Congregational Church of Westminster West

United Church of Christ

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 29, 2026



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome, Announcements, Acknowledgment of Place

Prelude

No Hard Feelings - The Avett Brothers

Introit

"Within Our Darkest Night"

Call to Worship (Unison)

Make room for the advent of God!
Make room for unforgettable transformation!
Make room to see the world turned upside-down…
Valleys will touch the sky…Mountains will be flattened…
And we will all see it together!
So let's make room for something new…and let's worship God!

(Scott Cervis, 2011- Liturgy Link)

***Opening Hymn No.* 331 Come, My Way, My Truth…**

Lighting of the First Advent Candle (From Isaiah 40 and 64)

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord!

Make a highway in the desert for our God.

From ages of old, no ear has heard, no eye has seen Isaiah

one so glorious as the Lord our God, for whom we wait.

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 64:1-9

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

You are the potter, and we are the clay, O God. Remind us yet again that we are the work of your hand, not the other way around. When we have insisted you act according to our rules, when we have closed our ears to your call, and warped your design, forgive us. Press and mold us anew, that we may better reflect your image. Give us courage to work not for ourselves, but for the coming of your kingdom that makes all things new. We pray in the name of the coming Christ. Amen.

by Rev. Teri Peterson

Assurance of Grace

Friends, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel: In Jesus Christ, God has forgiven us and continues to forgive us. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Gloria 756, once in unison, then twice as a round

THE PEOPLE'S PRAYERS

Joys and Concerns

Silence

Leader Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father/Mother/Creator, 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 and ever.

Hymn No. 108 Isaiah the Prophet…

Scripture Reading

Mark 13:24-37 (NRSV)

1 Corinthians 1:3-9 (NRSV)

Message

“Learning Objectives”

Offertory

Laudate Dominum - Charles Hubert Hastings Parry

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise God all creatures here below, praise God for all that Love has done: Creator, Christ, and Spirit one.

Hymn see Insert: Lo, He Comes…

Benediction

Postlude

Both Sides Now - Joni Mitchell

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Worship Leader: Lee Crocker

Deacon for the Day: Sue Venman

Musician: Fred Gray

Technology: Charlotte Gifford

Church and Community Notes:

As we seek a settled pastor through our search and call process, we will not be able to offer office hours as usual, but the deacons (Karen Blanchard, Charlotte Gifford, Ray Hussey, Adrienne Major, Lee Crocker) are available to support the congregation. You can leave a message on the voicemail: (802-387-1175) or you can contact a deacon directly. In case of a pastoral emergency, a deacon will call on the Rev. Shawn Bracebridge (pastor of the Dummerston UCC) and help a person in need get in contact with him.

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Upcoming Events:
Dec. 6: Advent 2, Holy Communion, Lynn Wickberg
Dec. 13: Advent 3, Gabriella de Nura
Dec 20: Advent 4, Ray Huessy Community Candlelight 5 pm *Lessons and Carols (Family-Friendly Service)*
Dec. 24: Christmas Eve, 11 pm, Lessons and Carols