

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 25, 2026

## ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music – *Kelvingrove*

Matthew H. Corl

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

God our light and our rescue, our fortress in times of trouble, when human powers seek to crush us, protect us in the hidden places of your heart. Ease our fears and let us rest in you. When we are safe, but other lives are threatened, fortify our resolve to be your protection for all our kin and all your good creation. When the work is done, we ask only to live in your house and enjoy your beauty forever. Amen.

Chiming of the Hour

Greeting and Announcements

Bob Buckner

Call to Worship (responsive)

In the sea of life's daily stress and strife, in the struggle to keep our heads above the waves, Jesus calls us from the shore: "Follow me, and be fishers of people!"

**God gathers us into new boats built with room for friend and stranger.**

"Follow me, and use your gifts with purpose. Follow me, and build abundant life."

**Answering God's call, we will catch others with kindness, grace, and love. We will share with others the good news of Jesus Christ.**

Let us worship God.

\* Hymn of Praise 757 – *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples*

\* Call to Confession

Christ calls us to follow, knowing that we are human. Jesus knows we are not perfect. He knows we will not always get it right. All he asks is that we try, learn, and try again. Let us go to God, telling how we have tried and failed, that God may teach us what we must learn.

\* Prayer of Confession (unison)

**Christ, our Messiah, you call us to fish for people, but we are hesitant to leave our boats. We are afraid to let go of the things we hoard, believing they make us secure. We are afraid to put our trust in you, afraid to follow, afraid we will fail. Forgive us. Transform our fear into faithfulness, and enable us to walk with you, that we may be part of your work in the world.**

(time for silent confession)

\* Declaration of Forgiveness (responsive)

Just as Jesus called the disciples, so Christ calls us. Forgiven of our sin and freed to serve, let us answer Christ's call. **Christ calls us, forgives us, heals us, and teaches us.**

**Thanks be to God!**

\* The Congregation's Response: *Gloria Patri* Hymn 581

**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.**

## PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Time with Children

Alicia Westbrook

Prayer for Illumination

Saving God, source of our calling, your Word is full of power and glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us so that we may receive your grace and live as your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading – 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

pew Bible pg. 926

The Word of the LORD. **Thanks be to God!**

Anthem – *He That is Down Need Fear No Fall*

R. Vaughan Williams

He that is down need fear no fall; He that is low, no pride;  
He that is humble, ever shall have God to be his Guide.  
I am content with what I have, little be it or much;  
And, Lord, contentment still I crave, because thou savest such.  
Fullness to such a burden is, that go on pilgrimage;  
Here little and hereafter bliss, is best from age to age.

Second Reading – Matthew 4:12-23

pew Bible pg. 785

The Word of the LORD. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon – *Immediately They Left Their Nets*

Rev. Dr. Christopher Crotwell

## GIVE THANKS TO GOD

\* Hymn of Thanksgiving 738 – *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*

\* Affirmation of Faith: Adapted from The Confession of 1967, 9.15 (unison) –

**God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love.**

Prayers of the People (responsive)

We approach God in prayer not as strangers, but as beloved children, baptized in Christ Jesus. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As children of God, we pray for the church . . . Make us followers of Jesus and fishers of people, proclaiming the nearness of your reign and demonstrating the good news of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As children of God, we pray for the earth . . . Teach us not to plunder the gifts of your creation, but to share the bounty of the land with all and preserve your blessings for coming generations. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As children of God, we pray for all nations . . . Be the stronghold of the weak and

break the power of the oppressor. Let those who cry for you see your face. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As children of God, we pray for this community . . . Put an end to the divisions among us. Make us one as you are one, united in a common vision and purpose. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As children of God, we pray for loved ones . . . Be their light and salvation; shelter those who are in trouble and protect them from all harm. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy One, as you are well pleased with Christ, help us to live in a way that will be pleasing to you. As you have called us to listen to Christ, help us to always heed his word and seek his will. These things we pray in the name of Jesus, your beloved Child, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

**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.**

Invitation to Offering

There is only one Lord and God, from whom all things come and for whom we live. Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

Offertory – *I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light*

Rebecca Groom te Velde

\* The Doxology – Hymn 606

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\* Prayer of Dedication (unison)

**God of glory, as people brought gifts to the infant Jesus, we bring our gifts to you. May these gifts be used to lift up those who are oppressed, to bring deliverance to those who are in need, to support those who are poor, and to help those who are in trouble. Amen.**

### GO IN GOD'S NAME

\* Hymn of Consecration 726 – *Will You Come and Follow Me*

\* Blessing and Charge (responsive)

The loving kindness of the Lord our God, the grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, and the renewing power of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **Alleluia!**  
Go and tell this good news of great joy: to us a Savior is born. **Amen.**

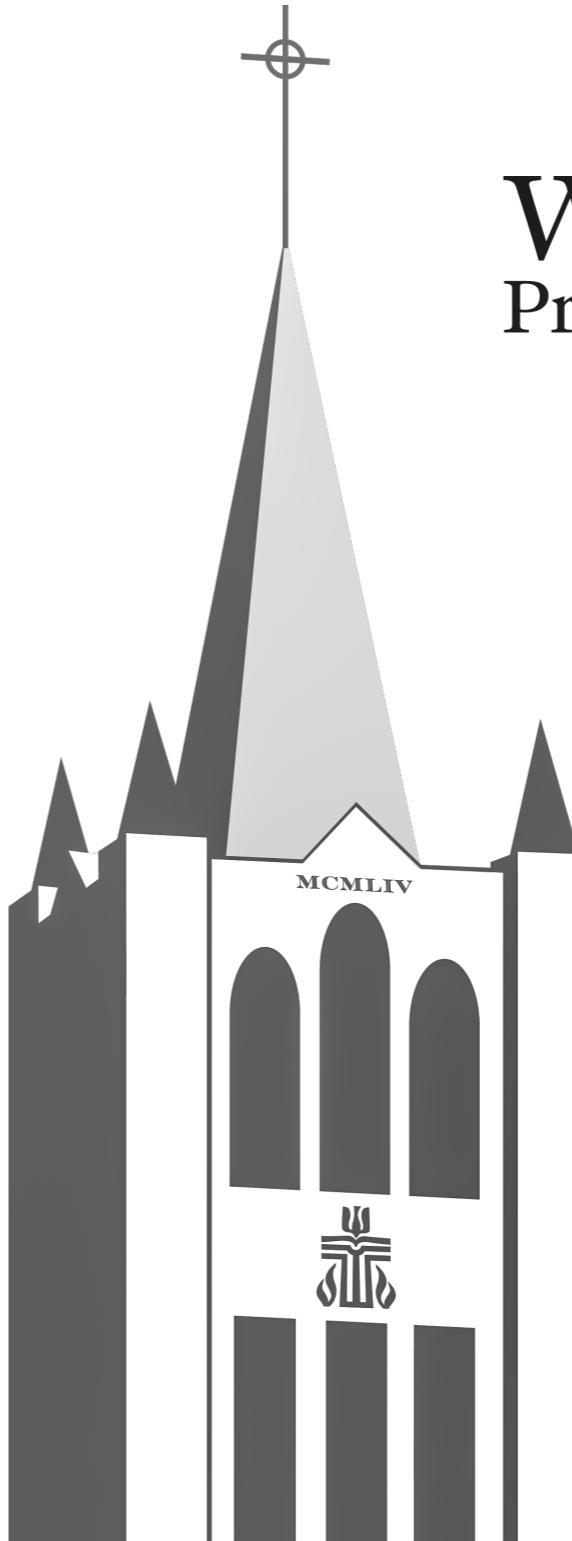
\* Postlude – *Kingsfold*

Robert J. Powell



\* Please stand at the \* as you are able. Unison readings are **printed in bold**.

Today's liturgy is in part adapted from the Call to Worship website, a resource created by the PCUSA's Office of Theology and Worship and the Presbyterian Association of Musicians.



# 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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## PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH

(\* new added prayers)

Linda Basden, neighbor of Janeil Harris – Alzheimer's

Jan Bozeman – constant pain

Franklin Bryant – recovering from broken pelvis at home

Larry & Margaret Burge of Poplarville, friend of Michael Yore – Larry has cancer

Laura Pearce Cureton, Nancy Johnson's goddaughter – nerve block therapy continues

Deidra Dickenson, Kathy Cain's sister – onset dementia

Cathy Dudley – Bedford Care (Medical Blvd)

Bill and Louise Edwards, friends of Charles Brown – strength and endurance

Teresa Ginn, Michael Ginn's aunt – dementia

Lee Graham, Pam Love's son-in-law – health issues

Jim Harris, Dixie Coats' brother-in-law's father – in hospital with serious health issues

\*Mckenna Hawkins, daughter of Michael Yore's friend – cancer

Charles "Rocky" Hartfield, friend of Pam Love – health issues

Peggy Henry, Karen Reidenbach's sister – continued strength through addiction recovery

Charlotte Hill

Ann Johnson

Geraldine Jones

Roger Kuyrkendall, Carrie Creel's father – Alzheimer's

B.J. Lambert

Vivian Lochhead, daughter of Bob and Margaret Lochhead – eye issues

Peggy McCarthy, friend of Iris Easterling – facing serious health issues

Deloris McLaurin, Glenn Nobles' first cousin – dementia

Anita Murphy, friend of Mary Cromartie – lung cancer

Glenn Nobles – endurance and strength

Renee Parker, friend of Ruthie Davis – macular degeneration

Carolyn Mitchell Pintard, Bill & Betty Mitchell's daughter – grave health issues

Shannon Love Roberson, daughter of Pam Love – broken shoulder

Laura Todd, Grayson Rayborn's cousin – multiple health issues

Louise Traxler, Karen Reidenbach's mom – Bedford Care (Medical Blvd)

Korie Turner, friend of Ruthie Davis – prayers for courage

Ella Young, sister of Janet Baldwin – struggling with dementia



## 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 silence cell phones during the worship hour.

**The January/February Today** devotionals (large and small print) are on the narthex cabinet.

**Brown Bag Bible Study** will meet Tuesday at 11 a.m.

**No Wednesday night supper or activities.**

**Choir** will meet Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

**Men of the Church** will meet Thursday at 7 a.m. at Loblolly Bakery.

There are **offering envelopes for 2026** on a table in the narthex and by the double doors. Be sure to pick up one today.

**Giving statements** have been mailed; please contact the office if you have not received one.



**Sunday, Feb. 8**, everyone is invited to Montague Hall to enjoy some hot soup and dessert after worship. The Youth will be collecting donations for the **Souper Bowl of Caring**.



### Boucher Diaper-Wipes Shower

**Sunday, Feb. 8, after worship.**

Come help us celebrate this wonderful addition to our church family.

(Gift cards are welcomed.)

The Session has called for the **annual congregational meeting** on Feb. 8 following worship. The purpose of the meeting will include: hearing a summary of the annual statistical report, hearing a financial report on 2025 and on the 2026 budget, approving changes to the pastor's terms of call, approving sabbatical plans for the pastor, and electing the 2026 officer nominating committee.

**Articles for the February newsletter** are due to

Wes by noon Thursday, Jan. 29.

([wes@breadproject.com](mailto:wes@breadproject.com))



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