



The Order of Worship December 25, 2022
11:00 A.M.

CHRISTMAS DAY

THE CHURCH GATHERS . . .

“As long as there are people, Christ will walk the earth as your neighbor, as the one through whom God calls you, speaks to you, makes demands on you. That is the great seriousness and great blessedness of the Advent message. Christ is standing at the door; he lives in the form of a human being among us.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, God Is in the Manger

PRELUDE Gelobet seist du, Jesu Christ, BuxWV 189 Dieterich Buxtehude
Praise Be to Thee, Jesus Christ

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Mary Boyd

One: On this day earth shall ring -
All: Gloria in excelsis Deo!
 One: For Christ our Lord has been born for us, the Son given to us
All: Gloria in excelsis Deo!
 One: Love has come down at Christmas,
All: And perfect love has absolved all fear.
 One: Friends, let us rejoice this day!
All: For Christ is born, and the angels sing: Gloria in excelsis Deo!

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

***HYMN NO. 140** (*Glory to God* hymnal) Once in Royal David’s City Irby
***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***UNISON PRAYER** *Prayer for Christmas Day, Henry Van Dyke*
 The day of joy returns, Holy God, and crowns another year with peace and good will. Help us rightly to remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the Magi. Close the doors of hate and open the doors of love all over the world...Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil, by the blessing that Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clean hearts. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children, and the Christmas evening bring us to our bed with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake.
 Amen.

***HYMN NO. 145** (*Glory to God* hymnal) What Child Is This *Greensleeves*

TO EXPERIENCE GOD’S WORD AND RESPOND ...

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 52:7-10

TIME WITH CHILDREN

SCRIPTURE READING John 1:1-14

MEDITATION “Made Flesh” Rev. Dr. Anne McKee

***HYMN NO. 129** (*Glory to God* hymnal) Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming *Es ist ein’ Ros’*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Unison) The Nicene Creed (Ecumenical)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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. Though many of us contribute online 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 Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her Johann Heuschkel
From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

***AT THE PRESENTATION** Doxology *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.

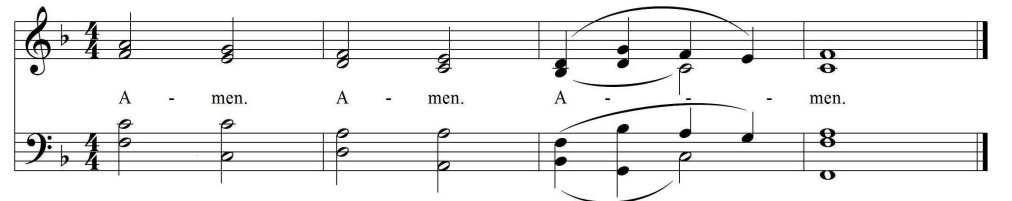
***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...

***HYMN NO. 143** (*Glory to God* hymnal) Angels, from the Realms of Glory *Regent Square*

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** Amen Danish melody



***POSTLUDE** Fröhlich soll mein Herze springen Johann Gottfried Walther
My Heart Shall Rejoice

*Indicates standing.

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK: Janet Drumm and Bill Wiesehuegel
LARGE PRINT HYMNALS AND HEARING DEVICES are available from the ushers.

SERVING TODAY

GREETERS: Berta Bergia and Alice Magee
LITURGIST: Mary Boyd
USHERS: Judy Jorden, Betty McKeegan, Rob and Susan McKeegan and Shirley Wittman

THE BIRTH CANDLE is lit today in celebration of Brooks Henderson Beeler. Born on December 19 to parents Jaclyn and Katherine Beeler and siblings, Sirah, Bentley and Mckenzie.

THIS MORNING’S PRELUDE is a setting of the Christmas chorale in which Buxtehude presents the melody in a highly ornamented version in the soprano line. One somewhat unusual aspect of the text of this chorale is that each stanza ends with *Kyrieleis*, represented in the final four notes of the chorale. Another interesting possibility is the fact that the florid ornamentation of the melody explores quite a wide range. When played with the Sesquialtera II stop on the organ, as it is this morning, we get to hear the vivid and compelling colors of that stop in the *low* range, very North German!

STAFF POSITION OPENING: Westminster is looking for someone with office skills and a compassionate presence to work 20 hours a week as our Administrative Assistant, beginning when Melissa Everett steps down from her staff position in January. If you know someone who might be interested, please check the most recent Abbey for a full announcement, or contact Renee or Anne with inquiries.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CHILDREN'S FELLOWSHIP HOUR (10:00 am) will resume on January 8.

ONE WORSHIP SERVICE today and on January 1 at 11:00 am.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE: We have received 153 pledges out of 254 households so far for a total of \$ 766,885.00. To compare - last year's final tally of contributions was 167 pledges out of 273 households for a total of \$835,161. Extra pledge cards, as well as Time and Talent forms, are available in the church office if you need them.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING: The Christmas Joy Offering opens doors of opportunity for the leaders who are shaped and supported through our gifts - doors that lead to hopeful futures for young people at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Our gifts open doors that lead to relief for church workers and their families when emergency needs arise.

FINAL 2022 CONTRIBUTIONS as well as any 2023 prepaid offerings need to be in the church office by December 27. All offerings received by December 31 will be included in your 2022 contribution statement. If you have any questions regarding your contributions, please contact Renee Wiesehuegel. The church office will be open Dec. 27, 9:00-1:00; and Dec. 30, 9:00-1:00.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK
 Tuesday, Dec 27
 and
 Friday, Dec 30
 from 9:00-1:00pm

Advent Flowers 2022

We would like to thank everyone for their contributions to our Flower Guild during this Advent Season.

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| Donor(s) | Dedication |
| Ellen and Ken Anderson | To the glory of God and in thanks to our wonderful Flower Guild |
| Laura Barron | In memory of Jack Barron and in honor of their family |
| The Beeler Family | In memory of Jackie Beeler and in honor of Brooks Beeler |
| Carol Beilharz, children and grandchildren | In memory of Clark Berta Bergia and Alice Magee |
| | In memory of loved ones gone but with us in spirit always |
| Mary Boyd | In memory of Andrew Boyd |
| Sara Cantrell | In memory of Bob Cantrell |

Gail, Rob, April and Ayers In loving memory of Bo Clark
 Bud and Carolyn Cunningham In memory of their parents
 Jack B. Draper In honor of his wife, Shirley W. Draper
 Melissa Everett In honor of her parents, Mark and Gail Noland
 Maria and David Gall In memory of their parents
 The Gibbons and Fuller Family In memory of Ernie Fuller
 Suzanne and Ross Graham In honor of their grandson Thomas G. Daniels
 Jan Gross In memory of her husband John A. Gross and
 brother Dwight Allen Newman
 Gary, Katherine and Nathan Harmon In honor of CJ Harmon and Aaron Wilso
 Paula Hogan In memory of her father John Hogan and in honor of
 her mother, Marge Hogan and sisters, Carolyn Leary and Janet McMullen
 Bitsy and Lee Ingram In memory of their parents,
 Robert and Juanita Newman, and Everett and Kay Ingram
 Buz and Lucy Johnson In memory of their parents;
 Ewing and Bernice Johnson and John and Mary Watson
 Linda Judge McRae In honor of WPC Sistahs in Christ
 Jordan and Virginia Knight In honor of Betty Jo Smith
 Anne and John Langley In memory of longtime friend and neighbor, John Gross
 The Mackay Family In memory of Zorro Mackay and in honor of Isla Mackenzie
 Ed and Cile, Hannah and Eva Mathews, Danielle Mathews Hemsley
 In memory of Matt Mathews
 Anne McKee and Mark Hulsether .In memory of Mark McKee and Charles Hulsether
 Charlie and Alice Mercer In memory of their parents
 Tricia Monroe In honor and with lots of love for her three children,
 Tolson, Shea, and Elena Bell
 Gradye and Kathy Parsons In honor of the Property Ministry Team
 Rick and Janice Rawe In honor of their granddaughters,
 Margaret, Samantha and Nina
 Amy Rawe In honor of her parents, Rick and Janice Rawe
 Elizabeth Ridley In honor of the ministries of Westminster,
 Second and Graystone churches
 Bill and Bonnie Rogers In gratitude for our family
 Scott and Linda Rutherford In honor of Bill Rutherford on his 85th birthday
 Tim and Joyce Ryan In memory of Rodney and Annie Laurie Bowman and
 Paul and Helen Ryan
 The Salsbery Family In honor of Jim and Linda Yates and
 in memory of Chris and Betty Salsbery
 Rachel and Chris Taylor In loving memory of Jim and Flip Schmid and
 in honor of Jay and Debbie Schmid
 Janet and Peter Tortorelli In honor of Laura, Chris, Joseph, Renee and Julia
 Aunt Julia Tortorelli In honor of William Joseph and Victor Aaron Martin
 Penny Tschantz In honor of the WPC Flower Guild
 Robin and Joel, Ashley, Will, Nathalie and Bennett In memory of Joe Ben Turner
 Jackie Vanden Dorpel and Alexandra McDonald . In memory of Neil Vanden Dorpel
 Leslie Versen In memory of Phyllis Daniels
 Susan and Bill West In memory of Mary McCall and
 in honor of Ruth Mackay Barnett
 Renee and Bill Wiesehuegel In memory of their sweet moms,
 Shirley Jean Rechenbach and Natalie Wells Smith
 Jim and Linda Yates In memory of Stanley and Edna Yates,
 Robert and Inez Rainwater, Bonnee Rainwater, Betty and Chris Salsbery,
 Bob Cantrell and Joe Ben Turner

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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 E-mail westminsterpres@comcast.net
 www.wpcknox.org

Rev. Dr. Anne McKee, Transitional Minister
 Rev. Gradye Parsons, Parish Associate
 Rev. John Linton Muntz, Parish Associate Emeritus
 Peter Van Eenam, Organist and Choirmaster
 Barbara Adamcik, Director of Youth and Connectional Ministries, CLP
 Allie Brewington, Director of Children's Ministries
 Renee Wiesehuegel, Office Manager/Bookkeeper
 Melissa Everett, Administrative Assistant
 Sarah Rackley, Youth Assistant
 Debbie Bendy, Abbey Editor
 Arthur Collins, Worship Tech

THE SESSION

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|--------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Class of 2023 | Class of 2024 | Class of 2025 |
| Jaclyn Beeler | Josh Birdwell | Ed Babelay |
| Jack Carley | Gloria Borum | Wendy Collins |
| William Milam | Melanie Lewis | Janet Drumm |
| Penny Tschantz | Lisa Oros | Stephen Fortney |
| Bill Wiesehuegel | Chris Van Beke | Barbara Froula |
| Youth Elder: Meghan Oros | Clerk of Session: Leigh Dunlap | |

TRUSTEES

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Robert McKeehan | Ron Alexander | Alice Mercer |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------|