



The Order of Worship

December 24, 2017
11:00 P.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

Bart Carey and Landis Knee

CALL TO WORSHIP

Ethan Partelow

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

SCRIPTURE Psalm 96:1-6 Leah Milam

SCRIPTURE Psalm 96:10-13 Eric Adamcik

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

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 9:2,6-7

SCRIPTURE Micah 5:2-5a

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

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:1-7

CAROL Dadme albricias, hijos d'Eva
(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 prometido, 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

CAROL Sing We Now of Christmas

Will Bendy

Max Yates

Forest Green

Caroline Rogers

Anonymous

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!

SCRIPTURE Selections from Luke

CHRISTMAS EVE MEDITATION

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

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

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 Rocking

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

Allie and Steven Brewington

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.

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

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Chancel Choir

SENIOR USHER: Tom Byerley

USHERS: Kristi and Andrew Gordon, WPC College Students

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 their 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 80th 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.

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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.

THE SESSION		
Class of 2018	Class of 2019	Class of 2020
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		

TRUSTEES		
Paul Jorden	Alice Mercer	Reed Ellis