



Westminster Presbyterian Church

*So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new
creation—everything old has passed away;
see, everything has become new!”*

II Corinthians 5:17

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THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

First Sunday after Christmas

December 31, 2017

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music – *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Dykes

Prayer of Preparation (*you may prepare for worship by praying silently*)

*Dear Lord, it has been a long year. Thank you so much for loving me without fail!
Please help me prepare for a new year and new opportunities to be your child
joyfully living out the peace, hope, and love I've received from the coming of your
son. Amen*

Chiming of the Hour

Greeting and Announcements

Mary Dayne Gregg

Call to Worship – from Psalm 148 (*responsive*)

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise him in the heights above.

Praise him, all his angels, praise him, all his heavenly hosts.

Let everyone praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted!

Come, let us worship the Lord our God!

- * Hymn of Praise 136 – *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*
- * Call to Confession
- * Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Dear God, we confess to you this morning that too often our lives are defined by our comings and goings, by getting and spending, and by work days and holidays. Our devotion to you is muted by our calendars and our to-do lists. Forgive us, O God, and as this year comes to an end, we pray that we will be able to re-focus onto your to-do list. Help us to order our priorities appropriately; teach us to pray; teach us to listen; teach us to trust in you, and you alone. Change us, Father, so that we will keep you first and foremost in our lives. Please forgive these sins we have named, and those we name now in silence

- * Assurance of Pardon (responsive)
Christ died for our sins.

He made a full atonement for us.

We are forgiven and have the promise of eternal life.

May we feel this forgiveness in our hearts!

We are his children, and our hearts have been cleansed!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

- * The Congregation's Response:



PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson – Luke 2:22-40

(pew Bible pg. 833)

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem – *I Wonder as I Wander*

Robin Roberts, soloist

Second Lesson – Luke 2:41-52

(pew Bible pg. 833)

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon – *Take It With You*

Tommy Suttle, Director of Discipleship

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

- * Affirmation of Faith – The Apostles' Creed (*unison*) (Hymnal pg. 35)
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 life everlasting. Amen

- * Hymn of Thanksgiving 137 – *He Came Down*

Prayers of Intercession 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.

Offertory – *Via Dolorosa*

Sprague/Borop

- * The Doxology – Hymn 606
- * Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

- * Hymn of Consecration 150 – *As with Gladness Men of Old*
- * Charge and Benediction
- * Postlude – *To God Be the Glory*

Doane



- * Please stand at the * as you are able. Unison readings are **printed in bold**. Also, please take your bulletin and papers home or place them in the recycling basket in the narthex.



PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH

Marilyn Bowen, Sam Dossett's sister – colon cancer

Margaret Buckley – recovering at home

Brandi Carter, friend of Nancy Johnson – postponed cancer scans

Ruthie Davis – upcoming surgery Jan. 20

Andrew Dennis, Beverly and Charles Dennis' son – melanoma

Sam Dossett – continued prayers

Fluffy Fair – moved to Provision Living

Thomas Guest, son of Scott & Marti Guest (friend of Carrie Creel) – freshman at MSU

severely injured in ATV accident on Nov. 30

Mary Halliwell, friend of Mary and Dean Cromartie – pancreatic cancer

Crystal Miller, friend of Nancy Johnson – hospitalized with pneumonia

Jack Ramsey, friend of Harry and Carol Hickman – recovering from surgery

Bonnie Revicki – gall bladder surgery

Sharon Sabin, friend of Mary and Dean Cromartie – advanced cancer and Parkinson's

Margaret Suttle – recovering at home

Louise Van-Beek, friend of Harry and Carol Hickman – recovering from stroke



Greeting and Announcements

Welcome to Westminster! We're very glad to see you in worship. We hope you will sense Christ's presence. If you are looking for a place to grow and serve, we'd love to tell you more about us. Please turn off cell phones during the worship hour.

No Youth or Children activities Jan. 14.

The January/February *Today* devotionals are in the narthex.

PW Coordinating Team meets Tuesday, Jan. 2, at 9:30 a.m. in the generation room.

No Brown Bag Bible Study until Jan. 9.

Wednesday night suppers will resume Jan. 10.

No Choir this week. Rehearsals will resume Jan. 10.

All **Men of the Church** are invited to meet Thursday, Jan. 4, at 6:30 a.m. at Shoney's.



Church office will be closed Jan. 1-2.

There are **offering envelopes for 2018** on a table in the narthex. Be sure to pick up one today.

Just as the human body needs eyes, hands, ears, lungs, etc., so does the Body of Christ. We have many small group opportunities for growth, fellowship and service here at Westminster. We encourage members to use their gifts to participate in the mission of this congregation and to invite others to join us in serving Jesus Christ.



The Seal of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

A Symbolic Statement of the Church
The Cross – Christianity
The Transept – Bible and Pulpit
The Dove – The Holy Spirit
The Intersection – Baptismal Font or
Communion Cup
Flames – Implied triangle, the Trinity

Class of 2018

Gene Owens
Michael Raggio
Robin Roberts

THE SESSION

Class of 2019

Althea Jerome
J. T. Johnson
Cindy Nobles

Class of 2020

Margaret Brooks
Dean Cromartie
Kathryn Cummings

THE TRUSTEES

Franklin Bryant Gene Fair Wally Gregg

Class of 2018

Shane Brooks
Kathy Cain
Howard Keever
Beth Richmond

THE DEACONS

Class of 2019

David Daves
Janeil Harris
Butch Nobles
Susan Turner

Class of 2020

Katie Ginn
Judy Haydel
Sinclair Lundy
Robert Lochhead
Youth Representative
Sarah Beth Suttle

CHURCH STAFF

Tommy Suttle, Director of Discipleship
Sinclair Lundy, Financial Secretary
Connie Roberts, Chancel Choir Director
Jenny Maul, Children's Music Director

Martha Davis, Church Administrator
Wes Brooks, Communications
Randall Harris, Organist
Ray Robinson, Sexton