

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE CHURCH GATHERS ...

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

PRELUDE

(9:00) Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme (II) Johann Gottfried Walther
Sleepers, Awake, for Night Is Flying

(11:00) Wexford Carol Irish carol
arr. Susan Rucker

Handbell Choir

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

(9:00) The Rotella family

(11:00) The Oros family

CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted, Psalm 96

Leader: O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

People: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; for the Lord is coming.

Leader: Sing to the Lord, bless His name; tell of His salvation from day to day.

People: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; for the Lord is coming.

Leader: Worship the Lord in holy splendor; tremble before Him, all the earth.

People: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; for the Lord is coming.

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

*HYMN NO. 110 (red hymnal) O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *Veni Emmanuel*
(Verses 1-3)

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Drawn by the lights of this season, Gracious God, our lives are illuminated by your love. Your light attracts us, but in its radiance we also see the darkness around and within us. The intensity of these pre-Christmas days heightens our joys and magnifies our sorrows. Search us, O God, and remove anything that would prevent us from bearing good fruit with our lives.

Where there is hatred, heal us with your love; where there is discord, calm us with your peace; where there is despair, strengthen us with hope and joy. Forgive us and renew us in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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

Luke 3:7-18

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN (11:00)

Cameron Sears

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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (11:00)

Caroline Reese Anglin

SCRIPTURE READING

Zephaniah 3:14-20; Philippians 4:4-7

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips

“Joy to the world
All the boys and girls
Joy to the fishes in the deep blue sea
Joy to you and me

– Joy to the World, Three Dog Night”

*HYMN NO. 10 (blue hymnal) On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry *Winchester New*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison) Adapted, Isaiah 12:1-6

I will give thanks to you, O LORD. Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the LORD GOD is my strength and my Might; he has become my salvation. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. Shout aloud and sing for joy, for the Holy One is in your midst.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS (11:00)

Ed and Debbie Babelay

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 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

(9:00) Wexford Carol Irish carol
(11:00) Hodie Christus natus est (from *Four Motets for the Season of Christmas*) Francis Poulenc
Hodie Christus natus est, Hodie Salvator apparuit, Hodie in terra, canunt Angeli,
laetantur Archangeli, Hodie exsultant justi dicentes: Gloria in excelsis Deo, alleluia.

Today Christ is born; on this day the Savior has appeared. On earth this day the choirs of angels sing, rejoicing archangels sing. On this day exultant voices are saying: Glory to God in the highest, alleluia.

paraphrase of Luke 2:11,13-14
and Psalm 32:1

***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 BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

*Hymn No. 110 (red hymnal) O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *Veni Emmanuel*
(Verse 4)

***POSTLUDE** Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme (I) Johann Gottfried Walther

*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 Rick Oakes

CARE TEAM COORDINATORS: Lucy Johnson and Shirley Wittman

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

SERVING TODAY

ACOLYTES (11:00): Daniel Clark and Maggie Gordon

GREETERS (11:00): Bob and Lana Daverman

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP:

(9:00) Childcare through age 5

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

MINISTRY OF MUSIC:

(9:00) Handbell Choir

(11:00) Chancel and Handbell Choirs

SENIOR USHER: Bill Wiesehuegel

USHERS:

(9:00) Don Graham and Connie Graham

(11:00) Nancy Cundall, Bob Daverman, Christie Dowling, Reed Ellis, Paul Jorden

Upcoming Advent Events

Sunday, December 23 10:00 a.m. Christmas Breakfast
Our annual Christmas Breakfast will be held next Sunday during the Sunday School hour. The meal is provided by volunteers from each of our Ministry Teams. Join us in this WPC Christmas tradition as we celebrate the season together.
Monday, December 24 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship (Nursery available)
11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship

THIS MORNING'S MUSIC FOR HANDBELLS is a lovely setting of the traditional Irish carol. The scale upon which the melody is based has a lowered leading tone, lending the music a mystical, almost modal quality. Additionally, the rhythm has its own charm as a triplet figure is introduced amidst gentle syncopations and a predominantly duple flow.

SHOW AND WAMS will be caroling for some of our Westminster friends this afternoon from 3:00-5:00 p.m. After caroling, we will return to WPC for cocoa and cookies.

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.

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.

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.

DONATIONS are being accepted for the Advent floral decorations. There is no set amount for each dedication. A list of donations will be included in the Christmas Eve bulletins as well as the *Abbey* edition of December 19th. **The deadline for donations is today.**



I would like to contribute to the Flower Guild for Advent:

\$ _____

In memory/honor (circle one) of:

Given by:

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6500 Northshore Drive, Knoxville TN 37919

Telephone (865) 584-3957 Fax (865) 584-8840

E-mail westminsterpres@comcast.net

www.wpcknox.org

Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips, Pastor

Rev. John Linton Muntz, Parish Associate

Peter Van Eenam, Organist and Choirmaster

Barbara Adamcik, Director of Youth and Connectional Ministries

Angela Grobe, Children's Christian Education

Tim Crais, Interim Education Coordinator

Renee Wieseuegel, Office Manager/Bookkeeper

Sandra Williams, Administrative Assistant

Debbie Bendy, *Abbey* Editor

Adult Sunday School

Advent Through the Eyes of Mary

Fellowship Hall

Today 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

Today we will view a film entitled, "Name." In this short lesson Rob Bell provokes thought in who you are and who you are trying to be. Too many of us are dissatisfied with ourselves and often try quite unsuccessfully to emulate those we look up to; a coach, a teacher, an athlete or star. Rob encourages us to look inwardly as we place that first unsure foot on a journey toward self discovery.

THE SESSION

Class of 2013

Ruthie Carey

Kristi Gordon

Buz Johnson

Tim Ryan

John Salsbery

Youth Elder: Nathan Seidner

Class of 2014

Terry Crow

Dave Dupper

Angela Partelow

Cindy Spangler

Bill Wieseuegel

Class of 2015

Ellen Anderson

Jean Bonnyman

Hap McSween

Rick Oakes

Jack Woodall

TRUSTEES

Roy Hawk

Norman McRae

Joe Ben Turner