

## THE SESSION

### Class of 2018

Bobbie Ann Anderson  
Sue Atkins  
Deborah Dalton  
Kristi Hachtel  
Michele Peck

### Class of 2019

Bruce McNellie  
Robin Moore  
Ray Taylor  
Patricia Thompson  
Betsy Tucker

### Class of 2020

Ken Deppisch  
Bennie Kitchens  
Terry Kline  
Terri Moehring  
Barbara Stump

**THE INVITATION TO MEMBERSHIP at Westminster Church is always open to persons who wish to join us in witness and service to Jesus Christ. If you are interested in church membership or desire more information about this congregation, please indicate on the Friendship Pad or speak to the pastor, or one of the elders following the service.**

### MINISTERS:

All the Members of the Congregation

### CHURCH STAFF:

Pastor	Steve Newton
Director of Music	Deborah Dalton
Organist	James Pitts
Nursery Coordinator	Myra McNellie
Presbyterian Women Moderator	Sue Atkins
Treasurer	Sue Atkins
Secretary	Sally Newton
Children's Choir Director	Elise Gavin
Handbell Choir Director	Myra McNellie
Newsletter Editor	Sally Newton
Youth Leader	Johnny Brown

Church Office Hours: 9:00 am - Noon, Monday – Friday

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903 North Street; Nacogdoches, Texas 75961

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Lord's Day

December 9, 2018

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*God of our salvation, you straighten the winding way of our hearts and smooth the paths made rough by sin. Keep our conduct blameless, keep our hearts watchful in holiness, and bring to perfection the good you have begun in us. We ask this through him whose coming is certain, whose day draws near, your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Voluntary

Lighting the Christ Candles

Call to Worship:

Leader: We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ. We are preparing ourselves for the days "when the nation shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore." Isaiah 2:4

People: **"The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them."** Isaiah 11:6

Leader: "In accordance with God's promise we wait for new heavens and a new earth where righteousness is at home." 2 Peter 3:13

People: **Let us worship God!**

\*Hymn: **"Sleepers, Wake!" A Voice Astounds Us** #349

\*Prayer of Adoration

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

**God of the future, you are coming to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world.**

Time for Personal Confession

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday, December 9**

*Second Sunday of Advent*

Stewardship Dedication

5:00 pm Youth

**Tuesday, December 11**

5:30 pm Handbells play at Magnolia Court

**Wednesday, December 12**

7:30 pm Choir Practice

**Thursday, December 13**

12:15 pm Mid Day Noel

**Sunday, December 16**

*Third Sunday of Advent*

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Children's Choir

10:45 am Handbell Concert

11:00 am Worship Service

3:00 pm Caroling

5:30 pm Dinner and Santa Visit

6:30 pm Session Meeting

TODAY'S FLOWERS

The garlands and wreaths were placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God by Peggy Wright in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Wright, Elizabeth Wright Rinker, Steele and Geneva Wright, Joe and Helen Wright, Tom Wright, Dick Wright, and Ray Rinker.

People: **Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of those who are evil and cruel.**

Leader: For you have been my hope, Sovereign LORD, my confidence since my youth.

People: **From birth I have relied on you; you brought me forth from my mother's womb. I will ever praise you.**

Leader: I have become a sign to many; you are my strong refuge.

People: **My mouth is filled with your praise, declaring your splendor all day long.**

Leader: My mouth will tell of your righteous deeds, of your saving acts all day long—though I know not how to relate them all.

People: **I will come and proclaim your mighty acts, Sovereign LORD; I will proclaim your righteous deeds, yours alone.**

Leader: Since my youth, God, you have taught me, and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds.

People: **Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your mighty acts to all who are to come.**

Leader: I will praise you with the harp for your faithfulness, my God; I will sing praise to you with the lyre, Holy One of Israel.

People: **My lips will shout for joy when I sing praise to you. My tongue will tell of your righteous acts all day long.**

Scripture Readings: **Deuteronomy 8:11-14 Hebrews 1:1-3**

Anthem: ***For Unto Us a Child Is Born*** Handel

Time for Young Disciples

Preschool children may return to their pew or gather at the piano door where today's shepherd will lead them in a time of special activities.

\*Hymn: ***Savior of the Nations, Come*** #102

Scripture Reading: **Luke 2:8-14**

## Selections from *Messiah*

Handel

***There Were Shepherds Abiding in the Field  
And Lo! The Angel of the Lord Came Upon Them  
And the Angel Said Unto Them  
And Suddenly There Was with the Angel***

Emily Rhoades, soprano

***Glory to God  
Hallelujah Chorus***

\*Affirmation of Faith:

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

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 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.**

\*Hymn: ***My Soul Gives Glory to My God*** #99

Please bring your stewardship commitments to the communion table during this hymn

\*Benediction

Postlude

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\*Please stand if you are able

## ASSISTING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Ushers: Hamp Miller      Ray Taylor  
          Clarice Miller     Margaret Sultenfuss

Shepherd: Vickie Wallace

Liturgist: Carrie Moody

Reader: Amy Maurer

## WESTMINSTER ADULT CHOIR

<u>Soprano</u>	<u>Tenor</u>
Bobbie Ann Anderson	Johnny Brown
Margie Ball (emerita)	Bruce McNellie
Mary Crocker	Nathan Ponder
Kelley McAdams	Larry Walker (emeritus)
Emily Rhoades	
Chelsea Scott	
Barbara Stump	
Lisa Thompson	<u>Bass</u>
Marilyn Tutwiler	Ron Anderson
	David Ball
<u>Alto</u>	Greg Garcia
Emily Boyland	Norm Markworth
Johanna Bruhn	Vance Rogers
Elise Gavin	James Van Kley
Brianna Glaze	Nikolaas Van Kley
Myra McNellie	
Robin Moore	
Sally Newton	

Deborah Dalton, director  
James Pitts, organ

Response:                    **Lord, Have Mercy**                    #551

**Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.**  
**Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Assurance of Pardon:    **Comfort Ye My People**                    Handel  
   Johnny Brown, tenor

\*Gloria Patri:                **Glory Be to the Father**                    #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.**

Special Music:              **Ev'ry Valley Shall Be Exalted**                    Handel  
   Nathan Ponder, tenor

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings:

Offertory:                    **And the Glory of the Lord**                    Handel

\*Doxology: **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**                    #606  
**Praise Him, all creatures here below;**  
**Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;**  
**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

Prayer for Illumination:

**God, source of all light, by your Word you give light to the soul.**  
**Pour out on us the spirit of wisdom and understanding that our**  
**hearts and minds may be opened, and our lives given in joyful**  
**obedience. Amen.**

Psalter:                      **Psalm 71:1-8, 15-18, 22-24**

Leader: In you, LORD, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame.

People: **In your righteousness, rescue me and deliver me; turn your ear to me and save me.**

Leader: Be my rock of refuge, to which I can always go; give the command to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.