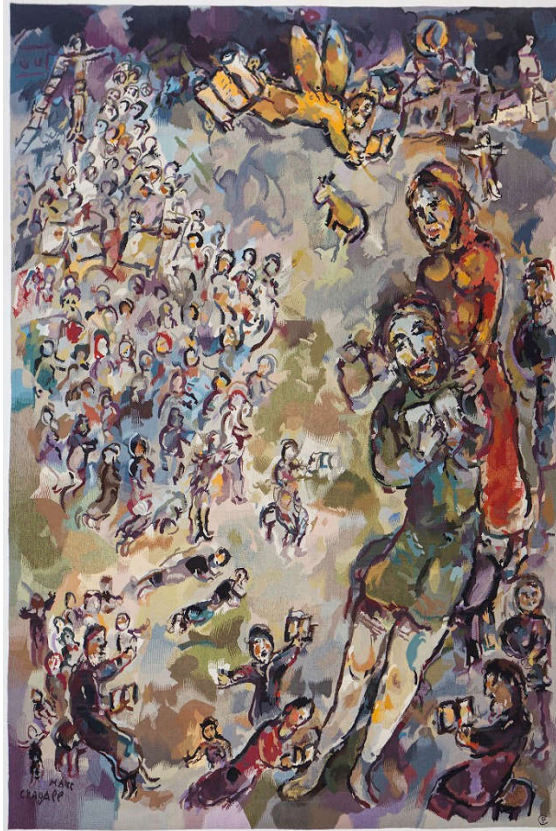


# WESTOVER HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)



Third Sunday After Epiphany

January 26, 2025

10:30am

## OUR MISSION

Westover Hills Presbyterian Church exists to worship & learn, welcome & celebrate, advocate & serve with people open to a faith shaped by practice to be a congregation recognized as a safe place and a resource for action, acceptance, and joy.

*Adopted May 2024*

## WE GATHER AT GOD'S INVITATION

*\*Those who are able are invited to stand. Bold text indicates unison readings.*

WELCOME & INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

The Rev. Dr. Robert Wm Lowry

PRELUDE

David Austin, Director of Music

CALL TO WORSHIP

Ellen McEwen, Liturgist

Peace be with you.

**And also with you.**

Come and see the love God has given to us.

**Come and see what it means to be children of God.**

Come with this hope, that Christ's presence is real.

**With joy, we come to see the Lord.**

OPENING PRAYER

Miraculous God, come to us now,  
even as your Son came to those first disciples on the shores of Galilee.  
Speak your peace to our hearts.  
Touch us with your Holy Spirit.  
Reveal your word, that we may hear your message this day,  
and live as your disciples  
in the days and years to come.  
In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

+GATHERING HYMN

*"Hallelujah! Sing Praise to Your Creator"*

Purple #18

CALL TO CONFESSION

Beloved, we are God's children now,  
but what we will be in the fullness of our time  
has not been revealed.  
What we do know is this: we will be like Jesus the Christ and saints of God.  
Let us consider how Jesus was revealed among us  
and pray to be more like the Christ in every way.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty God,  
You have set before us the path  
but we have wandered on our own to try to find our way.  
Sometimes we are like toddlers  
and we hear Your call and come back.  
Other times, we are children testing boundaries,  
ignoring Your call until fear finally makes us look back.  
And still other times we are full of youthful rebellion,  
demanding to be cut loose and set free,  
not knowing how much we still need  
to seek Your wisdom and guidance.  
But most of all, too often we think we are adults  
and have figured it all our and know our own way,  
only to stumble and stray so far.  
Remind us, parental God,  
that we are always Your children,  
that we are never fully grown up in Your sight,  
that we always have much to learn.  
Help us to seek You every day,  
to acknowledge that we need Your wisdom and guidance,  
and help us to return to the path and walk with You.  
In the name of Christ,  
who is our companion on this journey of faith, we pray. Amen.**

*Silence is kept*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!  
Thanks be to God!

\*SUNG RESPONSE

*“Alleluia!”*

Purple #587

+THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

*"Thy Word"*

Purple #458

SCRIPTURE READING

1 John 3:7-12

SERMON

"Loaded Words: Righteous"

Dr. Lowry

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

+HYMN OF RESPONSE

*"Guide My Feet"*

Purple #741

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from the Confession of 1967

**God's redeeming work in Jesus Christ embraces the whole of human life:  
social and cultural,  
economic and political,  
scientific and technological,  
individual and corporate.**

**It includes our natural environment as exploited and despoiled by sin.**

**It is the will of God that God's purpose for human life shall be fulfilled under the rule of Christ and all evil banished from creation.**

**With an urgency born of hope,  
the church applies itself to present tasks  
and strives for a better world.**

**It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth,  
nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat.**

**In steadfast hope,  
the church looks beyond all partial achievement  
to the final triumph of God.**

**"Now to the one who by the power at work within us is able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen."**

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY

"SOUPeR Stars"

Alice Ahart

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 today our daily bread.  
And forgive our debts as we forgive our debtors.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

WE DEPART IN GOD'S NAME

+CLOSING HYMN

*"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"*

Purple #753

+CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE

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# THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

*JOIN US ON THE JOURNEY!*

*JAN. 26 – FEB 1, 2025*

## **Welcome!**

We are so glad to be worshipping with you today. If this is your first visit, welcome! If you have been with us before, welcome back! Whether you are a life-long Presbyterian, a brand-new Christian, or someone who is just trying to make sense of this world we share, we hope you will feel at home at Westover Hills Presbyterian.

## **Let us know you are worshipping with us!**

In the pew you will find an information card. Please leave us information on how we might be in touch with you to share more about life at Westover Hills. We would love to share a little about our story and hear more about yours. If you do not see a card in the pew near you, please ask one of the ushers you saw when you came in and we will be sure to get one for you. If you prefer, please scan the QR code below to be directed to the contact page of our website.



Digital Visitor Card

## **Presbyterian Women Morning Circle Bible Study**

The PW Morning Circle Bible Study will meet on Monday, January 27th at 10am in the WH Chapel. Carol Enderlin will lead the discussion of lesson 5, Air Quality Justice. Hostesses will be Carolyn Nash and Nancy Passini. Park in the North Parking Lot off South Road. Adjacent church doors will be open at 9:30am. Join us for a good Bible lesson, good food, and good fellowship. Remember your “least coin”. And invite a neighbor, bring a friend! Need a ride? We’ll get you there! Contact Nancy Passini @ 501-650-3002.

Morning circle members are asked, if you are able, to bring 2 dozen cookies for the afternoon 2:30 WH tea at Presbyterian Village.

## **Office Volunteers**

It is that time again! We need a roster of volunteers to lend a hand in the church office on Wednesdays in February and March. If you are available to help out, please let Bill Smith know.

## **Westover Hills Preschool Registration 2025-26**

Registration for Westover Hills Preschool is now open for current students and any interested church members who have children or grandchildren ages 18 months to four years (in September). Call Director Shawn Mittedorf at (501) 666-0880 or email [westoverhillspreschool@gmail.com](mailto:westoverhillspreschool@gmail.com) for more information. Registration opens to the public in February.

## **Devotion Books Available**

“These Days” devotional books for the first quarter of 2025 are available in the Narthex on the table.

Please pick one up if you're interested.

### **Manna Studies Micah**

Midweek Manna is back with a study of the prophet Micah. Over the next six weeks we will do a close read of the prophet's writing and explore how it speaks to us today.

Jan 29, Feb 5, & 12 in-person in the Chapel. Weeks 5 and 6 will be announced closer to the dates.

### *CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER*

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#### **Prayer and Meditation**

There are two important traditions at Westover Hills that join our voices in prayer every week. The first is *Prayer on the 9's*. Every day you are able, join us in taking a minute to pause at 9am and 9pm to offer a short prayer for the church, the world, or someone you know who needs comfort. Every Sunday in the bulletin and every Wednesday in the Careline e-newsletter, we share the list of pastoral care concerns known to the church. Members and friends are invited to pray for those people and world issues named on the list. Prayers of comfort, for healing, and for peace are always appropriate ways to remember our friends and neighbors. This week we remember:

*From Liz Gath: "Thanks to your prayers, visits, cards, well wishes and good medical care, I have recovered from colon cancer surgery. Today, I have embarked on a 6 month journey of chemotherapy. Please pray for acceptance of whatever is in store."*

#### **Liz Gath, beginning chemotherapy; Charlie Frith, recovering from surgery;**

Jennifer Garlington, Shirley Garlington's niece, has started new cancer treatments to combat renewed cancer growth;

Survivors, responders, and communities impacted by wildfires, especially in the Los Angeles area

John Bowyer, friend of Ann & Max, bone biopsy procedure;

Blakey Raggusch, granddaughter of Ann & Max's friend;

Judi King, ongoing health concerns;

Max Snowden, undergoing treatment for cancer;

Sam Highsmith, in hospice care at Presbyterian Village;

Beth Highsmith, in memory care in Alabama near her daughter;

Isatu Lebbie continuing to recover from a stroke;

Rene Thompson, friend of Joyce Smith, dealing with cancer treatments;

Stacy Harter dealing with cancer;

Monroe Flucas, Jr., Julie Gaffney, Martin Gaffney, Richard Gaffney, Eunice Holdcroft as they deal with health issues (friends of Judi King);

Our members and friends at Presbyterian Village;  
The WHPC Staff: Robert, Tammy, David, Ulysses, and Shawn

**Bold indicates new additions or updates.**

To include a person or group on the Prayer List, please contact the church office at  
office.westoverhills@gmail.com and Robert at robertwilliamlowry@gmail.com

### **Deacon's Ministry**

Deacons for January are Shirley Garlington and John MacLeod.

### **Westover Hills Presbyterian Church**

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501-663-6383



[www.westoverhillslr.org](http://www.westoverhillslr.org)

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