



The Order of Worship

December 24, 2017

11:00 A.M.

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**

*We welcome all to this service of worship, especially our visitors and guests. In the time before the service begins, we invite all who worship here to take a moment to offer a prayer lifting up to God the life and work of this family of faith and its pastors.*

**PROCURE A CANDLE IN THE NARTHEX**

**PRELUDE** Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen Johannes Brahms  
*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*  
 Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her Georg Böhm  
*From Heaven Above to Earth I Come*  
 The Holy Boy (A Carol of the Nativity) John Ireland  
 trans. Ireland

**WELCOME AND INVOCATION**

Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE**

The Gibbons Family

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Kieran Harmon

Leader: Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

**People: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a savior, who is Christ the Lord.**

Leader: And this shall be a sign for you.

**People: You will find the baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.**

Leader: And suddenly there was, with the angel, a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God.

**People: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.**

\*HYMN NO. 31 (blue hymnal) Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Mendelssohn

Ellen Anderson

**TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

SCRIPTURE Psalm 96:1-6 Finn Burgin

SCRIPTURE Psalm 96:10-13 Gray Davis

\*HYMN NO. 40 (blue hymnal) Joy to the World! Antioch

Eric Partelow

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 9:2,6-7

SCRIPTURE Micah 5:2-5a

Garrett Rowcliffe

\*HYMN NO. 43 (blue hymnal) O Little Town of Bethlehem

Forest Green

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:1-7

Noah Burgin

CAROL Dadme albricias, hijos d'Eva

Anonymous

(from Villancicos de diuersos Autores, Venice, 1556)

Dadme albricias, hijos d'Eva! ¿Di, de qué dártelas han? Qu'es nascido el nuevo Adám. ¡Oh, hí de Dios, y qué nueva! Dádmelas y haved plazer, pues esta noche es nascido el Mexías prometído, Dios y hombre, de mujer. Y su nacer nos releva del peccado y de su afán.

*Sons of Eve, reward my tidings! Why should we make gifts to you? Born is He, the Adam new. Almighty God, what glad tidings! Pay my boon, and sing for joy, For tonight is born our Savior, The Messiah promised to us, Man and God, a virgin's boy. By His birth He gives us pardon For the sin and wrong we do.*

Meredith Mackay, Soprano

John Harrison, Tenor

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:8-14

Maggie Gordon

**OFFERING**

CAROL Sing We Now of Christmas

Noël nouvelet

arr. Richard Zgodava

Sing we now of Christmas, Sing we here Noel! Of our Lord and Savior We the tidings tell. Sing we Noel! For Christ the King is born, Noel!

Angels did say, O shepherds come and see, Born in Bethlehem, A blessed Lamb for thee. (Refrain)

In the manger bed, The shepherds found the Child. Joseph was there, And Mother, Mary mild. (Refrain)

Magi oriental journeyed from afar. They did come to greet him 'Neath the shining star. (Refrain)

Now together sing, Let our voices ring, Thanks to God on high. Sing we here Noel!

Traditional

SCRIPTURE Selections from Luke

Buran Phillips

**CHRISTMAS EVE MEDITATION**

Buran Phillips

"The end is where we start from." T.S. Eliot

\*HYMN NO. 41 (blue hymnal) O Come, All Ye Faithful

Adeste fideles

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*Tonight we will be celebrating Holy Communion by the method of intinction, where worshipers may come forward and take a piece of bread to dip into the cup. The ministers and ushers will direct you.*

**MUSIC FOR COMMUNION**

John Tavener

Little Jesus, sweetly sleep, do not stir; We will lend a coat of fur, We will rock you: See the fur to keep you warm, Snugly round your tiny form.

Mary's little baby, sleep, sweetly sleep, Sleep in comfort, slumber deep; We will rock you: We will serve you all we can, Darling little man.

from the Czech carol *Hajej, Nynje*

tr. Percy Dearmer

Cantilène and Invocation

Rachel Laurin

(both from *Twelve Short Pieces for Organ*, Op. 43)

SERVICE OF CANDLE LIGHTING...

**LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

Susan and David Fuller

*The lights will be dimmed and the minister will light a candle from the Christ Candle. The minister will then light the candles of the ushers, who will then light the candles of the first person on each aisle. Light will then be passed from worshiper to worshiper. Remember that the lighted candle remains upright and the unlighted candle is tipped to the lighted candle.*

\*HYMN Silent Night, Holy Night

Stille Nacht

*(The candle is held close to the breast)*

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright,  
 Round yon virgin mother and child!  
 Holy infant, so tender and mild.  
 Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

*(The candle is extended outward)*

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight.  
 Glories stream from heaven afar.  
 Heavenly hosts sing: "Alleluia;  
 Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born."

*(The candle is extended upward)*

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light.  
 Radiant beams from Thy holy face.  
 With the dawn of redeeming grace  
 Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy Birth.

*Following the singing of the final hymn, the minister shall lead a silent recessional to carry the light outside, weather permitting. After everyone has gathered, we will sing the first verse of "Angels We Have Heard on High."*

Angels We Have Heard on High

Gloria

Angels we have heard on high,  
 Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
 And the mountains in reply  
 Echoing their joyous strains.

*Refrain*

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

**\*BENEDICTION**

\*Indicates standing.

Please use extreme caution in the handling of the lighted candles to prevent accidents with the hair or clothing of the person in front of you and the pews.

Children must be carefully supervised. For safety's sake, it is requested that children under six should "share" their parents candle.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK: Andrew Gordon and James Everett

CARE TEAM COORDINATORS FOR DECEMBER 16-31: All teams.

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

**SERVING TODAY**

**ACOLYTES:** Griffin Oros and Meghan Oros

**GREETERS:** Brooke Sudlow and Eliie Tidwell

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC:** Chancel Choir

**SENIOR USHER:** Tom Byerley

**USHERS:** Gary Rowcliffe, Tim and Joyce Ryan , WAMS Youth

**SAFETY TEAM:** Bill Wiesehuegel

**Symbolism of the Lights**

The significance of the Candlelight Service is twofold. First, in the distribution of the lights, we see dramatized before us the spreading of the Gospel Message and the growth of the church through the centuries. The pastor’s candle is symbolic of Christ, the living Word, and is an extension of the Christ candle in the Advent wreath. The ushers who carry the light to the congregation represent the Apostles whom Christ sent out to spread the Word and draw the world to Him. The church has grown because men and women and young people who have heard the Good News have been faithful in telling someone else about it, and this is symbolized by your passing the light to the person beside you. The ushers will light the candle closest to the aisle. As each candle bursts into flame and the sanctuary gradually brightens, we catch the significance of Jesus’ statement that we are “the light of the world,” and that we should spread this light to the “very ends of the world.” Secondly, we find significance in the lights during the singing of the dedication hymn. During the singing of the first verse, we hold our lights close as we rededicate ourselves to Christ. As we sing the second verse, we hold the candle out in front of us as we rededicate our homes and families once again to him. During the last verse, we hold our candles high as we rededicate our part of His church here to the task of taking the Gospel Light to every corner of the earth. After the Benediction, please extinguish your light. Receptacles for the spent candles are located in the narthex.

**Advent Flowers 2017**

*We would like to thank everyone for their contributions to our Flower Guild during this Advent Season.*

Ellen and Ken Anderson..In memory of Jim and Alice Burgoon and Lucille Anderson  
Laura and Jack Barron

In honor of their family, especially their three great grandchildren  
Carol Beilharz her children and grandchildren .. In loving memory of Clark Beilharz  
Ivan Beltz . . . . . In memory of Bertram and Virginia Raskin and Nancy Beltz  
Mary Boyd . . . . . In honor of Lisa Kaufman and her dedication to Westminster Players  
Vaughn Bush . . . . . In memory of Patricia Bush  
The Carey Family . . . . . In memory of sweet Ruthie Carey  
Barbara Cline . . . . . In honor of Lisa and Dan, Gabe and Jeff, Faith and Arianna  
Debbie and Clifford Cruze . . . . . In honor of our grandchildren,  
Katelyn, Caleb, Heyward, Luke and Graham

Jim and Anne Dally . . . . . In memory of William Hiram Dally  
Anne E. Davidson . . . . . In honor of Matt, Kristen, Jon, Sarah, Walt and Tucker Stevens  
The Dean and Wilson Family . . . . . In loving memory of  
Scott and Carter Dean and Mimi Crossley  
Christie Dowling . . . . . In memory of her mother, Betty M. Caldwell  
Shirley and Jack Draper . . . . . To the Glory of God  
Melissa and James Everett . . . . . In memory of James Hardy Noland  
Carol, Scott, and Olivia Faulkner . . . . . In memory of Kenneth L. Faulkner

Susan and David Fuller and Gibbons Family . . . . . In memory of Ernie Fuller  
John and Betty Hanes . . . . . In memory of Mary Anne Beall  
Gary, Katherine, Kieran, and Nathan Harmon . . . . . In memory of  
John and Barbar Goan, Jim and Lucille Harmon and Benjamin Harmon  
The Hatmaker Family . . . . . To the Glory of God and in loving memory of  
Mrs. Linda Morton, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Morton Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Hatmaker  
Norman, Linda Judge and Caroline McRae

In memory of Huel McRae and Christine Judge  
Lisa and Mike Kaufman . . . . . In memory of Peg and Bill Cottrill,  
Betty and Herb Kaufman and in honor of their children and grandchildren  
Jordan and Virginia Knight . . . . . In honor of their parents,  
Mr. and Mrs. Don Stokes and Mr. and Mrs. John Knight  
Anne and John Langley . . . . . In memory of their parents,  
Voncille and Bob Shepard, Anne and Clarmont Langley  
Marty and Frank Marsh . . . . . In memory of Terry and Tom Shamblin  
Cile and Ed Mathews, Hannah and Eva Mathews, Danielle, Jim and Aiden Hemsley

In memory of Matt Mathews  
Rob and Susan McKeehan . . . . . In memory of their parents and grandparents  
Charlie and Alice Mercer . . . . . In memory of their parents  
David and Shawn Owens . . . . . In memory of Mary Owens and Charles Castleberry  
The Pearman Family . . . . . In memory of Lenore and Bill McClain  
and Jean Pearman and in honor of Margaret Pearman  
Rick and Janice Rawe . . . . . In honor of all of the members of the Flower Guild,  
with Thanks!

Larry and Jeanne Ridley . . . . . In memory of Bruce Tschantz, Jim Park,  
Paula Smartt, Bill Beintema and Abbott and Esta Brayton  
Scott and Linda Rutherford

In honor of Bill Rutherford on the occasion of his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday  
John and Elizabeth Salsbery . . . . . In memory of Chris Salsbery and Bonnee Rainwater,  
and in honor of Jim and Linda Yates  
John and Kathy Shilling . . . . . In memory of Frank and Doris Thrams,  
Harvey and Doris Shilling, Sam Jack Smith Sr. and Mr. Long  
Kathie and Thomas Tallant . . . . . In memory of Mary McKeehan  
Penny Tschantz . . . . . In honor of Anne Dungan  
Genet Weber . . . . . In memory of Rev. and Mrs. Joseph M. Gammon,  
and Joseph M. Gammon, Jr.

Bettye Gilreath and Richard Whipple . . . . . In memory of Laura Theresa Dollyhigh  
Bill and Renee Wiesehuegel . . . . . In memory of their mothers;  
Shirley Jean Rechenbach, Natalie Smith and in celebration of Ruby Jean Wells  
Jim and Linda Yates . . . . . In memory of  
Bob Cantrell, Bonnee Rainwater, Chris Salsbery, and Barbara and Fritz Schilling

**Christmas Joy Offering: Supporting Past, Present and Future Leaders**  
The Christmas Joy Offering is being received throughout the Advent season. A gift to the Christmas Joy Offering helps provide financial assistance to current and former church workers and their families and also enables deserving students to attend Presbyterian-related racial ethnic colleges and schools. Thank you for your support of this special offering. This is the last day to donate.

**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  
Allie Brewington, Director of Children’s Ministries  
Mary Boyd, Education Coordinator  
Renee Wiesehuegel, Office Manager/Bookkeeper  
Melissa Everett, Administrative Assistant  
Debbie Bendy, *Abbey* Editor

**THE BIRTH CANDLE** is lit today in celebration of twins, Owen Christopher Edgerton and Hazel Frances Edgerton. Born Friday, December 8 in Chicago, IL to Laura and Daniel Edgerton, and grandparents Robin and Gordon Greeson.

**YEAR END GIVING:** All donations received by Sunday, December 31 will be included in your year end contribution statement. Westminster has received 89.7% of the pledged contributions to date. Please contact Renee if you have any questions regarding your pledge.

**THE CHURCH OFFICE** will be open Tuesday, December 26 from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and Friday, December 29 from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Regular office hours resume on Tuesday, January 2.

**2018 FLOWER DEDICATIONS:** Please sign up on the Schilling Gallery bulletin board for your 2018 flower dedications, including January! 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.

**NEXT SUNDAY,** December 31 there will be one worship service at 11:00 AM.

<b>THE SESSION</b>		
<b>Class of 2018</b>	<b>Class of 2019</b>	<b>Class of 2020</b>
Leigh Dunlap	Debbie Babelay	Scott Brunger
JP Mackay	Daniel Collins	James Everett
Linda Van Beke	Vicki Mayfield	Andrew Gordon
Wes Williams	Cindy Pearman	Susan McKeehan
Michael Yates	Jay Schmid	Shawn Owens
Youth Elder: Clara Oakes		
Clerk of Session: Georgann Byerley		

<b>TRUSTEES</b>		
Paul Jorden	Alice Mercer	Reed Ellis