

Westminster Presbyterian Church

January 1, 2023 10:00am

Live Streaming In Person

First Sunday after Christmas

***Gathering Music* Arise, Shine, For Your Light Has Come**

Arise, Shine, for your light has come.

And the glory of the Lord is risen. The glory of the Lord has come.

The glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

Welcome

Rev. Barbara Macfie

Call To Worship

Liturgist

L. Our own eyes have seen the salvation God prepared for all peoples,

C. A light for revelation to the Gentiles

L. And glory to God's people Israel

C: Let us give thanks and praise the Lord. Hallelujah! AMEN.

Carol

Angels From The Realms Of Glory

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;

you, who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:

come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king!

Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,

God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light:

come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king!

Carol

Angels We Have Heard On High

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Call to Confession

Liturgist

God judges the nations with righteousness and answers the poor with justice.

Prayer of Confession

God of glory you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of our light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace. In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and pour out the gifts of your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ.

Words of Forgiveness

Rev. Barbara Macfie

As certain as the dawn follows the night, so is the promise of God's forgiveness and love for us all. Arise and Shine. Follow the star.

Find the light of the world born in Bethlehem and be transformed from darkness into light.

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,

Evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king!

HEARING THE WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Liturgist

God of light, you shine on us like the dawn: Show us again the salvation you have sent and make us your thankful people. Send the Spirit of your Son into our hearts and show us how to learn from you. Give us grace to teach one another with gratitude, doing all things in the name of the Lord Jesus. Amen.

Arise, Shine, for your light has come.

And the glory of the Lord is risen. The glory of the Lord has come

The glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 60:1-6

Liturgist

“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. “Lift up your eyes and look about you: All assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the hip. Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come. Herds of camels will cover your land, young camels of Midian and Ephah. And all from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming the praise of the Lord.

Gospel Reading Matthew 2:1-12

Rev. Barbara Macfie

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. “In

Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel." Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route. I command my heart to repeat the sounding joy!

Carol

We Three Kings

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

Sermon

Rev. Barbara Macfie

"We Have Another Present To Unwrap"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Affirmation of Faith

Rev. Barbara Macfie

We believe God's light overcomes all darkness; God's presence brings us comfort and peace. We believe God's light and love lead us to our Friend and Savior, Jesus Christ. We believe Jesus was always the plan. Jesus knows our every need. He loves us fully, even in our weakness. We believe the Holy Spirit helps us to discern God's law of love and God's gospel of peace. We believe that God calls us to participate in this reality of love and peace, inviting us to proclaim Christ's resurrection at the Table. Because we believe we are free to experience divine love, joy, and peace and to share that with others. Amen.

Invitation To the Offertory

Liturgist

We have seen the light of the world. We have been called to follow the star of promise. Like the Magi, let us bring our gifts to honor the babe of Bethlehem and bring the light to all the dark places in our community and our world.

Offertory

The Birthday Of A King

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up-lifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Offertory Prayer

Liturgist

Gracious God, we thank you for all good gifts. You have shown us how to give with love: Accept the gifts we bring; use them for the work of Jesus' reign. Keep us in remembrance of the magi and grant us their generosity and courage. In the name of Jesus, your greatest gift. Amen.

Communion

Invitation to the Table

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord our God

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sanctus

*Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup

Prayer After Communion

Hymn

Hark The Herald Angels Sing

*Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king.
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"*

*Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"*

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Benediction

Rev. Barbara Macfie

Postlude

Steve Johnson