



*Westminster Presbyterian Church*  
*January 5, 2025*

**The Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements (10:25)**

*A warm welcome to those new to Westminster!  
Please fill out the Welcome Card in the pew in front of you and  
drop it in the offering plate so we can get to know you. Thank you!*

**Time of Silence:** *To prepare our hearts and minds for worship.*

**Call to Worship and God's Greeting (Responsively)**

What is your source of comfort and encouragement?

**Our help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.**

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to Whom be glory for ever and ever. (Galatians 1:3,4)

**Amen!**

Praise, O children of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord.

**We love You, Lord, for You hear our voices; You hear our cry for mercy.**

How can we repay the Lord for all His goodness to us?

**We will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.**

**We will fulfill our vows to the Lord, in the presence of all His people. (Psalm 116:13,14)**

**Invocation Prayer from Augustine of Hippo**

Eternal God, You are the light of the minds that know You, the joy of the hearts that love You, and the strength of the wills that serve You; grant us so to know You that we may truly love You, and so to love You that we may fully serve You, Whom to serve is perfect freedom. Breathe on us, O Holy Spirit, that our thoughts may all be holy. Act in us, O Holy Spirit, that our work and worship, too, may be holy. Draw our hearts, O Holy Spirit, that we may love what is holy and good. Strengthen us, O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy. Guard us, then, O Holy Spirit, that we always may be holy. Amen.

**\*Hymn of Worship: *Shout to the Lord***

My Jesus, my Savior, Lord there is none like You  
All of my days I want to praise the wonders of Your mighty love  
My comfort, my shelter, Tower of refuge and strength  
Let every breath, all that I am, never cease to worship You

**Chorus**

Shout to the Lord all the Earth, let us sing  
Power and majesty, praise to the King  
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar  
At the sound of Your name  
I sing for joy at the work of Your hand  
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand  
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You (repeat)

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**Confession of Faith: The Nicene Creed (*Responsively*)**

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, begotten from the Father before all ages,**

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made; of the same essence as the Father.

**Through Him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven;

**He became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,**

And was made human.

**He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;**

He suffered and was buried.

**The third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures.**

He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead.**

His kingdom will never end.

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life.**

He proceeds from the Father and the Son, and with the Father and the Son is worshiped

and glorified.

**He spoke through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

**We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,

**And to life in the world to come. Amen.**

### **Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon**

Merciful God and Father in heaven, You are faithful and just; You are willing to forgive our sins and to purify us from all unrighteousness. Before You and our sisters and brothers, we confess that we have spoken many empty words and have at times broken even our most sacred vows. Our sins are an affront to You; they are a disgrace before the watching world, and they have caused us unspeakable pain. Through our Lord Jesus may we begin this new year with the joy of knowing we belong to You, with the freedom of being purified by Your blood, and with the healing which Your grace alone can bring. In the name of our blessed Savior we pray. Amen

The Lord is righteous in all His ways and kind in all His works. The Lord is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth. He fulfills the desire of those who fear Him; He also hears their cry and saves them. The Lord preserves all who love Him. Psalm 145:17-20a

**\*Hymn # 485:** *O Thou That Hear'st When Sinners Cry (Stanzas 1, 2, 4, 5)*

### **Offering Prayer**

All things have their origin with You, Lord, and from these riches we freely give, that Your church might grow in this place and throughout the world. Amen.

### **Offertory**

**\*Doxology:** *Hymn # 733 Psalm 150:6*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Him, all creatures here below;  
alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host,  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost;  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Special Music:** *Hymn for the New Year*      *by Joshua Ling (to the tune of Auld Lang Syne)*

Through Thorn and curse  
We have traversed

But we've come safely through!  
This year done

God is Sovereign  
There's nothing He can't do.  
Bravely and bold  
It's been foretold  
He'll bring us victory!  
The gates of Hell  
Will feel the swell  
Of hymns sung faithfully.

For Auld Lang Syne  
We sing of times  
Great days amid the curse  
But greater years  
Are drawing near.

New heaven and new earth.  
So pain and loss  
They'll never cost  
More than our Savior paid.  
Go forth this year  
In praise and cheer  
This is the year He's made.

One day closer  
One month closer  
One year closer to Christ!  
When His full reign  
Shall be sustained  
This darkness turned to light.

*Children ages 4-2<sup>nd</sup> grade may go to Children's Church at this time.*

### **Prayer for Congregation**

**Scripture Reading: John 3:31-36** (pg. 835)

**Sermon: *You Can Trust Jesus*** by Pastor Mark Scholten

**\*Hymn of Response # 334:** *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

**\*Benediction: Psalm 103:1-5; 1 Corinthians 16:23**

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits, Who forgives all your iniquity, Who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from the pit, Who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, Who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you.

\*Indicates standing, if you are able.

Please join us tonight at 6:00 pm for a church-wide **Prayer Meeting & Fellowship** led by Ed Payne in the Fellowship Hall.

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