:** Cathy Grills and Kevin Mikles; **Fellowship:** Jon Bazzle, Janie Bruce and Michael Scruggs; **Finance:** Sarah Schumann and Joshua Robinson; **Membership:** John Dounian and Cameron Baker; **Missions:** Mary McAbee and Natasha Akery; **Preschool:** Ashley Snider; **Worship:** Allyn Bruce and Deborah-Anne Ferguson; **Clerk:** Carole Russell; **Assistant Clerk:** Cathy Grills  
**Treasurer:** Tim Fox

## **WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

1157 Sam Rittenberg Boulevard  
Charleston, SC 29407  
[www.wpccharleston.org](http://www.wpccharleston.org) (843) 766-8311

Rev. Dr. Daniel L. Smoak, Pastor, [dsmoak@wpccharleston.org](mailto:dsmoak@wpccharleston.org)  
Priscilla Holtzclaw, Parish Associate, [pholtzclaw@wpccharleston.org](mailto:pholtzclaw@wpccharleston.org)  
Claire Winkles, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries, [cwinkles@wpccharleston.org](mailto:cwinkles@wpccharleston.org)  
Sarah Shayban, Director of Music, [sshayban@wpccharleston.org](mailto:sshayban@wpccharleston.org)  
Kate Cowart, Office Administrator, [office@wpccharleston.org](mailto:office@wpccharleston.org)  
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Alicia Crosby, Preschool Director, [preschool@wpccharleston.org](mailto:preschool@wpccharleston.org)  
Meg Dorsel, Communications Coordinator, [mdorsel@wpccharleston.org](mailto:mdorsel@wpccharleston.org)