

upcoming events

Bible Study – Gospel of Matthew

Today, 11:30 am, Library

Join Rob and Bethany for an in-depth look at the Gospel of Matthew. We will meet in the library.

Gifts of the Dark Wood

Wednesdays, Jan 21-28, 9:30 am, Room 201a/b

During Advent, we focused on the gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love. But what about experiences that may be more challenging, such as uncertainty, emptiness, and temptation? Though these often have negative connotations, they can also be helpful gifts. Facilitated by Rob and Bethany.

Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, January 25, 11:00 am, Sanctuary

Westminster's annual meeting will be held to elect church officers, review the budget, and approve clergy salaries. While only church members can vote, the meeting is open for all to attend.

Women Connecting

Tuesday, January 27, 7:00 pm, Room 201a/b

Buddhist priest, Elaine Donlin, will present on the topic, "The Ministry of Living in the Present." All Westminster women and friends are invited.

Feast Day of St. Brigid

Sunday, February 1, 11:30-1:00 pm, Findlay Hall

Inspired by WPC's retreat to Iona, Scotland, we invite you learn about St. Brigid, a 5th century spiritual leader. We will learn a craft, share stories, and enjoy a simple meal. To RSVP, visit the sign-up table in Findlay Hall following worship. Contact Brook Scott with questions (brook.scott@icloud.com).

Sunday School Training

Sunday, February 8, 11:30 am, Room 201C

Our Sunday School ministry thrives because of our wonderful volunteer teachers. We need more teachers to support our program. On Feb. 8, we will have a special training to give you all the tips for working with our WPC kids. RSVP to Bethany.

Women of Westminster Valentines Luncheon

Tuesday, February 10, 11:30 am, Findlay Hall

Greetings Women of Westminster! You are invited to our annual luncheon where we will share great food and inspiring table conversation. An Evite will be available soon to collect RSVPs. Contact Susan Berkhout with questions (susan@berkhout.net).

Call to Artists

Westminster invites artists of all ages and experience levels to share their work in an exhibition, opening in March in Findlay Hall. If you would like to participate, please submit 1-4 images by email to Meme Hurd at memehurd@comcast.net. Submission deadline is **February 13**.

Worship Notes

For the complete list of Traits of the Beloved Community by Dr. Arthuree Wright, see www.r2hub.org/library/25-traits-of-the-beloved-community.

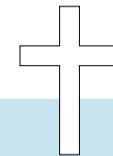


January 18, 2026

10:00 am Worship

"When we see social relationships controlled everywhere by the principles which Jesus illustrated in his life—trust, love, mercy, and altruism—then we shall know that the kingdom of God is here."

~ *Martin Luther King, Jr.*



Contact Us

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order of worship

Prelude I'm Troubled African American Spiritual/E. Hancock

Welcome and Sharing of Peace Jeff Shankle

Introit Love is the Reason Mac Powell

Love is the reason, love is the reason, love is the reason that I go.

**Standing up for what I believe in, that's where my heart is leading,
and love is the reason that I go.**

Opening Blessing Marybeth Bond Sheppard

* **Opening Hymn** Open My Eyes, That I May See No.451

Community Prayer Bethany Nelson

Holy God, we come to you both frustrated and grateful. Just when we think we cannot abide with the brokenness of this world, just when we feel alone and without resources, you remind us that you are near - often in the presence of others at the very moment we need it. Give us patience and trust. Give us courage to be your loving presence for someone else as we create beloved community together. Amen.

Silent Prayers and Assurance

Joys and Concerns and The Lord's Prayer (page 35 in the hymnal) Jeff Shankle

Anthem Be the Change Laura Farnell

Birthday Blessing Jeff Shankle

Time of Discovery/Sacrament of Baptism See Box

Go now in peace; go now in peace.

May the love of God surround you

Everywhere, everywhere you may go.

First Scripture Reading 1 Corinthians 13:1-7, pg.934 .. Marybeth Bond Sheppard

Second Scripture Reading John 13:34-35, pg. 877 Bethany Nelson

Sermon Beloved Community: On the Road Series Revisited Bethany Nelson

Silent Reflection

Offertory Shine on Me arr. Rollo Dillworth

* **Doxology** No.609

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God above, ye heav'nly host; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Dedication Marybeth Bond Sheppard

Life of the Beloved Community Bethany Nelson

* **Closing Hymn** Though I May Speak No.693

* **Benediction** Bethany Nelson

Postlude Postlude on 2 Spirituals, "Go Down, Moses"/"I Want to be Ready" Charles Callahan

*Often, worshippers stand

Congregational Blessing

You are beautiful, chosen, made for a purpose, a precious child of God, loved forever (Psalm 139:14, 1 Peter 2:9, Ephesians 2:10, John 1:2, Jeremiah 31:3).

Sacrament of Baptism

Call to the Sacrament Bethany Nelson
Parent Covenant

Congregational Covenant Jim Arce
With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome Gideon into Christ's church. Because we are all one in Christ, we promise to love, encourage, and support him and his family. We promise to share the good news of the Gospel with him and help him to study, know, love, and serve Jesus Christ.

Children's Covenant
Gideon, you are our new brother in Jesus Christ. We promise to help you to know God's love and grow up to be caring and helpful.

Welcome Song
**As we baptize you with water,
there is grace upon your life
And we're promising through everything
to help you realize
That you are loved by God
and we all love you too
And we're promising, though everything
that we'll be here for you.**

Baptism and Introduction
Apostles' Creed (page 35 in the hymnal)
Prayer

Gideon is the son of Holly Gibson and Michael Fearon.