



Building relationships and connecting with others is important to us! We want to stay connected with those who virtually stay connected with us and also those who we see on a regular basis! If you could please scan the QR code above and complete the quick form, it would greatly help us as we update our contact information. Even if you believe we may have your information, please complete as we are cross checking what we have in Power Church. We thank you for all of your time, commitment, and support to First West!

We are so excited to share that we are now streaming our 10:45AM service in multiple locations of the church. For those of you with little ones, you can always catch the service LIVE on the television in the nursery located on the first floor. Also, the service is LIVE in the fellowship hall downstairs on the big screen. Also, our youth leaders have access to the service on a television in our Christian Education wing upstairs.

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**The Church service is archived to our website [www.firstwestminster.org](http://www.firstwestminster.org) under the “watch” tab. Stay connected with us on Facebook and Instagram!**

**FIRST WEST**

**First Westminster Presbyterian Church**

**235 N. Fourth St., PO Box 580, Steubenville, OH 43952**

**Phone: (740) 282-4591**

**Fax: (740) 282-4592**

**10:45AM**

**Rev. Jason Elliott**

**December 14, 2025**

## **PRELUDE**

## **WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT READING/CANDLE LIGHTING**

Nina Spence & Jon Laughlin

## **HYMN**

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

See insert/#29

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:** Loving God, we humbly ask for your forgiveness. Open our eyes and soften our hearts that we may faithfully serve you as we should. Fill us with the gift of love that we may love others.

## **MOMENT FOR SILENT MEDITATION**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON:** Friends, believe the Good News  
**RESPONSE:** in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

Evan & Haley Williams

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**THE APOSTLES' CREED** (Traditional) 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.

## PASTORAL PRAYER

### THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional)

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.

### SCRIPTURE: Matthew 11:2-11

<sup>2</sup> When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup> and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup> the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. <sup>6</sup> And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

<sup>7</sup> As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind?

<sup>8</sup> What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. <sup>9</sup> What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup> This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ <sup>11</sup> “Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

### SERMON

“Prepare Your Heart”

Rev. Elliott

### SPECIAL MUSIC

Evan & Haley Williams

### \*BENEDICTION/DISMISSAL

*Love God. Love Others.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Chancel Flowers Today** Our vases this morning are in loving memory of Loved Ones by Linda Wells and in loving memory of The Chivers, Fristick and Corrigan Families by John & Sandy Corrigan.

**Mission Cans-** This week our mission cans will go to Church Youth Groups.

**Ohio Valley Chorale Concert** will present their 2025 Christmas Concert here Today, Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm under the direction of Erik Lucas. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the concert!

**Concert at Smithfield Presbyterian** Join us this evening, Sunday, Dec. 14 at 6:00 pm for a free Ron Retzer Trio Concert. A love offering will be received.

**“Our Place” Senior Group** will host their Christmas Dinner/Dance here Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 pm til 8:00 pm. Everyone is invited to join the fun! Cost \$20 for members, \$25 for non-members. RSVP to 740-520-0120.

**Steubenville Performing Arts Collective** will present “Handel’s Messiah” Saturday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. here at First West. The public is invited.

**Candlelight Christmas Eve Service** will begin at **4:00 pm.** on Wednesday, December 24, 2025.

**YOUTH EVENT** We will enjoy a time of Board Games Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup> from Noon – 2:00 pm. Our location of the fun will be announced in next weeks’ bulletin. You may see Glory or Cherie for more information.

**Birthdays & Anniversaries this week - Birthdays:** Jaimie Taylor (12/14), Glenn Wood (12/14), Linda Ashton (12/16), Kelly Leasure (12/17), Dan Ford (12/18), Annie Johnston (12/20), Linda Stead (12/20).

*Love God. Love Others.*