

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

THE CHURCH GATHERS ...

*When the prelude begins let us quietly prepare for the Worship of God.*

**PRELUDE** Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her

Johann Heuschkel

*From Heaven Above to Earth I Come*

**OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: All you people who have followed his star, Christ is born!

**People: Give him glory!**

Leader: Christ has come from heaven.

**People: Receive him!**

Leader: Christ is now among us!

**People: Exalt him with joyful songs.**

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

**\*HYMN NO. 22** (blue hymnal) Angels, from the Realms of Glory

*Regent Square*

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Jesus Christ, light of the world, bearer of eternal dawn, we know well the darkness you have come to banish. Groping in the confusion of a starless night, we confess our isolation, aimlessness and fear of death. We confess the hostility we permit and the suffering we inflict. We confess our known and unknown prejudices and our failures to practice mercy. We acknowledge our desperate need of you. By your presence, dawn on our darkened day. By your steadfast love, draw us into the light of your new way.

**\*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

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

TO EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD AND RESPOND ...

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Isaiah 42:1-9

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

Barbara Adamcik

Children age 4 through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade are invited to go downstairs and participate in Children's Worship. A nursery is available during the entire service for infants through age 3.

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Matthew 2:7-16

**SERMON**

"From Bethlehem to Bedlam"

Rev. John Linton Muntz

*"Get up, take the child and his mother to Egypt." – Matthew 2:13*

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

*Forest Green*

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Unison)

We give thanks and praise for the kingdom more powerful than all enemies, for power perfected in the vulnerability of love, and for the glory that seeks our well-being and that of the whole creation, both now and to eternity. We give thanks and praise to God as made known to us through Christ our Lord.

**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. If you would like to receive our newsletter or more information about the church, include your address, phone number and email address. As 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** Wexford Carol

Irish carol

Good people all, this Christmas time, Consider well and bear in mind What our good God for us has done, In sending His beloved Son. With Mary holy we should pray To God with love this Christmas Day; In Bethlehem upon the morn There was a blest Messiah born.

The night before that happy tide The noble virgin and her guide Were long time seeking up and down To find a lodging in the town. But mark how all things came to pass: From every door repelled, alas! As long foretold, their refuge all Was but a humble oxen stall.

Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep; To whom God's angels did appear Which put the shepherds in great fear. "Prepare and go," the angels said, "To Bethlehem, be not afraid; For there you'll find, this happy morn, A princely Babe, sweet Jesus born."

With thankful heart and joyful mind, The shepherds went the babe to find, And as God's angel has foretold, They did our Savior Christ behold. Within a manger He was laid, And by His side the virgin maid Attending on the Lord of Life, Who came on earth to end all strife.

There were three wise men from afar Directed by a glorious star, And on they wandered night and day Until they came where Jesus lay, And when they came unto that place Where our beloved Messiah was, They humbly cast them at his feet, With gifts of gold and incense sweet.

Traditional  
*Old Hundredth*

**\*AT THE PRESENTATION** Doxology No. 514 (red hymnal)  
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...**

**\*HYMN NO. 53** (blue hymnal) What Child Is This *Greensleeves*  
**\*CHARGE AND BEDICTION**  
**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 586** (blue hymnal) Amen Danish melody  
**\*POSTLUDE** Fröhlich soll mein Herze springen Johann Gottfried Walther  
*My Heart Shall Rejoice*

\*Indicates standing.

**NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS**

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY**

**WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP** here today.

**PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK** are Gail Clark and Brian Bonnyman.

**CARE TEAM COORDINATOR FOR JANUARY:** Carlene Robinson

**LARGE PRINT HYMNALS** are available from the ushers.

**SERVING TODAY**

**ACOLYTES:** Ethan Partelow and Jason Frederick

**GREETERS:** The Phillips family

**CHILDREN'S WORSHIP:** Matt and Danielle Mathews, Delaney Sears and Laura Mjekiqi

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC:** Members of the Chancel Choir

**SENIOR USHER:** George Lane

**USHERS:** Ashley and Scott Porter, Mark Potocik, LoAnn Price, Scott Rutherford

**OUR THANKS** to Jennifer Collins, John Harrison, Meredith Mackay, and Terrance McCracken for their enrichment of our worship this morning.

**DATING BACK** to the 12<sup>th</sup> century, "Wexford Carol" is one of the oldest Irish carols and is thought to have originated in the area of County Wexford, Ireland; the words may have come from England. It is also known as "The Enniscorthy Carol," as it was originally collected by Dr. Grattan Flood in Enniscorthy, a town in Ireland's County Wexford. The lyrics, which are in English, date back to the 12th century. The lyrics were added to the tune much later, and it is not believed that the lyrics were originally in the Irish language.

**A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** will be held Sunday, January 10, 2010 for the purpose of installing 3 at-large members to the nominating committee and to approve the terms of call for ministers.

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL REOPEN** Thursday, December 31 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. All 2009 contributions and any pre-paid pledges for 2010 must be received in the office no later than 1:00 p.m. December 31. Please contact Renee Wiesehuegel if you have questions regarding your pledge or 2009 contributions.

**HELP FEED EAST TENNESSEE CHILDREN:** Second Harvest Food Bank operates the "Food for Kids" program, helping over 7,500 children who are at-risk of hunger. Children that need help receive backpacks filled with kid-friendly food to take home with them for the weekend. The backpack is returned to school on Monday to be refilled for the next weekend. A donation of \$100 sponsors one child for a year, or a gift of \$2800 sponsors all the at-risk children at one elementary school for a year. Currently, only 30 of 167 active schools have received a sponsorship. For more information visit [www.secondharvestknox.org](http://www.secondharvestknox.org). **Donations should be sent directly to Second Harvest Food Bank.**

**AUDITIONS FOR THE WESTMINSTER PLAYERS'** production of *A Trip to Bountiful* will be held Sunday, January 3 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

THE YOUTH DRAMA CAST PARTY is Sunday, January 3 at 5:00 p.m. Cast and crew for *The Other Wise Man* are invited to join us.

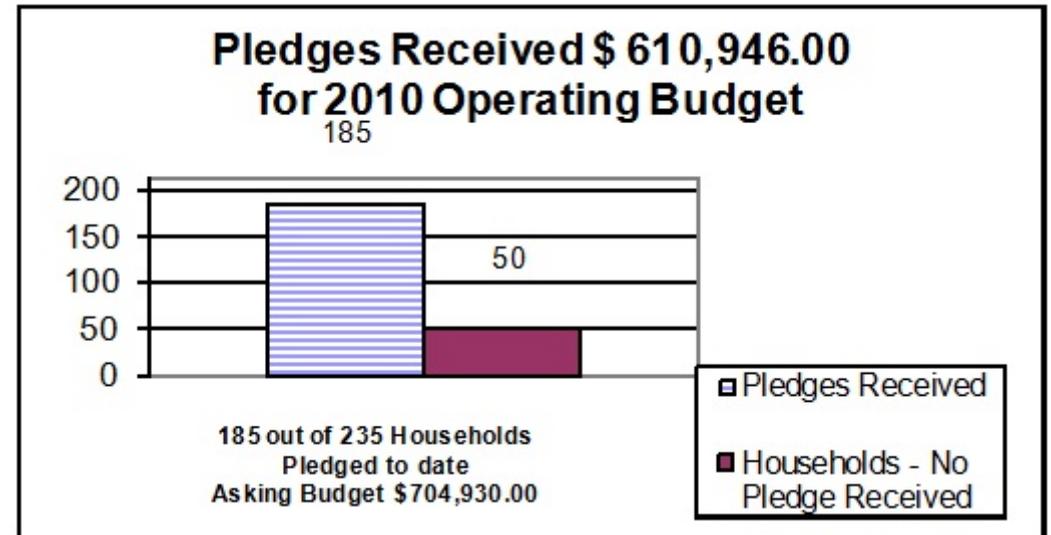
SUNDAY SCHOOL and our regular 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. worship schedule resumes Sunday, January 3, 2010.

THE ABBEY DEADLINE is Wednesday. Please send your articles to [unitedprinters@comcast.net](mailto:unitedprinters@comcast.net).

THE 2010 FLOWER CHART has been posted in the Schilling Gallery. Please stop by and sign up for your flower dedications for 2010. The cost is \$60, payable on the date of your dedication.

THE LIVING WATERS benefit concert of Advent music presented at Westminster on December 1 is available on CD by contacting Renee in the church office. The cost is \$10 per CD.

COMMUNITY CHEST THRIFT SHOP will begin the new year by collecting good used clothing and small household items in the parking lot of Episcopal Church of the Ascension from 10:00-11:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 2, 2010. A request has been made for children's clothing, particularly elementary school age sizes.



### Founder's Day Banquet

January 6, 2010

Our first WWW event of 2010 will be a very special occasion! On Wednesday, January 6, 2010 we will honor our charter members with a dinner and a special time of stories and light roasting. Come join us as we honor Frank and Marty Marsh, Randolph and Lennis McCartha and Nancy Dean. We will have a master of ceremonies, plus "roasters" telling stories and jokes for all to enjoy. Then we will have something special for our charter members. Mark your calendars for January 6 and come enjoy the food, fellowship and fun as we honor those who have made Westminster Presbyterian Church possible.