



# CHRISTMAS EVE

4pm Family Service

DECEMBER 24, 2025



Westminster United Methodist Church

165 East Main Street • Westminster, MD 21157 • [www.wumcmd.org](http://www.wumcmd.org) • 410-848-8325 • 410-876-2124

# WESTMINSTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## welcomes you to our Christmas Eve Family Service

4pm Wednesday \* December 24, 2025

*Our Mission: "Changing lives through Jesus Christ to make a difference."*

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Restroom use during worship - youth, especially, are encouraged to access private restrooms via the exit door, front left wall near the altar rail.

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### WELCOME

### PRELUDE

*"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"*

arr. Smith

### ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS CANDLES LIT ON THE ADVENT WREATH

Gibbs/Hempstead Family

Leader: Tonight is a special night. We remember the four candles of Advent

—Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love—and we light the Christ Candle, because Jesus is born!

#### Candle 1 — Hope

Child/Leader: The first candle is the Candle of Hope.

Hope means trusting that God is with us, even when things feel hard.

**All (kids and congregation): Thank you, God, for hope!**

#### Candle 2 — Peace

Child/Leader: The second candle is the Candle of Peace.

Peace means helping calm the world—using gentle words and caring for others.

**All: Thank you, God, for peace!**

#### Candle 3 — Joy

Child/Leader: The third candle is the Candle of Joy.

Joy is the happiness God gives us—joy we can share with everyone.

**All: Thank you, God, for joy!**

#### Candle 4 — Love

Child/Leader: The fourth candle is the Candle of Love.

Love is God's greatest gift, the way we show we are part of God's family.

**All: Thank you, God, for love!**

#### The Christ Candle

Child/Leader: Tonight we light the Christ Candle, the candle at the center of our circle, because Jesus—our Light, our Savior, and our Friend—is born!

Jesus brings hope, peace, joy, and love to the whole world.

**All: Welcome, Jesus! Shine in our hearts. Shine in our world. Amen**

THE ABC'S OF CHRISTMAS—

A, B, C, D, E, F

CAROL                                   *"O Little Town of Bethlehem"* (verse 1)                                   UMH 230

G

GOD'S WORD IS READ                                   Luke 2:8-16

H, I

CAROL                                   *"The First Noel"* (verse 1)                                   UMH 245

J, K, L, M

CAROL                                   *"Away in a Manger"* (verse 1)                                   UMH 217

N

SCRIPTURE                                   Matthew 2:1-2

O

SHARING OUR GIFTS

CAROL                                   *"What Child Is This?"* (all verses)                                   UMH 219

P

CHRISTMAS PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER (UMH 895)

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Q, R, S

CAROL                                   *"Love Came down at Christmas"* (verse 1)                                   UMH 242

T, U, V, W

CAROL                                   *"Twas in the Moon of Wintertime"* (verse 1)                                   UMH 244

X, Y, Z

SHARING THE LIGHT

CAROL                                   *"Silent Night, Holy Night"*                                   UMH 239

POSTLUDE                                   *"Toccata on "Adeste Fideles" (O Come, All Ye Faithful)"*                                   arr. Hegarty  
please be seated for the Postlude



# Christmas Giving

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THANK YOU for your kind and generous contributions:

Wreaths — 10      Poinsettias — 32

Deficit Reduction — \$8,920 (a generous donor is matching this amount)

Donations of Wreaths to adorn our campus  
and Poinsettias to adorn our chancel and take home.

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*Our dedications are given to the Glory of God and....*

In memory of John L. Armacost and Jill L. Armacost, by Betty Armacost.

In honor of Jennifer Munch, by Ronnie & Larry Bohn.

In memory of Betty Davis, by Ed Davis.

In honor of Rev. Dr. David Highfield & Conni, by Dick & Bonnie Clendaniel,  
Scott & Lily, Jeremy & Rachael Clendaniel.

In memory of Lura & Earl Griswold, by their family.

In memory of Bill & Jackie Hering, by Randy & Diane Groft.

In honor of our children and grandchildren: Ashley & Kevin Graff and grands Olivia, Ava, and  
Nathan Graff; and Ryan & Lauren Groft, and grands Madison, Carsyn, and Rhett Groft,  
by Randy & Diane Groft.

In memory of Tom Hepler, husband, father, Papa, Grandpa - missed by Peggy, Zachary, Amanda,  
Mark, Kaia, and Cole.

In memory of Killian Kenney, by Pastor Dave & Conni Highfield.

In honor of the church staff, by Pastor Dave & Conni Highfield.

In memory of my dad, Erich J. Hofmann, Jr., with love by Rob, Heather, Jakob, & William Keefer.

In memory of Anna Mae Melown Beard, Robert W. Melown, and Harry B. Beard, Jr.,  
by Al & Sandy Keefer.

In memory of Ellis Lawson, by his family.

In memory of Brian Lockard, by Lynda Lockard.

In memory of Loved Family Members who have passed on, our parents King and Luckenbaugh, by Barbara & Richard Luckenbaugh.

In memory of Loved Family Members who have passed on, Barbara's siblings and a niece and nephew, by Barbara & Richard Luckenbaugh.

In memory of Loved Ones, by Richard & Shirlee Marrs.

In memory of my husband, Austin Maxson, by Eunice Maxson.

In memory of my parents, Charles and Ferne Thompson, by Helen Miller.

In memory of my siblings: Glenna Krebs, Geraldine Perryman, and Richard Thompson, by Helen Miller.

In memory of Charles Moroz, by Al Moroz.

In honor of my sister and brother-in-law, Ronnie & Larry Bohn, by Jennifer Munch.

In memory of Loved Ones, by Bill & Peg Pond.

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In memory of Mr. & Mrs. J. Garold Barnes, by Don & Gerri Reck.

In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Harry Reck, by Don & Gerri Reck.

In memory of James Barnes, James Reck, and Robert Reck, by Don & Gerri Reck.

In memory of my brother, Craig, by Carole Roberts.

In honor of my children and grandchildren, by Dee Roush.

In memory of David Roush, by Dee and family.

In memory of Jane Anderson, with love by Malcolm & Jacki Stranathan.

In honor of Jack Anderson, with love by Malcolm & Jacki Stranathan.

In honor of our family, with love by Malcolm & Jacki Stranathan.

In honor of my sisters, Roma Wright and Karen Aldom, by John T. Taylor.

In honor of my cousin, Anne Mazzone, by John T. Taylor.

In honor of my children and grandchildren, by Sue Thomas.

In memory of my husband, Tom Thomas, by Sue Thomas.

In memory of Bob and Helaine Bowersox, my parents, by Pam Valis.

In memory of my husband, Arnie, and my sister, Karen Homeier, by Kristy Vandervalk.

In memory of my mom, Terry Kulakowski, with love by Sarah, Craig, Tyler, and Emma Williams.

# Donations to reduce our running deficit and support our church mission and ministry @ Center & Main

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*Our dedications are given to the Glory of God and.....*

Anonymous donation.

In memory of John L. Armacost and Jill L. Armacost, by Betty Armacost.

Given by Dianne & David Berr.

In memory of Danny Bohn and Chris Clise, by Ronnie & Larry Bohn.

In honor of the leaders of the New Life in Christ class, by Jackie Cage.

In loving memory of Denise Clendaniel, by her family.

In loving memory of Lillian & Norman Osten, by their family.

In loving memory of Charles & Reba Clendaniel, by their family.

In loving memory of Bill, Becky, & Paul Swartzbaugh, by their family.

In honor of Rev. Dr. Malcolm Stranathan (Pastor Malcolm) for his dedicated ministry at WUMC,  
by Michael & Vicki Collett.

In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Russell Conover, Jr., Martin Conover, and Ruth Ohler,  
by Richard Conover.

Given by Dan & Ann Dell.

Given by Dixie Elmes.

Given by Jean Garver.

Given by Randy & Diane Groft.

In memory of our loved ones, by John & Susan Harbold.

In memory of our mom and Grammy, Barbara Hayman, with love by Lori and Alexa Hayman.

In memory of my friend, Mac Conover, with love by Lori Hayman.

In memory of my friend, Geoffrey Seargeant, with love by Alexa Hayman.

In memory of our friend, Stephany Seargeant, with love by Lori and Alexa Hayman.

In honor of our dad and Pop, Bob Hayman, with love by Lori and Alexa Hayman.

In honor of this wonderful church family, by Peggy Hepler.

Given by Linda Lawson.

Given by Mary Linker.

In honor of our staff at WUMC - to God by the Glory - for their faithful service!  
By Barbara & Richard Luckenbaugh.

In honor of our grandchildren: Leila, Tyler, Collin, Conner, Emma, Caroline, Stella, Lucille, Grayson, and Laurel, by Tom & Karen Malehorn.

In honor of our children: Tom, Christiane, David, Kim, Nicholas, Colleen, Dave, and Meghan, by Tom & Karen Malehorn.

In memory of our parents, by Dean & Pat Minnich.

In honor of our sons, by Dean & Pat Minnich.

In memory of my parents, James & Jean Clise, by Jennifer Munch.

In memory of my brother, Chris Clise, by Jennifer Munch.

Given by Judy & Lou Piel.

In memory of Loved Ones, by Mary Louise Poole.

Given by The Reppe Family.

Given by Lorna Rice.

In honor of my church family, by Carole Roberts.

Given by Dee Roush.

In memory of Joseph Shaw, by Lynn Shaw.

In memory of former disciples of Jesus Christ, by Rev. Dr. Sue Shorb-Sterling.

In honor of current and future disciples of Jesus Christ, by Rev. Dr. Sue Shorb-Sterling.

In honor of the staff at Westminster UMC and Crossroads Preschool and our mutual ministry to the people and community of Westminster UMC, by Pastor Malcolm Stranathan.

In memory of Bill & Doris Troxell, by Bill & Paula Troxell.

In memory of Bob and Helaine Bowersox, my parents, by Pam Valis.

In memory of Charles Furlong, by Betsy Waldheim.

In honor of Elizabeth Furlong, by Betsy Waldheim.

— Thank you to those participating in this evening's service —

Music—Peggy Brengle, CAGO-Organist      Lead Pastor—Rev. Dr. Malcolm Stranathan

Advent Wreath—Gibbs/Hempstead Family

ASL Interpreter — Bill Pond      Slides—Will Somers      AV Tech—Will Somers

All music used in today's service is podcast/streamed with permission from either ONE LICENSE #731177-A or CCLI Licenses #627547 & #20216174.

Contact Kyler Brengle, Director of Music Ministries, for additional details, if needed.

Slide photo attribution: Tom Walker

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# MERRY CHRISTMAS



We hope you will join us for Sunday Worship as we continue the Christmas season and enter the season of Epiphany

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28—CHRISTMAS 1  
10:30am Carol-Sing Worship Service

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4—CHRISTMAS 2  
8:15am Chapel Service (Center Street  
side entrance)

9am Education Hour, all ages  
10:30am Worship Service

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11—EPIPHANY 1  
We remember our baptism as we  
celebrate the baptism of Jesus and  
His divine nature revealed.

8:15am Chapel Service (Center Street  
side entrance)

9am Education Hour, all ages  
10:30am Worship Service

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