

The Order of Worship

December 24, 2024 5:00 PM

CHRISTMAS EVE

THE CHURCH GATHERS ...

Welcome to Westminster Church! We are a family of Christians gathered from many traditions and neighborhoods, worshiping here with the goal of connecting faith and life. If you are a visitor, we pray you will feel welcome and blessed by our worship. We invite you to consider making Westminster your church home. Please let us have your contact information so we may be in touch. When the prelude begins let us quietly prepare for the worship of almighty God.

PRELUDE

Wreath of Carols From Heaven Above to Earth I Come Margaret Sandresky Johann Pachelbel

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Brenda Seip, Betty McKeehan, Renee Wiesehuegel From Isaiah 9

HYMN NO. 147 The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL

The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay, in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep. Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far; and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

TRAVELING TO BETHLEHEM

HYMN NO. 121 O Little Town of Bethlehem O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight. For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above, While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.

O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth, And praises sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.

THE FAMILY ARRIVES

ENTER BABY JESUS (AND SIBLINGS)

HYMN NO. 115 Away in a Manger Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay Close by me forever and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, And fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE SHEPHERDS

- HYMN NO. 119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king. Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" Joyful, all ve nations rise; Join the triumph of the skies; With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"
 - Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory, born that we no more may die, born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

THE SHEPHERDS ARRIVE

HYMN NO. 113 Angels We Have Heard On High!

ST. LOUIS

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!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song? Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

THE MAGI ARRIVE

MUELLER

PASTORAL PRAYER AND INVITATION TO OFFERING

MENDELSSOHN

OFFERING HYMN NO. 133 O Come. All Ye Faithful O Come, all yet faithful, joyful and triumphant; O Come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem! Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!

Refrain

O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

True God from true God, Light from light eternal, Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes; Very God, begotten, not created! Refrain

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation; Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God, all glory in the highest! Refrain

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be all glory given; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! Refrain

HYMN NO. 151 We Three Kings of Orient Are We three kings of Orient are; Bearing gifts we traverse afar, Field and fountain, moor and mountain, Following yonder star. O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light!

WONDERING AND COMING CLOSE

KINGS OF ORIENT

ADESTE FIDELIS

STILLE NACHT

ANTIOCH

*HYMN NO. 122 Silent Night Children join their families. Congregation's candles are lit. 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.

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!'

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.

Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light; With the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King: Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born.

TAKING OUR LIGHT OUT INTO THE WORLD (Courtyard)

Ushers will direct front half of congregation to the side door by the pulpit. Ushers will direct the back half of congregation to the Shilling gallery doors.

*HYMN NO. 134 Joy to the World Joy to the World, the Lord is Come! Let earth receive her king; Let every heart prepare him room, And heaven and nature sing, And heaven and nature sing, And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove The glories of his righteousness And wonders of his love, And wonders of his love. And wonders, wonders of his love.

BENEDICTION AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Please stand in Body or Spirit

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS * * * * * * * * * *

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

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

SERVING TODAY

LITURGISTS: Bobby Powell and Anna Grace Gilbert USHERS: Barbara Froula, Mike Kaufman, Jaclyn Beeler, Rob and Susan McKeehan

PRAYER LIST (Please keep the following names in your prayers this week) Juanita Campbell, Sonja Jones, Judy and Joseph Moon, Lalla Phillips, Kitty Rasa, Doris Solomon, Vicki Chapman, Jonah McCollum, Karen and her son Brian, Anne Hector (Mary Jo Mann's niece), Janice Jennings, Salma Alami, Becky and Cathy Cagle (Gloria Borum's dear friends), Rob Elliot (Brenda Seip's brother), Rhys "Bebes" Claiborne (Julia Whipple's mother), Rev. Dan Park.

Advent Flowers 2024

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

during this Advent Scason.
Donor(s) Dedication
Jan Barber and the staff
Laura Barron In honor of the Westminster Presbyterian Family, Pastor and Staff
Beeler Family of Brooks Beeler
Carol Beilharz, children and grandchildren In loving memory of Clark
Mary Boyd In loving memory of Andrew Boyd
Donna Davis and Ivan Beltz In memory of Virginia and Bertram Raskin,
Joyce Beltz Wyble, George and Edna Beltz, Issac Groves, and Nancy Beltz
Jean and Brian Bonnyman Baker
Brewington Family In loving memory of Ruthie Landis Carey
Lila, Jack and Rosie Brewington In honor of Bart Carey "Pops"
Gail, Rob, April and Ayres Clark In loving memory of Bo Clark
Anne Davidson In memory of Bud and Jean Davidson
Jack Draper In memory of Shirley Draper
Leigh Dunlap In memory of Louise and Julian Dunlap
Melissa and James Everett In honor of Cole and Eli Everett
The Fox-Kendziorski Family In memory of Bruce Canan and Nancy Goyer
Gibbons and Fuller Families In memory of Ernie Fuller
Maria and David Gall In memory of their dear parents
Jan Gross In memory of John Gross (husband), Jeffrey Allen Gross (son), Dan
Newman (brother) and (parents) Sue and Chalmer Newman, Lillian-Marshall Gross
Kathy and Sky Huck In honor of grandchildren Turner, Elle Kate,
Schuyler, and Hadley
Leslie Hull and family In memory of Helen Wedekind,
Amy Hull Ransdell and Emma Kathyrn Ransdell
Lee and Bitsy Ingram Megan,
Thomas and Meg, Charles and Simone
Anne and John Langley In honor of grandchildren, Bryson, Molly and Anna
Melanie and Daniel Lewis In honor of grandmothers, Betty Davis and Rose Thomson
Nancy Lowe In memory of Elizabeth Jones (mother of Nancy Lowe

In memory of Matt Mathews and their daughter, Laura Joy Muntz and Lester and Kathleen Oakes and Chris and Jessi Potocik from their granddaughters - Margaret, Nina, and Sam parents Cecil and Georgia Rutherford genuine welcome to our newest families and friends in honor of Robin Turner, and Jim and Linda Yates Lacey and Noah Williams Jim Smith and their precious mothers Betty and Chris Salsbery, Joe Ben Turner

Ed, Cile, Hannah and Eva Mathews and Danielle Mathews Hemsley..... Charlie and Alice Mercer In honor of the beautiful choirs at WPC John and Ibbie Muntz In memory their parents, their brothers Rick and Kathryn Oakes In memory of Fritz and Barbara Schilling Gradye and Kathy Parsons In appreciation for the Property Team Boys Mark and Pam Potocik In honor of Peggy Davis, Jon and Rayann Potocik, Marty, Allison, Jackson and Grace Ann In memory of Jim Pryor Amy Rawe..... In honor of Richard and Janice Rawe, Rick and Janice Rawe... In honor of their granddaughters, Margaret, Sam, and Nina Rev. Max E. Reddick In memory of "Momma Jo" Reddick Scott and Linda Rutherford In memory of brother Bill Rutherford and Tim and Joyce Ryan..... In honor of our WPC congregation and as a John and Elizabeth Salsbery In memory of Sara Cantrell and Kathy Shilling In memory of John Shilling and in honor of the Flower Guild Larry and Kathleen Tragesser. . In honor of their children, Chloé and Philip Vaccaro, Robin and Joel Turner family In memory of Joe Ben Turner Renee and Bill Wiesehuegel In loving memory of Amy McBrayer, Ginger Williams and Wray Williams Jr. In memory of Shelley Williams Jack Woodall and Sharon Boyce..... In memory of Lauren Boyce Woodall Roady

MacKay Family..... In honor of Linda Yates, Alysse's fabulous confirmation mentor Jackie Vanden Dorpel and Alexandra McDonald . In memory of Neil Vanden Dorpel Jim and Linda Yates..... In memory of Bob and Sara Cantrell,

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and Harold Jones)

Debbie Bendy, Abbey Editor Sawyer Warren, Worship Tech