

Westminster Presbyterian Church

December 5th, 2021 | 10:00am

Live Streaming | In Person

**Order of Worship
Second Sunday of Advent**

Gathering Music

Steven Johnson

“Arise, Shine”

*Arise, shine, for thy Light is come. Arise, shine, for thy Light is come
And the glory of the Lord is risen, the glory of the Lord is come
The glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.*

“Here I Am To Worship”

*Light of the world You stepped down into darkness;
Opened my eyes, let me see.
Beauty that made this heart adore You;
Hope of a life spent with You.*

*Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that You're my God.
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.*

*King of all days, O so highly exalted;
Glorious in heaven above.
Humbly You came to the earth You created;
All for love's sake became poor. (Refrain 2x)*

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Len Hedges-Goettl

Lighting the Advent Candle

The Brock Family

Advent Song: "Light the Advent Candle"

*Light the Advent candle, two: Think of humble shepherds, who
Filled with wonder at the sight of the child of Christmas night.
Candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night;
Candle, candle, burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.*

Call to Worship

Deb Norton

Hymn: *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

GTG #121 (vs 1 & 2)

*O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.*

*For Christ is born of Mary and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.*

Preparing for the Word

Call to confession

Liturgist

Prayer of confession (in unison)

Refining God, it is not easy for us to admit we are not a blameless people.
We trust the false promises, but have trouble believing those you send to us.
We find ourselves captive to emotions and lusts which stun us,
but doubt you can save us.
We prefer the shadowy streets of the world, rather than walking in your Light.
Forgive us, Faithful One.
May the Light of Christ show us your way;

may the Love of Christ overflow from our lives to others;
may the Life of Christ be our model as we seek to be your people.

Words of forgiveness

Liturgist

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Gloria Patri

Hearing the Word

Message for all God's Children:

Rev. Dr. Len Hedges-Goettl

"Standing watch"

Prayer for illumination:

Liturgist

Old Testament Lesson: *Malachi 3:1-4*

Liturgist

Anthem: "*A Great Light*"

Choir

New Testament Lesson: *Luke 1:68-79*

Rev. Dr. Len Hedges-Goettl

Sermon:

Rev. Dr. Len Hedges-Goettl

"Preparing the Way, against all odds"

Hymn: *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

GTG #121 (vs 3 & 4)

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!

So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.

No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,

where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;

cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;

O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Gathering at the Lord's Table

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer after Communion

Invitation to the Offering

Liturgist

Offering response: *"In the Bleak Midwinter"*

(GTG #144 vs 4)

What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb

If I were a wiseman, I would do my part,

Yet what I can I give him, give my heart

Prayers of the people

Rev. Dr. Len Hedges-Goettl

(Prayers offered by the congregation)

The Lord's Prayer

Going forth in Joy!

Closing Hymn: *"Arise, Your Light Is Come!"*

Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey.

Show forth the glory of your God which shines on you today.

Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song!

Rise up like eagles on the wing, God's power will make us strong.

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Len Hedges-Goettl

Postlude

Steven Johnson

Thank you to those involved in worship today:

Rev. Dr. Len Hedges-Goettl

Ushers: Charlotte Jacobs and Lois Ann Rayner

Liturgist: Deb Norton

Advent Candle: The Brock Family

Musicians: Steve Johnson and Choir

Remember in Prayer

Pray for all those

touched recently by violence and natural disasters, the healing of national hostility and mistrust, efforts to feed the poor and provide shelter for the homeless in our area, and the following people:

*It is with great sadness that we report the passing of **Harry and Elsie Marshall's son, Erik**, on Saturday afternoon, November 27, 2021. Erik had just been transferred to hospice care. We extend our sympathy and prayers for comfort and strength to Harry, Elsie and Kent.*

***Deb Norton** has asked for prayers for her sister, **Pam Bosco**, who lives in Rochester, NY and is undergoing surgery today to treat a serious infection. May God guide the hands of her doctors and bless her with a full and speedy recovery.*

***Nancy Shapiro's** brother-in-law, **Charlie Brabant**, who lost both parents and his sister this year, is seriously ill and scheduled to undergo 2 surgeries on Monday.*

Theresa Altvater (Sarah Altvater's grandmother)

Linda Book

Chuck Burton (Lois Raynor's relative)

Jay Carlson (Clare MacDonald's son-in-law)

Ed Carter

Pauline Cottingham

Frances Cowgill

Peter Culin (Sue Culin's brother-in-law)

Bill and Sandra Hrin

Lib Macnab

Marcy

Sharon

Lacey Meade (Betty Pratt's daughter)

Rev. Innocent Mabuza

Karen Reed Noel (Jim Reed's half-sister)

Betty Pratt

Robbie

Janet Waugaman (Sally Waugaman's daughter)

Our church has a prayer chain of members who will pray for any person you ask. Contact Leslie Marsh by phone at 302-542-9927 or email at cmarshjr@verizon.net

Westminster Presbyterian Church

301 King Charles Avenue

Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

(302)227-2109

rehobothwpc20@gmail.com

Pastoral Care Rev. Barbara Macfie cell (732) 501-2097

bmacfie@me.com