



The Order of Worship December 18, 2016
9:00 and 11:00 A.M.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE CHURCH GATHERS . . .

What keeps the wild hope of Christmas alive year after year in a world notorious for dashing all hopes is the haunting dream that the child who was born that day may yet be born again even in us and our own snowbound, snow-blind longing for him.

Frederick Buechner
"Emmanuel"
Secrets in the Dark

PRELUDE

(9:00) Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme (I) Johann Gottfried Walther
Sleepers, Awake, for Night Is Flying
(11:00) O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *Veni Emmanuel*
arr. Kevin Bryant

Handbell Choir

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

(9:00) Wiley and Emily Wright and family
(11:00) Jeff and Amy Gilbert and family

INTROIT (11:00) Creator of the Stars of Night *Conditor alme siderum*
harm. C. Winfred Douglas

Creator of the stars of night, Your people's everlasting light, O Christ,
Redeemer of us all, We pray You, hear us when we call.

When this old world drew on toward night, You came, but not in splendor
bright, Not as a monarch, but the child Of Mary, blameless mother mild.

At Your great name, O Jesus, now All knees must bend, all hearts must bow:
All things on earth with one accord, Like those in heaven, shall call You
Lord. Amen.

Latin hymn, 9th century
trans. John Mason Neale

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come once more, with eager longing, to receive the promises of God.
People: Out of the desert places of our lives, we gather with joy and gladness.
Leader: Come, believers and seekers and skeptics, to hear the story of God's
greatest gift.
**People: We celebrate the transforming love of God for all creation, through
the one called Emmanuel, God with us.**

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

*HYMN NO. 28 (blue hymnal) Good Christian Friends, Rejoice *In dulci jubilo*

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Gracious God, we come before you this Advent season stressed and anxious.
Much of our disquiet is a reflection of the world around us, but most is a
reflection of our hearts. You know the imperfections of our lives in what we
do and what we fail to do. Yet, you still come to us. With grace and
forgiveness you come...to lift the burden of guilt, to bestow peace and a sense
of calm, to bring light to our darkness and to fill the earth with Christmas
presence. Emmanuel, God with us, be with us as we confess our sin and our
need of salvation. Amen.

*KYRIE ELEISON Healey Willan
(Congregation singing—music is found on the inside cover of the red hymnal)
Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon
us.

(First part: women; second: men; third: all)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News!
People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*RESPONSE Gloria Patri No. 579 (blue hymnal) Henry W. Greatorex

TO EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD AND RESPOND ...

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 7:10-16; Romans 1:1-7
A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN (11:00) Julia Whipple
*Children age 4 through 2nd grade are invited to go downstairs and participate in
Children's Worship.*

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 1:18-25
SERMON "Will you be home for Christmas?" Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips
*HYMN NO. 122 (red hymnal) God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen *God rest you merry*
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison) Romans 8:1,28,38,39

**We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; and
we know that in everything God works for good with those who love him,
who are called according to his purpose. We are sure that neither death, nor
life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor
powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to
separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ... The Lord's Prayer

*During the Prayers of the People there will be a time of silence. You are invited to use
this time for personal reflection, confession, thanksgiving, and prayer.*

THE OFFERING

*Please sign and pass the Friendship Register found on the pew nearest the center
aisle.
Though many of us contribute electronically or by a check in the mail, your holding and
passing the offering plate is an act of blessing and dedication to our life together in Jesus
Christ.*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

(9:00) O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *Veni Emmanuel*
(11:00) All This Time William Walton
All this time this song is best: "Verbum caro factum est [The Word was
made flesh]."

This night there is a child yborn That sprang out of Jesse's thorn; We must
sing and say therefor, (Refrain)

Jesus is the childes name, And Mary mild is his dame; All our sorrow shall
turn to game: (Refrain)

It fell upon high midnight: The starres shone both fair and bright; The angels
sang with all their might, (Refrain)

Now kneel we down on our knee, And pray we to the Trinity Our help, our
succour for to be; (Refrain)

Anonymous, 16th century

*AT THE PRESENTATION Doxology No. 591 (blue hymnal) *Tallis' Canon*
(Sung to the tune of Hymn No. 542 (blue hymnal))
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...

*HYMN NO. 29 (blue hymnal) (11:00) Go, Tell It on the Mountain *Go Tell It*
*CHARGE AND BEDICTION
*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *Veni Emmanuel*
O come, Desire of nations, bind All peoples in one heart and mind; Bid envy,
strife and quarrels cease; Fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Rejoice!
Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

*POSTLUDE Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr Andreas Armsdorff
All Glory Be to God on High

*Indicates standing.

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK: Leigh Dunlap and Dan Collins
CARE TEAM COORDINATORS FOR DECEMBER 15-21: Judy Jorden and Sue Byerly

LARGE PRINT HYMNALS AND HEARING DEVICES are available from the ushers.

PLEASE place your bulletin into a blue recycling bin located at the Narthex door if you do not care to take it home.

SERVING TODAY

ACOLYTES (11:00): Eric Partelow and Lucy Gordon

GREETERS (11:00): Linda Judge-McRae and Laura Stockdale

CHILDREN’S WORSHIP:

(9:00) Childcare through age 5

(11:00) Angela Shilling and Sam Smith, Chloe Smith

MINISTRY OF MUSIC:

(9:00) Handbell Choir

(11:00) Chancel and Handbell Choirs

SENIOR USHER: Larry Ridley

USHERS:

(9:00) Doug and Bonny Naugher

(11:00) Scott Rutherford, Bill Rudd, Gary Rowcliffe, David and Shawn Owens

Children are always welcome in our worship services! A nursery for newborns up to 5 years of age is provided in the Children’s education wing by trained, caring staff each week as a part of our ministry to children and their families. Please ask a greeter or usher for assistance.

WILLIAM WALTON was a twentieth-century British composer whose works are characterized by fresh harmonies and rhythmic vitality. His catalog includes orchestral, choral, chamber, and ceremonial music (including the orchestral march *Crown Imperial*, first performed for the coronation of King George VI in 1937), as well as film scores. Of his larger works, he is perhaps best known for his setting of Edith Sitwell’s *Façade* and his mammoth oratorio *Belshazzar’s Feast*.

SHOW AND WAMS: This afternoon from 2-5 p.m., we're combining two of our favorite events!! We're starting early so you all have plenty of study time in the evening. First, we'll go Angel Tree shopping, buying gifts for 5 middle school kids at Bob Adamcik's school (Gresham Middle School.) These kids have a great need (mostly they need warm clothing and shoes, but we'll get to buy some "fun stuff" too!) After we shop for our peers, we will return to WPC and have our sneaky Santa gift exchange!! Everyone bring a gift (less than \$10 in value.) Who will be the lucky recipient of the leather leggings this year...? Come find out!!

THE ABBEY DEADLINE is today. Please send your announcements and articles to unitedprinters@comcast.net.

MUSIC OF THE SEASON: You’re cordially invited to a program of Christmas music presented by members of the Tuesday Morning Musical Club at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, December 20, in the sanctuary and to a reception afterwards in the Schilling Gallery. The program features the Ecumenical Bellringers, directed by Richard A. Sidey. Other performers include violinist Mary Ann Fennell and soprano Bettie Mason. Do plan to stay after the program for refreshments and fellowship!

2017 FLOWER DEDICATIONS: Please sign up on the Schilling Gallery bulletin board for your 2017 flower dedications. We ask for a \$65.00 donation to the Flower Guild, payable on the date of your dedication. A reminder card will be mailed to you in advance of your chosen Sunday.

VOLUNTEER MINISTRY CENTER HOLIDAY STORE: All donations will be picked up tomorrow morning. This is a program through which recipients of VMC services earn gift items for their loved ones with points accrued through community service. Individuals redeem their points to purchase items they select at the Holiday Store. We have the opportunity to help stock the VMC Holiday Store with items such as: basketballs and footballs, dolls, infant toys, craft sets for children and adults, cosmetic sets, hair care sets, fragrance sets for men and women, tool kits, small kitchen appliances, or other similar things that would be nice gifts. Donations are being collected in the large decorated box in the Schilling Gallery.

Worship Schedule

Saturday, December 24

5:00 and 11:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Worship

Sunday, December 25

11:00 a.m. - Christmas Day Worship

Sunday, January 1

11:00 a.m. - New Year’s Day Worship

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE: We have received 165 pledges from our 262 households with a total pledge of \$720,766. The asking budget is \$865,612. If you haven’t already done so, please submit your pledge to the church office as soon as possible so the Finance Ministry Team can formulate our budget for the 2017 operating year.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE: We will have one worship service at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 25 and on Sunday, January 1. Our regular schedule resumes January 8th, with worship at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. and Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.

THE CHURCH OFFICE will be open Monday, December 26 from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and Friday, December 30 from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Regular office hours resume on Tuesday, January 3.

FINAL 2016 CONTRIBUTIONS as well as any 2017 prepaid offerings need to be in the church office by December 30. All offerings received by December 30 will be included in your 2016 contribution statement. If you have any questions regarding your contributions, please contact Renee Wiesehuegel.

DONATIONS are being accepted for the Advent floral decorations. **The deadline is today.** There is no set amount for each dedication. A list of donations will be included in the Christmas Eve bulletins as well as the *Abbey*. Donations can be placed in the offering plate or brought to the office.



I would like to contribute to the Flower Guild for Advent:

\$ _____

In memory of/honor of (circle one):

Given by: _____

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips, Pastor

Rev. John Linton Muntz, Parish Associate

Peter Van Eenam, Organist and Choirmaster

Barbara Adamcik, Director of Youth and Connectional Ministries

Angela Grobe, Director of Children’s Ministries

Mary Boyd, Education Coordinator

Renee Wiesehuegel, Office Manager/Bookkeeper

Sandra Williams, Administrative Assistant

Rev. Friedrich Schilling, Jr., Pastor Emeritus

Debbie Bendy, *Abbey* Editor

VISIT FROM ONE OF THE PC(USA) CO-MODERATORS: Westminster will welcome the Rev. Jan Edmiston January 28th and 29th. We will host an informal town hall/potluck supper Saturday evening, and she will preach at both services Sunday morning. She will meet with students at UKirk at the University of Tennessee at lunch on Monday.

Rev. Edmiston attended Andover-Newton Theological School in Newton-Centre, Massachusetts and was ordained to the ministry of Word and Sacrament. She currently serves as Associate Executive Presbyter for Ministry at the Presbytery of Chicago, and was elected Co-Moderator (with the Rev. Denise Anderson) of the 222nd General Assembly in Portland in June of 2016.

Throughout her parish ministry years, she served as moderator of the social justice committee (Albany Presbytery) and personnel committee (National Capital Presbytery), as well as taking leadership roles in the areas of church revitalization, new church development, and presbytery council in both presbyteries.

THE SESSION

Class of 2017

Phil Barnette

Bitsy Ingram

William Milam

Bryan Powell

Brenda Seip

Youth Elder: Tolson Bell

Clerk of Session: Georgann Byerley

Class of 2018

Leigh Dunlap

JP Mackay

Linda Van Beke

Wes Williams

Michael Yates

Class of 2019

Debbie Babelay

Daniel Collins

Terry Crow

Cindy Pearman

Jay Schmid

TRUSTEES

Paul Jorden

Larry Ridley

Alice Mercer