



# An Advent and Christmas Season Workshop for Preachers

Hosted by the Presbytery of West Virginia  
John XXIII Pastoral Center, Charleston, WV  
October 4-5, 2026

Looking for ways to breathe new life into your Advent and Christmas season preaching? Join us for this workshop with Anna Carter Florence and Jake Myers from Columbia Theological Seminary, as we explore the upcoming lectionary texts together. We'll discover some new strategies for reading Scripture that are easy to grasp and easy to adapt to your context. We'll move from text to sermon, as we consider what the familiar stories might have to say to us this year. And we'll share roundtable conversation about how the light of the world might be illuminating our own congregations and our own lives, as preachers.

Sponsored by the CTS Preachers' Studio for Renewal, this 2-day event (Sunday evening starting with dinner at 6 pm and Monday 8 am—4 pm, including breakfast and lunch) will be a lively and energizing deep dive into Scripture and your own preaching ministry. (Spots available for up to 30 people)

**PWV exclusive registration deadline is Friday, September 11; after that registration will be open to anyone until Wednesday, September 23.**

To register and pay online, [visit the Presbytery's website](#). The cost is \$25 for commuters and \$75 to stay at John XXIII. Scholarships are available for those with need by [contacting The Rev. Dr. Todd Wright](#). We don't want anyone to miss out!



Anna Carter Florence is the Peter Marshall Professor of Preaching, at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA. Her books include *Preaching as Testimony*, *Inscribing the Word*, *Rehearsing Scripture: Discovering God's Word in Community* and, most recently, *A is for Alabaster: 52 Reflections on the Stories of Scripture*.

Jake Myers is the Wade P. Huie, Jr. Associate Professor of Homiletics, at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA. His books include *Theology and Stand-up Comedy*, co-authored with Nicole Graham, *Stand-up Preaching: Homiletical Insights from Contemporary Comedians*, *In Tongues of Mortals* and *Angels: A Deconstructive Theology of God Talk*, co-authored with Eric Barreto and Nikki Young and *Curating Church: Strategies for Innovative Worship*.



**The Columbia Preachers Studio for Renewal at Columbia Seminary is funded by a Lilly Endowment Compelling Preaching Grant.**