

The Order of Worship

**December 9, 2012
9:00 and 11:00 A.M.**

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE CHURCH GATHERS ...

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

PRELUDE Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland Dieterich Buxtehude
Savior of the Nations, Come

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

INTROIT (9:00) Prepare the Royal Highway *Bereden väg för Herran*
arr. John Ferguson

Prepare the royal highway; The King of kings is near! Let ev'ry hill and valley A level road appear! Then greet the King of glory, Foretold in sacred story: Hosanna to the Lord, For he fulfills God's Word!

His is no earthly kingdom; It comes from heav'n above. His rule is peace and freedom And justice, truth, and love. So let your praise be sounding For kindness so abounding: (Refrain)
Frans Mikael Franzen

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

(9:00) Robert and Leslie James family
(11:00) Jan Barber and Jessie Allen

CALL TO WORSHIP Adapted from Luke, Chapter 1, The Prophecy of Zechariah
Dan Berry, Liturgist (9:00)
Elizabeth Ridley, Liturgist (11:00)

Leader: John the Baptist will be called the prophet of the Most High, for he will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,

People: to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins.

Leader: By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us,

People: to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

***HYMN NO. 602** (blue hymnal) Song of Zechariah *Merle's Tune*
(Verses 1 and 2)

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Merciful God, hear our confession. These times in which we live are often confusing and fearful. We are pushed to make preparations for a season which is supposed to bring hope and peace; yet we crowd it with obligations and stresses and shut the door to your healing love and compassion. We find ourselves being on edge, fretful, unable to experience the wonders of

your love. You answer our fears with your voice, "Peace, be still". Help us to hear you. Slow us down. Encourage us to listen rather than shout, to stop and rest rather than run. Forgive us where we fail in matters of peace and justice, and enable us to respond with compassion to people in need; for in helping others and reaching out in love we give true Christmas presence. These things we pray in the name of the One who is, who was, and who is to come, Jesus the Christ. 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.

***RESPONSE** Refrain from Hymn No. 116 (red hymnal) Angels We Have Heard on High *Gloria*
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

TO EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD AND RESPOND ...

SCRIPTURE READING Malachi 3:1-5

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN (11:00) Deborah Phillips
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 3:1-6; Philippians 1:3-11

SERMON "Christmas In Prison" Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips

***HYMN NO. 3** (blue hymnal) Comfort, Comfort You My People *Psalms 42*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Unison) I John 4:7-12

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS (11:00) John and Judi Davis, Bryan and Rachel Powell

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, 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

(9:00) Coventry Carol arr. Martin Shaw
Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child, By by, lully, lullay. O sisters too, How may we do For to preserve this day This poor youngling, For whom we do sing, By by, lully lullay?

Herod, the king, In his raging, Charged he hath this day His men of might, In his own sight, All young children to slay.

That woe is me, Poor child for thee! And ever morn and day, For thy parting Neither say nor sing By by, lully lullay!

Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child, By by, lully, lullay.

Pageant of the Shearmen and Tailors, 15th century
(11:00) Lully, Lulla, Lullay Philip W. J. Stopford

Meredith Mackay, Soprano

***AT THE PRESENTATION** Doxology No. 591 (blue hymnal) *Tallis' Canon*
(Sung to the tune of Hymn No. 542 (blue hymnal))

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...

***CHARGE AND BEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

*Hymn No. 602 Song of Zechariah *Merle's Tune*
(Verse 3)

***POSTLUDE** Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr Andreas Armsdorff
All Glory Be to God on High

*Indicates standing.

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP here today.

PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK: Jean Bonnyman and John Salsbery

CARE TEAM COORDINATORS: Sue Byerly and Judy Jorden

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

SERVING TODAY

ACOLYTES (11:00): Clara Oakes and Spencer Williams

GREETERS (11:00): Georgann Byerley and Bill Beintema

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP:

(9:00) Childcare through age 5

(11:00) Laura Stockdale, Joe and James Hutzenbiler

MINISTRY OF MUSIC:

(9:00) Westminster Choristers

(11:00) Chancel Choir

SENIOR USHER: Bill Wiesehuegel

USHERS:

(9:00) Kathy Huck and Rob McKeehan

(11:00) Tom Byerley, Georgann Byerley, John Chang, Beth Chang, Mary Lou Crow

THIS MORNING we hear two different settings of the *Coventry Carol*, though at different services.

The Westminster Choristers will sing the original melody, but in the modern version (what we might now consider the traditional version) by Martin Shaw. The Chancel Choir will sing a newly-composed setting of the text by Philip Stopford, Director of Music at St. Anne's Cathedral, Belfast, Northern Ireland. The composer writes in his preface, "This ancient text is brought to the modern day with simple yet lush harmonies, while still harking back to medieval times through its simplicity."

THE CONGREGATION IS CORDIALLY INVITED to a concert of Advent and Christmas music in the sanctuary this afternoon at 4:00. The Chancel Choir will sing music by Gabriel Fauré, John Gardner, Reginald Jacques, Francis Poulenc, Leo Sowerby, and Philip Stopford, among others. The Brass Choir will play works by Hassler and Vaughan Williams, as well as several carols arranged for the Canadian Brass. Brass and percussion will accompany the Chancel Choir on the Gardner. This concert is being offered as a benefit to raise funds for our sanctuary stained glass window project. Of course, everyone is welcome to attend with no obligation whatsoever to contribute, and a freewill offering will go toward the windows. Following the concert will be a reception in the Schilling Gallery, which will then be followed by the Youth Christmas Drama at 6:00. We hope you'll join us this afternoon!

THE ABBEY DEADLINE is Wednesday. Please send your articles to unitedprinters@comcast.net.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST: On Thursday, December 13 at 7:00am we will meet in the McKinnon Room for breakfast provided by Bill Rogers and a lesson led by John Muntz. The lesson is entitled "Unnecessary Roughness...the Moral Hazards of Football". This should prove to be a very rousing discussion so we hope you will come join us and bring a friend. If you would like a copy of the lesson ahead of time, the office can provide you a hard copy or email you the lesson.

FISH delivery is Thursday, December 13. If you are able to help make deliveries, please contact Nancy Cundall. The number of families receiving bags of groceries is dependent on the number of Westminster volunteers. **YOU are needed!**

DONATIONS TO HEIFER INTERNATIONAL may be made throughout December. Gift cards are available in the church office.

FISH CHRISTMAS CARDS are available for purchase in the church office. For just \$5 or any multiple of \$5, you can send holiday wishes and feed hungry families. Every \$5 donation feeds a family of four for 3 days.

LADIES LUNCH BUNCH will meet at 11:30 on December 20 at Sullivan's in Rocky Hill. Please call Georgann Byerley if you plan to join the group.

FOYER GROUPS shuffle in December to prepare new groups to convene in January. Please check your *Abbey* for details, and contact Sue Murrian for more information or to join a group or to drop out of the January rotation.

THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING will be collected through Sunday, December 30. Fifty percent of this offering supports racial ethnic education at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges, helping students develop their gifts and find their calling. The other fifty percent of the offering helps families of active and retired church workers meet unexpected needs through the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions. Please see today's bulletin insert for more information.

Sabbath in the Suburbs: A Family's Experiment With Holy Time

by MaryAnn McKibben Dana

Starting in January the **Parenting Class** will be studying *Sabbath in the Suburbs*. The group will be facilitated by Linda Judge-McRae and Ashley Porter. The book "is compelling reading for anyone, but will particularly resonate with working parents who are trying to balance the demands of young children, jobs and the other obligations that creep into our calendars. It is an excellent resource for families who want to live in a more mindful way, savoring our children's formative years rather than enduring them." The books are available in the office at a cost of \$12.

ADVENT EVENTS

Sunday, December 9

6:00 p.m.

Children's Christmas Drama

"Jingle Bells, Batman Smells: P.S. So Does May!"

Don't miss our children's Christmas drama **this evening at 6:00 p.m.** Thirty of our youth and children will be presenting this wonderful story featuring our favorite "1st Grader", Junie B. Jones. Junie is trying to learn to be a giver, but her nemesis, May doesn't make it easy! Start this holiday season with a good laugh, and get inspired along the way!!

Tuesday, December 11

7:30 p.m.

Centre College Concert

West Emory Presbyterian Church

The Centre Singers' December concert tour makes a stop in Knoxville this week. Many thanks to those from Westminster who will be housing these students for the night.

Wednesday, December 12

5:45 p.m.

Crafty Jazz and Pot Luck Dinner

Our annual Christmas Craft Night and Pot Luck Dinner is taking on a new twist that will hopefully become a permanent addition to this fun night! The Pot Luck Dinner will begin at 5:45, crafts at 6:30 and the incredible Knoxville Jazz Youth Orchestra will begin at 7:30. The best High School jazz players will be there to "swing in" the holiday season.

Saturday, December 15

10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing - West Town Mall

We still have a few time slots available for bell ringers. A sign-up sheet is posted on the Schilling Gallery bulletin board. Our bell ringing location is at the entrance on the Morrell Road side of the mall. Our own Brass Ensemble will play at 11:00 a.m., and our Youth and Young-at-Heart Ensemble will play at 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 16

5:00 p.m.

Caroling

Next Sunday, SHOW and WAMS will be caroling for some of our Westminster friends. If you know someone that could use a carol to cheer them up, please let Barbara Adamcik know. Come help us make this holiday season special!

Upcoming Advent Events

Sunday, December 23

10:00 a.m. Christmas Breakfast

Monday, December 24

5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship

11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship

Adult Sunday School

Advent Through the Eyes of Mary

Fellowship Hall

Today we will continue our Advent series by looking at Advent through the eyes of Mary. Ibbie Muntz will lead the class and provide the music.

Next Sunday we will look at Advent through the eyes of Elizabeth and Mary. "These two women, chosen by God to bear amazing babies, take us by the hand as we draw close to Christmas Day." Come join us as Ibbie Muntz leads the class in our Advent hymns and Jo Ann Powell leads the lesson.

NOOMA

McKinnon Room

How much time and energy do we spend wishing things were how they used to be? We often think about times in our past when things were different and want our lives to be like that again. Some of us have even come to believe that our best days may actually be behind us. But if we're in some way hung up on the past, what does that mean for our lives now? How are we and those around us affected if we're not fully present? If we're longing for the way things used to be what does that really say about our understanding and appreciation of our lives today? Maybe we need to learn to embrace our past for what it is, in order to live our lives to the fullest, right here, right now.