

The Order of Worship

January 1, 2012

11:00 A.M.

***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.

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

THE CHURCH GATHERS ...

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

PRELUDE Cranham

Pamela Decker

(from *On This Day, Earth Shall Ring: Five Hymn-Based Works for Advent and Christmas*)

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Tim Ryan, Liturgist

Leader: Let us begin the New Year with worship and praise. This is a day for song and celebration!

People: Let us celebrate the past and anticipate the future. Let us rejoice that God is present with us now.

Leader: The Word was with God from the beginning. In Jesus, the Word has come to dwell among us.

People: We praise God for new days, new years and the gift of new life.

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

***HYMN NO. 228** (red hymnal) Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Beecher

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Gracious God, against the light of your purity, our faults and failures are revealed. We are not what we should be. We are not what we hope to be. We are not what, with your transforming love, we can become. Forgive us of all those things that separate us from you and each other. In the New Year ahead, let the light that reveals our sinfulness also show us the way to a more faithful life, and the grace to walk in it, in Christ's name we pray. Amen.

***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.

TO EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD AND RESPOND ...

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Kristi Gordon

Children age 4 through 2nd 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

Luke 2:22-40

SERMON

"Tis the Season for Celebrating"

Matt Frease

***HYMN NO. 63** (blue hymnal) As With Gladness Men of Old

Dix

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Unison)

Creed of the United Church of Canada (Reformed)

We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

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. Though 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 Sweet Little Jesus Boy

Robert MacGimsey

Terrance McCracken, Baritone

***AT THE PRESENTATION** Doxology No. 514 (red hymnal)

Old Hundredth

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 ...

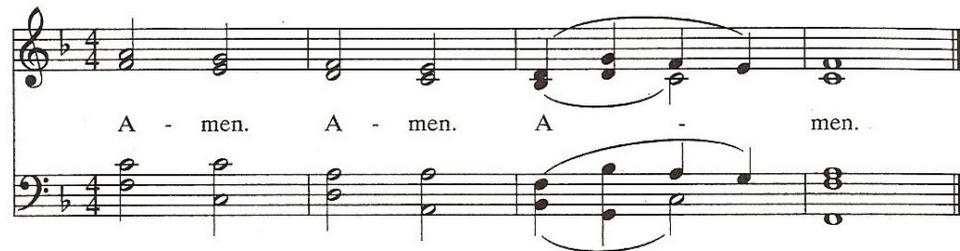
*HYMN NO. 275 (blue hymnal) God of Our Life

Sandon

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 586 (blue hymnal) Amen

Danish melody



*POSTLUDE Personent hodie

Pamela Decker

(from *On This Day, Earth Shall Ring: Five Hymn-Based Works for Advent and Christmas*)

*Indicates standing.

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP here today.

PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK: Ruthie Carey and Don Byerly

CARE TEAM COORDINATORS FOR JANUARY: Sue Byerly and Judy Jorden

LARGE PRINT HYMNALS are available from the ushers.

SERVING TODAY

ACOLYTES: Max Yates and Emma Adamcik

GREETERS: Bob and Lana Daverman

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: Nursery Staff

SENIOR USHER: Bill Holt

USHERS: Rick and Janice Rawe, Bob Daverman

A NOTE FROM MATT:

"For those who have not heard, I graduated from Columbia Theological Seminary with a Masters of Divinity in May of 2011. I very much enjoyed my time in seminary and was a little sad when it finally came to an end. But like most things in life, when one season ends another begins. So in after graduation in May, I moved to Birmingham, AL so Ame could finish pharmacy school at the

McWhorter School of Pharmacy at Samford University. Since mid-September I have been participating in a Clinical Pastoral Education program as a Resident Chaplain at the University of Alabama at Birmingham's University Hospital. This program has been one that has challenged me in new and profound ways. The Residency has also been a wonderful experience that makes it fun to come to work day in and day out. Ame and I would like to thank Westminster for the support and care that we have received from the Westminster community."

OUR THANKS to Terrance McCracken for his enrichment of our worship and to Theresa Pepin for serving as the organist this morning while Peter Van Eenam is away.

ROBERT MACGIMSEY, an American composer, received his musical training at Juilliard. Born in Pineville, Louisiana of white, Caucasian parents, he spent most of his formative years in the company of African Americans who lived and worked for and with his family. Due to their influence, he wrote in the African American style and is often mistaken as an African American composer. His most famous song was *Sweet Little Jesus Boy* (1934), a well-known song written in the style of an African-American spiritual.

THE CHURCH OFFICE is closed tomorrow. We will resume our regular office hours on Tuesday, January 3rd.

THE WEDNESDAY NIGHT COMPANIONS IN CHRIST GROUP begins a new study on January 4th. If you are interested in developing a deeper prayer and meditation time in 2012, please join us. We will meet each Wednesday night from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Prayer Room to study *The Word is Very Near You* by Martin Smith.

All Church Epiphany Party

Wednesdays With Westminster will kick off the new year of programs with an Epiphany Party for the whole church family on January 11, 2012. Join us for a time of fun and fellowship as we celebrate the arrival of the Wise Men with their gifts for the Christ Child, and the manifestation of Jesus as the light of the world. Dinner will be served beginning at 5:45 p.m. and child care will be provided for children ages five and younger. *Come and let your light shine!*

THE DAVIDSON COLLEGE ORCHESTRA AND JAZZ ENSEMBLE will perform in our sanctuary on Saturday, January 7 at 7:00 p.m. We hope you will make plans to attend this wonderful concert. If you are interested in hosting one or more of these musicians in your home that night, please contact Carl Whipple at cwhippd@att.net or 556-2907.

Pseudo Progress-Midwinter-Groundhog Observance Dinner

Friday, February 3 - 6:00 p.m.

Charles Towne Landing

Confused yet? Don't be. This event is formerly known as Westminster's Progressive Dinner.

Each year during February, the Fellowship Ministry Team coordinates an evening of good fellowship, delicious food and mysterious destinations.

This year's event is on Friday, February 3rd, thus the reference to the groundhog.

The Social Hour begins at 6:00 p.m. at Charles Towne Landing's clubhouse, located off of Westland Drive. Toward the end of the Social Hour, you will be notified of and introduced to your host for the remainder of the evening. At your host's home, you will enjoy dinner and dessert.

A sign-up sheet is posted in the Schilling Gallery. Sign-ups will close on January 29th. Childcare is available; please indicate the number of children you will need care for when you sign up.



Don't miss this fun-filled evening!

Adult Sunday School

Begins January 8, 2012

Parents' Class

Library

Does your family seem frazzled by busy schedules? Join us for a study of *The Hurried Family: Help for the Hurried Home* by Dr. Tim Kimmel, based on his book, *Little House on the Freeway*. Dr. Kimmel brings help to the hurried home by sharing positive ways to overcome one's hectic lifestyle. In eight sessions with practical applications, *The Hurried Family* video study explores the symptoms of a hurried family and provides counsel for restoring calmness and giving the gift of rest to others.

Bible Class

Prayer Room

"Majoring on the Minor Prophets" - The class will begin a study of the 12 minor prophets of the Old Testament - from Hosea to Malachi. We will consider historical context, what God said through them to Israel and Judah, and what God says through them to us now.

Faith Growth

McKinnon Room

NOOMA is here! The NOOMA video series, featuring Pastor Rob Bell, will have its WPC debut on January 8, 2012. NOOMA is cutting-edge and thought provoking, and each week has a different topic related to real-life situations. The name NOOMA comes from a phonetic spelling of the Greek word pneuma, meaning "wind," "spirit," or "breath." Come and experience a new and refreshing spirit!