



The Order of Worship **December 24, 2021**
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 Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her (I) Johann Pachelbel
From Heaven Above to Earth I Come
 Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her Georg Böhm
 Greensleeves Ralph Vaughan Williams
 arr. Stanley Roper

WELCOME AND INVOCATION Barbara Adamcik
LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE David and Shawn Owens
CALL TO WORSHIP Anna Grace Gilbert

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 Lucy Gordon
SCRIPTURE Psalm 96:7-13 Nathan Seidner
***HYMN NO. 40** (blue hymnal) Joy to the World! Antioch
SCRIPTURE Isaiah 9:2,6-7 Liam Hagan
SCRIPTURE Micah 5:2-5a Caroline McRae
***HYMN NO. 43** (blue hymnal) O Little Town of Bethlehem Forest Green

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:1-7 Gray Davis
CAROL Oikan Ayns Bethlehem Traditional Manx carol
 arr. Vijay Singh

Now ought we to this festive time to keep with pure hearts in mem’ry of Lord Jesus Christ, Oikan ayns Bethlehem [The Birth in Bethlehem].

He left the courts of God, the Father, taking on our human form. Born of the pure one, Mary, mild. Oikan ayns Bethlehem.

Then the angels of heav’n rejoiced, and came to us with the news, telling of the Savior born today. Oikan ayns Bethlehem. Hallelujah!

Great glory to our Lord on high who rules in eternal bliss. The mind of God made clear to us. Oikan ayns Bethlehem.

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:8-14 Traditional
CAROL Sussex Carol Maggie Gordon
 English carol
 arr. David Willcocks

On Christmas night all Christians sing, To hear the news the angels bring—News of great joy, news of great mirth, News of our merciful King’s birth.

Then why should men on earth be so sad, Since our Redeemer made us glad, When from our sin he set us free, All for to gain our liberty?

When sin departs before his grace, Then life and health come in its place; Angels and men with joy may sing, All for to see the newborn King.

All out of darkness we have light, Which made the angels sing this night: “Glory to God and peace to men, Now and for evermore. Amen.”
 text collected by Ralph Vaughan Williams

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:15-20 Barbara Adamcik
MOTET Silent Night, Holy Night Paul Laubengayer
 (The text is found at the lighting of the candles.)

CHRISTMAS EVE MEDITATION Barbara Adamcik
***HYMN NO. 41** (blue hymnal) O Come, All Ye Faithful Adeste fideles

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION
Tonight we will be celebrating Holy Communion where worshipers may come forward and take a piece of bread and cup of juice. The ministers and ushers will direct you.

MUSIC FOR COMMUNION In dulci jubilo Marcel Dupré
In Sweet Rejoicing
 (from *Seventy-Nine Chorales for the Organ*, Op. 28)

SERVICE OF CANDLE LIGHTING...

SCRIPTURE John 1:1-5 Ryan Rotella
After the scripture is read, 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 Silent Night, Holy Night, 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”

***HYMN** 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.
Gloria in excelsis deo! 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.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Chancel Choir

December 26:
 Online Worship Only - Provided by the Presbytery of East Tennessee
January 2:
 11:00 am Sanctuary and Online Worship

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER RELIEF: Six presbyteries were hit by deadly storms. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is responding. In the face of devastating loss, First Presbyterian Church of Mayfield, Kentucky invoked Scripture: “The bricks have fallen down, But we will rebuild with smooth stones; The sycamores have been cut down, But we will replace with cedars.” (Isaiah 9:10) If you would like to contribute, please note on your check DR-000015.

Advent Flowers 2021

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

Donor(s)	Dedication
Ellen and Ken Anderson	To the glory of God and in grateful memory of Ginger Elting
Anonymous	In honor of Penny Tschantz
Jack and Laura Barron	In honor of their family, Jay and Leann Barron; Lillie Fish and Daniel Tashian; Tigerlily, Matilda, and Tinkerbelle Tashian; Dozier and Carol Rowe, Laura and Brandon Fenton and Jackson; Emily Ann and Chris Williams
Carol Beilharz, children and grandchildren	In loving memory of Clark Bonnyman Family.
Mary Boyd	In memory of Anne Webb Neely
Allie and Steven Brewington	In memory of her son, Andrew Boyd
Mike and Jane Casey	In memory of Ruthie Carey and in honor of Bart "Pops" Carey
Chancel Choir	In memory of Ralph, Virginia and George Nichols and John Casey
Mary Lou Crow	In honor of Peter Van Eenam
Kaye Davis	In memory of her parents; Thomas Brady and Mary Lula McComack
The Dean Family	In memory of Rev. Robert K. Davis
Christie Dowling	In memory of Scott, Carter, and Mimi
Jack Draper	In memory of her mother, Betty M. Caldwell
Lisa and Reed Ellis and her family	In honor of Mary Van Beke
Melissa and James Everett	In loving memory of Ginger Elting
Rebecca and Seneca Foote	In memory of Margie and Hardy Noland and in honor of Kay and John Everett
Gibbons and Fuller Family	In honor of their children: Laurie Foote, Jenny Rozint, Amy Foote and in memory of our parents: Mr and Mrs. Rapoh Starnes and Col. and Mrs. Seneca Foote
Connie and Donnie Graham	In memory of Ernie Fuller
John Hanes	In honor of their children and grandchildren
Gary, Katherine, CJ and Nathan Harmon	In memory of Betty Hanes
Paula Hogan	In memory of Jim, Lucille and Pam Harmon, John and Barbara Goan and Benjamin Harmon
Kathy Huck	In honor of Margorie Serafin Hogan
Buz, Lucy and John Johnson	In memory of her parents, Albert and Phyllis Clark
Paul and Judy Jordan	In memory of John and Mary Watson and Ewing and Bernice Johnson
Norman, Linda Judge and Caroline McRae	In honor of their daughters Pam Jordan and Mary McNinch
Nancy Kent	In memory of Huel McRae and Sam and Christine Judge
Beth Kloker	In loving memory of William Hahne
Jordan and Virginia Knight	In honor of WPC music program
Anne and John Langley	In honor of Hollis Knight
Daniel and Melanie Lewis	In memory of their parents, Voncille and Robert Shepard, Anne and Clarmont J. Langley; John's brother and sister, Robert Langley and Jane Glemser
Nancy Lowe	In honor of their children; Adelina and Owen
Cile and Ed Mathews, Danielle Mathews Hemsley, Hannah and Eva Mathews	In memory of Elizabeth Jones
	In memory of Matt Mathews

Donor(s)	Dedication
Rob and Susan McKeehan	In memory of their parents
Ibbie and John Muntz	In memory of W. Darr Wise
Kathryn, Rick and Clara Oakes	In memory of Fritz and Barbara Schilling and Lester and Kathleen Oakes
Shawn and David Owens	In memory of Mary and James Owens, and Charles Castlebury
Janice and Rick Rawe	In honor of their granddaughters; Nina, Margaret and Samantha
Granddaughters Margaret, Nina and Samantha	In honor of Richard and Janice Rawe
Max and Carlene Robinson	In honor of J.B., Lacy, Lily and Max Reafsnyder
Linda and Scott Rutherford	In memory of Jack and Sue Caradine
Tim and Joyce Ryan	In memory of Helen and Paul Ryan and Annie Laurie and Rodney Bowman
Brenda Elliot Seip	In honor of our glorious Westminster team for supporting our church family through good times and rough. With gratitude the universe is endlessly abundant. I am grateful for Renee, Allie, Melissa, Gradye, Peter, Barbara, Daniel, Mary, John, Debbie and Karim.
Laura Stockdale	In memory of her father, James Stockdale and her twin sister, Mary Stockdale
Larry and Kathleen Tragesser	In memory of Mr. and Mrs. George Dukas, Nick Dukas, and Mr. and Mrs. Gene Tragesser
Penny Tschantz	In honor of the WPC congregation
Robin Turner	In honor of Joel, Ashley, Will, Nathalie, and Bennett Turner; in memory of Joe Ben Turner
Alexandra McDonald and Jacquelyn Vanden Dorpel	In memory of the Vanden Dorpel brothers: Neil and Peter
Richard and Kay Ward	In honor of Josh and Elizabeth Birdwell and Kathryn Sands
Bill and Susan West	In memory of Mary McCall and in honor of Ruth Burnett
Bill and Renee Wiesehuegel	In memory of Natalie Smith, Shirley Jean Rechenbach, and Ginger Elting -- three amazing women!!!
Ginger Williams	In memory of Wray Williams, Johnny Williams, Leah Williams Chapin
The Wilson Family	In honor of Nonny
Jim and Linda Yates	In memory of Bob Cantrell, Dr. John Eaddy, Ginger Elting, Betty Salsbery Felton, Betty Hanes, Chris Salsbery, Dr. Gerald Sundahl, Joe Ben Turner

FINAL 2021 CONTRIBUTIONS as well as any 2022 prepaid offerings need to be in the church office by December 27. All offerings received by December 31 will be included in your 2021 contribution statement. If you have any questions regarding your contributions, please contact Renee Wiesehuegel. The church office will be open Dec. 27, 9:00-2:00; and Dec. 31, 9:00-12:00.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN UPDATE: We have received 159 out of our 274 family unit pledges with a total of \$756,314. Last year we received 175 pledges for \$791,373. Thank you to everyone who has turned in a pledge. Everyone's pledges and time and talents combined will help Westminster Presbyterian Church continue its present ministry as well as discover new paths to spread the love of our wonderful Lord and Savior! If you haven't had the opportunity yet to turn in your pledge, there are extra cards in the narthex. You are needed and appreciated!

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"Where Faith and Life Connect"

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Rev. Gradye Parsons, Parish Associate
 Peter Van Eenam, Organist and Choirmaster
 Barbara Adamcik, Director of Youth and Connectional Ministries, CLP
 Mary Boyd, Education Coordinator, CLP
 Allie Brewington, Director of Children's Ministries
 Renee Wiesehuegel, Office Manager/Bookkeeper
 Melissa Everett, Administrative Assistant
 Daniel Lewis, Youth Assistant
 Debbie Bendy, *Abbey* Editor

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.

Class of 2022

Bob Albiston
 Janet Drumm
 Colleen Manrod
 Charlie Mercer
 Leslie Versen
 Youth Elder: Sophia Manrod

THE SESSION

Class of 2023
 Jaclyn Beeler
 Jack Carley
 William Milam
 Penny Tschantz
 Bill Wiesehuegel
 Clerk of Session: Leigh Dunlap

Class of 2024
 Josh Birdwell
 Gloria Borum
 Melanie Lewis
 Lisa Oros
 Chris Van Beke

TRUSTEES

Cile Mathews
 Robert McKeehan
 Ron Alexander