

**Westminster Presbyterian Church
December 19th, 2021 10:00am
Live Streaming In Person
Order of Worship**

Fourth Sunday of Advent

LESSONS AND CAROLS

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Barbara Macfie

Greeting

Opening Hymn** *O Come All Ye Faithful*

1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!

Refrain:

O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

2 True God from true God, Light from light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
very God, begotten, not created! [Refrain]

3 Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest! [Refrain]

4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! [Refrain]

The Bidding Prayer **

Beloved in Christ, as we await the great festival of Christmas,

(MANY) let us prepare ourselves so that we may be shown its true meaning.

Let us hear, in lessons from Holy Scripture,

**(MANY) how the prophets of Israel foretold
that God would visit and redeem the waiting people.**

Let us rejoice, in our carols and hymns,

(MANY) that the good purpose of God is being mightily fulfilled.

Let us celebrate the promise that our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,

**(MANY) will bring all peoples and all things
into the glory of God's eternal kingdom.**

The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk,

**(MANY) the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up,
and the poor have the gospel preached to them.**

But first, let us pray for the world that God so loves,

**(MANY) for those who have not heard the good news of God,
or who do not believe it;**

for those who walk in darkness and the shadow of death;

and for the Church in this place and everywhere,

**(MANY) that it may be freed from all evil and fear,
and may in pure joy lift up the light of the love of God.**

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer to God,
in the words that Christ himself taught us.

**(MANY) 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.**

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Krick Family

Dear God,
As we journey down this Advent road,
grant us the courage to make peace.
Peace in our hearts,
Peace in our homes,
Peace in our communities,

Peace in our relationships,
Peace in ourselves.

(Light the candles)

*Light the Advent candle four
Think of Joy forever more
Christ child in a stable born
Gift of love that Christmas morn.*

*Candle, candle burning bright Shing in the cold winter night.
Candle, candle burning bright. Fill our hearts with Christmas light.*

Dearest Lord

We are waiting
We are watching
We are witnessing... Amen

LESSON 1 (Genesis 3 (NRSV))
The Fall of Humankind

Rev. Dr. Len Hedges-Goettl

ANTHEM: "IN THE IMAGE OF GOD"

Ladies Ensemble

LESSON 2 (Genesis 22 (CEV))

Ruth Finch

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.

ANTHEM: "LOVE CAME DOWN AT CHRISTMAS"

Choir

Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, love divine
Love was born at Christmas. Star and angels gave the sign.
Worship we the Godhead: Love incarnate, love divine
Worship we our Jesus but wherewith for sacred sign?
Love shall be our token. Love shall be yours and love be mine
Love to God and to all men. Love for plea and gift and sign
Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, love divine
(Repeat 3 times)

LESSON 3 (Isaiah 9 (KJV))

Rev. Barbara Macfie

The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.

ANTHEM: "BEHOLD, A VIRGIN SHALL CONCEIVE"

Choir

Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and bear a son
Behold, a virgin shall conceive and shall call his name, Emmanuel
Emmanuel, Emanuel and shall call his name Emmanuel.
For unto us a child is born, and unto us a son is given
And the government shall be upon his shoulder
And the government shall be upon his shoulder
And his name shall be called wonderful
And his name shall be called wonderful,
Counselor, almighty god, the everlasting father,
the prince of peace
Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and bear a son
Behold, a virgin shall conceive and shall call his name, Emmanuel
Emmanuel, Emanuel and shall call his name Emmanuel.

LESSON 4 (Isaiah 11 (CEV))

Ellie Sprague

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

HYMN: "LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH"

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Father, children all are we
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

LESSON 5 (Luke 1)

Mary Boyer

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

ANTHEM: "MARY, DID YOU KNOW"

Sarah Altvater

LESSON 6 (Luke 2 (NRSV))

Lois Gillespie

St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

ANTHEM: "NO ROOM"

Choir

No room, only a manger of hay,
No room, He is a stranger today,

No room, here in His world turned away,
No room, no room;

No room, here in the hearts of mankind,
No room, no cheery welcome could find,
No room, surely the world is blind,
No room.

Angels, in heaven up yonder,
Watch with amazement and wonder
To see the Son of the Highest treated so!

No room, only a manger of hay,
No room, He is a stranger today,
No room, here in His world turned away,
No room, no room, no room.

LESSON 7 (Luke 2 (NRSV))

Nancy Brock

The shepherds go to the manger.

ANTHEM: "Were You There on That Christmas Night"

Choir

1 Were you there, were you there on that Christmas night,
when the world was filled with a holy light?
Were you there to behold when the wonder foretold came to earth?

2 Did you see, did you see how they hailed him King,
with the gifts so rare that they chose to bring?
Did you see how they bowed as they praised him aloud at his birth?

3 Did you hear how the choirs of angels sang at the glory of the sight?
Did you hear how the bells of heaven rang
all through the night?

4 Did you know, did you know it was God's own Son,
the salvation of the world begun?
Did you know it was love that was sent from above to the earth?

LESSON 8 (Matthew 2 (NRSV))

Glenn Pruitt

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

CAROL: "WE THREE KINGS"

GTG #151

*1 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!*

LESSON 9 (John 1 (NRSV)

Rev. Dr. Len Hedges-Goettl

St John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

CAROL: "JOY TO THE WORLD"

GTG #134

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.
Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Dismissal Blessing **

Rev. Barbara Macfie

Postlude