

 WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE of
HOLY WORSHIP

*Our Savior, dearly-beloved, was born today:
let us be glad. For there is no proper place
for sadness, when we keep the birthday of the
Life, which destroys the fear of mortality
and brings to us the joy of promised eternity.*

- St. Leo the Great

The First Lord's Day of Christmas
December 27th, 2015

Welcome to Westminster Presbyterian Church. We are thankful that you have joined us today as we offer worship to God through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. There may be some elements of our worship today that are unfamiliar to you, but please don't worry about that, you will catch on soon enough. If you have any questions about our church, or about the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the pastor, elders or deacons would be happy to help you find answers.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT OUR WORSHIP

Standing and raising hands

Because we are whole people with bodies as well as souls, we use our bodies in worship, as the Bible commands. We raise our hands to look to God for help and bless God (Ps. 28:2, 63:3), and we stand to hear the Word out of reverence for God (Neh. 8:5).

The Lord's Supper

The Sacrament of communion is a rite of fellowship between Christ and His people. We invite all who have been initiated into the family of God by baptism, and admitted to table fellowship by the leadership of this or some other church, to join in the communion service by faith. If you are unbaptized, or not a church member, please speak with the pastor or elders before the service if you would like to come to join in the Holy Supper.

Liturgical response

Please note that when the congregation is to read, the type will be **boldfaced and indented:**

The Lord be with you! [*Leader*]

And also with you! [*Congregation*]

Children

You will notice many children in our service today. Jesus welcomed little children to Himself, and so we welcome them in our worship service! We believe that children naturally love those whom their parents love, and so the best way to help children grow in their love for the Lord Jesus is to have families worship together.

We understand that this means baby noises and wiggly children, and we're fine with that. If your child is fussy or needs a little time to quiet down, we have a mother's nursery in the back room. If your children have never been in worship before, don't worry at all. We realize this is unusual for many people, and we would be happy to offer you help, tips and encouragement.

PRELUDE

Please be seated, silence electronic devices, and prepare your hearts for worship.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 12:5-6

“Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.

Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

*GLORIA PATRI

N^o. 734

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be;
World without end,
Amen, Amen.**

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Angels, from the Realms of Glory, N^o. 218

* *Please stand as you are able*

CALL TO CONFESSION

Isaiah 57:16

"For I will not contend forever,
nor will I always be angry;
for the spirit would grow faint before me,
and the breath of life that I made."

PRIVATE CONFESSION

A time of silence is provided for private, individual confession before the Lord.

PUBLIC CONFESSION OF SIN *from* The Book of Common Prayer, (1665)

Almighty and most merciful Father; we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Your Holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done, and there is no health in us.

O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to Your promises declared to us in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for His sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life; to the glory of Your Holy name.

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Isaiah 40:1-2a

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned.

DECLARATION OF ABSOLUTION

HYMN OF SALVATION

Joy Has Dawned, p. 12

PRAYER FOR TITHE AND OFFERINGS

GIVING OF TITHE AND OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

N^o. 731

*OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 60 (selections)

Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

2 For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will be seen upon you.

3 And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.

4 Lift up your eyes all around, and see;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from afar,
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.

5 Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and exult,
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

6 A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall bring good news, the praises of the Lord.

10 Foreigners shall build up your walls,
and their kings shall minister to you;
for in my wrath I struck you,
but in my favor I have had mercy on you.

11 Your gates shall be open continually;
day and night they shall not be shut,
that people may bring to you the wealth of the nations,
with their kings led in procession.

12 For the nation and kingdom
that will not serve you shall perish;
those nations shall be utterly laid waste.
18 Violence shall no more be heard in your land,
devastation or destruction within your borders;
you shall call your walls Salvation,
and your gates Praise.
19 The sun shall be no more
your light by day,
nor for brightness shall the moon
give you light;
but the Lord will be your everlasting light,
and your God will be your glory.
22 The least one shall become a clan,
and the smallest one a mighty nation;
I am the Lord;
in its time I will hasten it.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***CONFESSION OF FAITH**

The Heidelberg Catechism (1563 AD)

35. What is the meaning of these words “He was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary”?

That God’s eternal Son, who is, and continues true and eternal God, took upon him the very nature of man, of the flesh and blood of the virgin Mary, by the operation of the Holy Ghost; that he might also be the true seed of David, like unto his brethren in all things, sin excepted.

36. What profit dost thou receive by Christ’s holy conception and nativity?

That he is our Mediator; and with His innocence and perfect holiness, covers in the sight of God, my sins, wherein I was conceived and brought forth.

PASTORAL PRAYER

*RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 23

A PSALM OF DAVID.

The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil,

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

*PSALM OF RESPONSE *The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want*, No. 86

*NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

2 Corinthians 1:3-11

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. 5 For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too. 6 If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer. 7 Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in our comfort.

8 For we do not want you to be unaware, brothers, of the affliction we experienced in Asia. For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. 9 Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. 10 He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again. 11 You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

*GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 2:22-35

And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord 23 (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) 24 and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” 25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. 26 And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. 27 And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, 28 he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation
that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel.”

And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

*PRAYER FOR THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

SERMON

“Behold the Consolation!”, Rev. Jerid Krulish

*COMMUNION HYMN

Hail to the Lord’s Anointed, N^o. 311

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

You are welcome to partake in the Lord’s Supper if you are a baptized Christian who has been admitted to the Lord’s Table. Our communion elements are wine and bread. If you are unable to take regular bread and wine, please signal one of the elders (with the trays), and we can provide you with gluten-free bread; non-alcoholic grape juice is found in the innermost ring of the communion trays for those who need to abstain from alcohol.

*HYMN OF COMMISSIONING

See, amid the Winter’s Snow, N^o. 199

*BENEDICTION & THREEFOLD AMEN

N^o. 740



Joy Has Dawned

Words and Music by
Keith Getty & Stuart Townend

Joyous! (♩ = 128)

F Gm7/F F Csus C Dm7 Gm7 F/C C C7

1. Joy has dawned up - on the world, pro - mised from cre - a - tion -
 2. Sounds of won - der fill the sky with the songs of an - gels,
 3. Shep - herds bow be - fore the Lamb, gaz - ing at the glo - ry;
 4. Son of A - dam, Son of Heav'n, gi - ven as a ran - som;

F Gm7/F F Csus C Dm7 Gm7 Csus C F

God's sal - va - tion now un - furled, hope for ev - 'ry na - tion.
 as the might - y Prince of Life shel - ters in a sta - ble.
 Gifts of men from dis - tant lands pro - phe - sy the sto - ry.
 Re - concil - ing God and man, Christ, our might - y cham - pion!

F/A B♭ F/A Gm7 Csus C Dm7 Gm7 F/A F/C C C7

Not with fan - fares from a - bove, not with scenes of glo - ry;
 Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in dark - ness,
 Gold - a King is born to - day, In - cense - God is with us,
 What a Sa - vior! What a Friend! What a glo - rious mys - t'ry!

F Gm7 F Csus C Dm7 Gm7 Csus C F

But a hum - ble gift of love - Je - sus born of Ma - ry.
 cling now to a moth - er's breast, vul - n'ra - ble and help - less.
 Myrrh - His death will make a way and by His blood He'll win us.
 Once a babe in Beth - le - hem, Now the Lord of his - t'ry.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA FOUNDATION, INC.

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WEEKLY CATECHISM MEMORY

Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 45. Which is the first commandment?

A.: The first commandment is, Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

A. (**Children's**): Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

WEEKLY BIBLE (& THEOLOGICAL) READING

<i>Dec.</i> 27	Psalms 145	WCF 28	Revelation 18
28	Psalms 146	WCF 29	Revelation 19
29	Psalms 147	WCF 30	Revelation 20
30	Psalms 148	WCF 31	Revelation 21
31	Psalms 149-150	WCF 32-33	Revelation 22
<i>Jan.</i> 1	Psalms 1-2	Genesis 1:1-2:3	Mark 1:1-20
2	Psalms 3-4	Genesis 2:4-25	Mark 1:21-45
3	Psalms 5	Genesis 3	Mark 2:1-22

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CALENDAR

- *DesRoches Baptism & Baptismal Feast*: Jan. 3
- *Conference*: Pastor Krulish out of town Jan. 12 - 15
- *Sturtevant Baptism & Baptismal Feast*: Jan. 24
- *Presbytery*: Jan. 28-29. (Pastor Krulish, Elder Koch out of town.)

NOTES

WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

www.solochristo.org 🍀 Phone: (360) 602-1501 🍀 admin@solochristo.org

Audio sermons, the order of worship, and the church directory are available at our website.

Elders:	Mr. Tom Berkompas Rev. Jerid Krulish (Pastor)	Mr. Larn Koch Mr. Mark Sturtevant (Clerk)
Deacons:	Mr. Taylor Bradley Mr. Dave Buhrmaster Mr. Dylan Gollehon Mr. Dan Seifert	Mr. Christopher Berkompas Mr. Terry Craig Mr. Roy Martin (Chairman) Mr. Joseph Sturtevant