



The Order of Worship

**December 6, 2015
9:00 and 11:00 A.M.**

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

(9:00) Scott, Ashley, Kara and Macy Porter

(11:00) Noah, Finn and Reed Burgin

INTROIT (11:00) People, Look East *Besançon*
harm. Martin Shaw and Peter Van Eenam

People, look east. The time is near Of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, Trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim One more light the bowl shall brim, Shining beyond the frosty weather, Bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming With the word, the Lord is coming. People, look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

Eleanor Farjeon

Boys' and Girls' Choirs
Mary Lou Holt, Piano

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

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. 13** (blue hymnal) Prepare the Way *Bereden väg för Herran*

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Forgive us, gracious God, that in the music in the stores and the jingles in the air, we do not hear the songs of the angels; that in the hustle and bustle of every day and every one, we do not see the child standing alone in tears, the family struggling for existence, the outcasts pushed further away from hope; that in the pitches over the airwaves and online, we do not find the peace, the hope, the joy, all the gifts you offer to your children.

Pour out your tender mercy upon us, God of blessings, and finish what you have started in us. As we share in your grace, may we also share in the work of the gospel of peace, of hope, of reconciliation begun in the birth of Jesus, our Savior.

***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 Philippians 1:3-11

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN (11:00) Deborah Phillips

Children age 4 through 2nd grade are invited to go downstairs for Children's Worship.

SCRIPTURE READING Malachi 3:1-7; Luke 3:1-6

SERMON Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips

“Yes, there are two paths you can go by, but in the long run
There's still time to change the road you're on.”

“Stairway to Heaven” – Led Zeppelin

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

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Unison) adapted, Romans 12:9-21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend

hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

THE OFFERING

Please sign and pass the Friendship Register found on the pew nearest the center aisle.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

(9:00) People, Look East *Besançon*
(The text is found at the Introit.)

(11:00) The Angel Gabriel Ronald Arnatt

The angel Gabriel from heaven came, his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame: “All hail,” said he, “thou lowly maiden Mary, most highly favored lady,” Gloria!

“For know a blessed mother thou shalt be, all generations laud and honor thee. Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold. Most highly favored lady,” Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head, “To me be as it pleaseth God,” she said. “My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name.” Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn, and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say— “Most highly favored lady,” Gloria!

Sabine Baring-Gould

***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**

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (responsive)

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(Prayer continues)...to the glory of your name.

Hymn No. 107 (red hymnal) (11:00) Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence *(Verse 1)* *Picardy*

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand; Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in His hand, Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

(Prayer continues)...Great is the mystery of faith.

Hymn No. 107 (red hymnal) (11:00) Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence *(Verse 2)* *Picardy*

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood, Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood, He will give to all the faithful His own self for heavenly food.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING THE SACRAMENT

Seated and partaking of elements as instructed.

MUSIC FOR COMMUNION Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, Verse 1

Johann Heinrich Buttstedt

THE LORD’S PRAYER (Unison)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Veni Emmanuel

O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer Our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death’s dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

***POSTLUDE** Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland Johann Gottfried Walther

*Indicates standing.

Our thanks to Jake Phillips for drawing today’s bulletin art. Jake is the son of Buran and Deborah Phillips.

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK: Leigh Dunlap and Phil Barnette

CARE TEAM COORDINATOR FOR THIS WEEK: Linda Rutherford

LARGE PRINT HYMNALS AND HEARING DEVICES are available from ushers.

SERVING TODAY

GREETERS (11:00): Tim and Anne Crais

CHILDREN’S WORSHIP:

(9:00) Childcare through age 5

(11:00) John and Elizabeth Salsbery, Owen and Ian Salsbery

MINISTRY OF MUSIC:

(9:00) Boys’ and Girls’ Choirs

(11:00) Boys’, Chancel, and Girls’ Choirs

SENIOR USHER: Sue Caradine

USHERS:

(9:00) Carol Beilharz and Jeff Bendy

(11:00) Kristi and Andrew Gordon, Gordon and Robin Greeson

TWO-CENTS-A-MEAL collection is today. We bring this offering each “First Sunday,” as our share in maintaining the Volunteer Ministry Center of Knoxville. The average monthly cost to serve breakfast and lunch is \$275. Your support is greatly appreciated!

NAME TAG SUNDAY is today. Please fill out a name tag in the Narthex.

OUR THANKS to Mary Lou Holt for her enrichment of our worship this morning as she accompanies the Boys’ and Girls’ Choirs.

SABINE BARING-GOULD was a prolific writer and a pioneer in collecting English folk songs. He is known best to us for his hymns “Onward, Christian Soldiers” and “Now the Day Is Over.” Ronald Arnatt sang with the Choir of King’s College, Cambridge, as a boy and for many years was organist of Christ Church Cathedral in St. Louis, Missouri. Peter Van Eenam had the privilege of studying with him while in high school. This anthem was commissioned by a department store in St. Louis for a choral festival it sponsors!

SUNDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 13, AT 5:00, the Boys’, Brass, Chancel, Girls’, and Handbell Choirs; Westminster Choristers; and readers from the congregation will present *A Service of Lessons and Carols* for the seasons of Advent and Christmas. Music by Arnatt, Boda, Harmon, Hassler, Lauridsen, Morley, Pachelbel, Phillips, and Rickard will be featured. We hope you’ll come join us that afternoon! A nursery will be provided.

THE CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS DRAMA is next Sunday, December 13th at 6:00 p.m. Our show this year is our greatest hits - scenes from our favorites from the past 25 years. A large number of our children and youth are acting, directing and playing piano. Come enjoy the show!

ADVENT ADULT EDUCATION: Each week in Advent, you are invited to contemplate the Advent texts during the Sunday school hour using the practice of lectio divina. We’ll use a book entitled, *Conversing With God in Advent and Christmas* as a guide. We’ll read the texts for the day, hear some music, and see some artwork. Then we’ll have a quiet opportunity to write, doodle, color, pray, or simply meditate on the words we hear. If you have an art you enjoy – knitting or crocheting, for instance – you can use that. You can share your creation or thoughts with the group, or you can keep them to ponder in your heart.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE: 152 pledges have been received in the amount of \$640,322. The asking Operating Budget for 2016 is \$809,051.50. If you haven’t turned in your pledge yet, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you!

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS BAZAAR IS TODAY

Our annual Alternative Christmas Bazaar is today between the 9:00 and 11:00 worship services. The Bazaar provides us with an opportunity to purchase thoughtful Christmas gifts, with the proceeds going toward the support of several worthwhile causes. Representatives of Heifer International, Partners for Just Trade, Living Waters, Olive Oil, Fish Hospitality Pantry, and the Volunteer Ministry Center have displays in the Gallery. The Mission Service Team hopes that you will participate in this very worthwhile event.

SHOW AND WAMS meet this evening at 5:00 for dinner, followed by Angel Tree shopping at the West Hills Walmart. We’ll finish at about 7:30.

MEN’S COVENANT BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP: On Thursday, December 10th at 7:30 a.m., the men of the church will gather in the McKinnon Room for our last meeting and lesson of 2015. The lesson, entitled ‘Is The USA a Christian Nation?’, will be presented by Jerry Carley. Breakfast will be provided courtesy of Dick Bendy. No reservation is necessary and all men are welcome. Please view the webpage at wpcknox.org/westminstermen for full details and access to a copy of the lesson. Thanks and have a great day.

FISH DELIVERY is Thursday, December 10th. The number of families we can help is limited by the number of delivery volunteers we have, and you are needed! If you are able to help make deliveries, please contact Nancy Cundall.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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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, Director of Children’s Ministries

Mary Boyd, Education Coordinator

Renee Wiesehuegel, Office Manager/Bookkeeper

Sandra Williams, Administrative Assistant

Rev. Friedrich Schilling, Jr., Pastor Emeritus

Debbie Bendy, Abbey Editor

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING is Saturday, December 19th at West Town Mall (Cheesecake Factory entrance). Sign-ups are on the bulletin board in the Schilling Gallery.

ADVENT GIFT OPPORTUNITY

When Knoxville area teens run afoul of the law, they are sent to the Richard L. Bean Juvenile Service Center. These young people range in age from 14-17, and are both boys and girls. They may be there for several days, weeks, or months. This Advent season, as we did last year, we would like to show God’s love to them, to let them know that someone is thinking of them and praying for them. Last year, we received thank-you notes from Mr. Bean and a number of the teens. Some said we had made it their best Christmas ever. If you would like to participate, bring a Christmas gift bag with any of the following items in it:

Hats, scarves, gloves, harmonicas, Yo-Yos, socks, slippers, combs, brushes, small mirrors, nail polish, lipstick, hair ornaments, small games, books, pens, pencils, writing papers, chocolate, candy, etc. or other small things you think a teen would like.

Put your bag on the gift table in the Schilling Gallery by **Sunday, December 21**. We will add a tag telling the teen that the gift comes to them from Westminster with our prayers, and we’ll deliver the gifts to the Center before Christmas. Thanks to the whole Westminster family for your giving spirit!

THE SESSION

Class of 2016

Jerry Faerber

Vicki Mayfield

Scott Porter

Elizabeth Ridley

Angela Shilling

Youth Elder: Ethan Partelow

Clerk of Session: Georgann Byerley

Class of 2017

Phil Barnette

Bitsy Ingram

William Milam

Bryan Powell

Brenda Seip

Class of 2018

Leigh Dunlap

Steve Hoadley

J.P. Mackay

Linda Van Beke

Michael Yates

TRUSTEES

John Smartt

Larry Ridley

Paul Jorden

Save the Dates!

- December 13** Children’s Christmas Drama
A Service of Lessons and Carols by WPC Choirs
- December 16** Potluck Dinner and Christmas Craft Night
Knox Youth Jazz Concert
- December 19** Salvation Army Bell Ringing Day
- December 20** Christmas Breakfast
“A Christmas Carol” solo performance by Mark Cabus, 7:30 p.m.
- December 24** Christmas Eve Services

VOLUNTEER MINISTRY CENTER HOLIDAY STORE is a program through which recipients of VMC services earn gift items for their loved ones with points accrued through community service. Individuals redeem their points to purchase items they select at the Holiday Store. We have the opportunity to help stock the VMC Holiday Store with items such as: basketballs and footballs, dolls, infant toys, craft sets for children and adults, cosmetic sets, hair care sets, fragrance sets for men and women, tool kits, small kitchen appliances, or other similar things that would be nice gifts. Donations are being collected in the large decorated box in the Schilling Gallery.

2016 FLOWER DEDICATIONS: Please sign up on the Schilling Gallery bulletin board for your 2016 flower dedications. We ask for a \$60.00 donation to the Flower Guild, payable on the date of your dedication. A reminder card will be mailed to you in advance of your chosen Sunday.

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*. Donations can be placed in the offering plate or brought to the office.



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

\$ _____

In memory/honor (circle one) of:

Given by:
