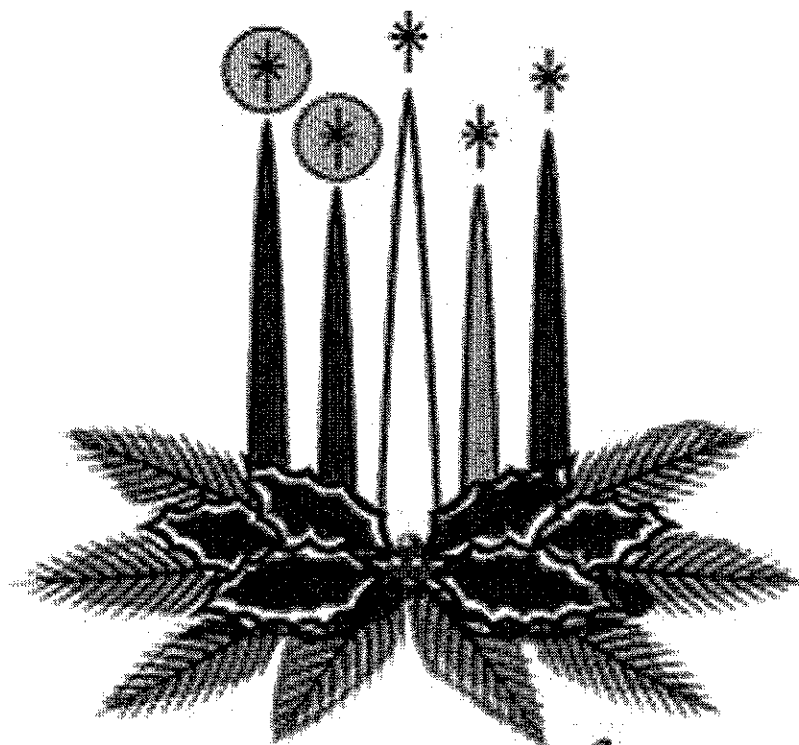


Bless us, O God, with a reverent sense of your presence so that we may be at peace as we worship You with all our mind, heart, and spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



2ND SUNDAY OF Advent

December 5, 2021

If you need a community to belong to, if you are thirsty for the word of life, and want to live as a disciple of Jesus, join us in his ministry and mission. You are welcome and needed here.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

** At the asterisk, please stand as you are able.
Congregational responses are printed in **bold***

PRELUDE *"Savior of the Nations, Come"* J. S. Bach

WESTMINSTER CHIMES – Striking the Hour

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS Valerie Harris

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATHS Shawn & Sarah Hyska

Second Sunday in Advent: Peace

Watch and wait for Christ's coming!

We light this candle in hope.

We light this candle for peace

Hear Zechariah's song of hope for peace to the Christ child. A reading from Luke 1:76-79:

"You, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins. By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."

Let us pray:

God of hope, Prince of Peace, You speak peace into the world in the Way of the Christ child.

Help us embody your peace and live as peacemakers that we may be called children of God.

God of hope, God of peace, into our darkness come. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP ¹

Now is the time, let us pause.

As we wait, may we hear the voice of God.

Now is the time, let us watch.

In our homes, at our work, even while waiting in line –may we see the face of Christ.

Now is the moment, let us prepare our hearts.

In our words, in our hearts, in all we say and do –may God's extravagant love shine through.

* HYMN

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

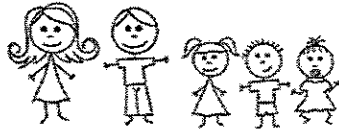
TRURO Hymnal #8

1. Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;
 behold, the King of glory waits;
the King of kings is drawing near;
 the Savior of the world is here!

2. Fling wide the portals of your heart;
 make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ,
 adorned with prayer and love and joy.

3. Redeemer, come, with us abide;
our hearts to thee we open wide;
 let us thy inner presence feel;
 thy grace and love in us reveal.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT



Pastor Shawn

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, Light of the World, you caused light to shine out of the darkness in the advent of Jesus our Christ; you continually open to us the ways we are to prepare. We confess our unwillingness to see the light and to walk in your ways. We have tarnished the gift you gave freely. We have buried you so deeply in our hearts, the world doesn't see you. We have not always opened our eyes to the needs of others, and our feet have wandered from the paths of justice and peace. We ask that the Spirit of Christ be born anew within us, that our hearts may be stirred to glorify you with acts of compassion, service, and love.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

* GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, it is now and ever shall be. World without end, Amen, Amen.*

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Malachi 3:1-6

p. 838 in pew Bible

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years. Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts. For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, have not perished.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 3:1-6

p. 56 in pew Bible

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."' "

These are the words of Holy Scripture for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

"Preparing Our Hearts"

Rev. Shawn Hyska

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

DEDICATION

You are invited to take this moment of silence to meditate on God's word to you today and ponder how God is calling you to dedicate or re-dedicate your life.

1. Lord, we have come at your own invitation,
 Chosen by you, to be counted your friends;
 Yours is the strength that sustains dedication,
 Ours a commitment we know never ends.

2. Here, at your table, confirm our intention,
 Give it your seal of forgiveness and grace;
 Teach us to serve, without pride or pretension,
 Lord, in your Kingdom, whatever our place.

3. When, at your table, each time of returning,
 Vows are renewed and our courage restored:
 May we increasingly glory in learning
 All that it means to accept you as Lord.

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostle's Creed

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Remember These and Others in Prayer:

The Roberts Family; The Miles & Meehan Families; Ashley Thulin; Valerie Harris;
 Sylvia Viar (Pat Heath); Julia Crim & Tom Campbell; Helen Hester; Mamie Keys;
 Becky Maxey; Louise Motley; David Oliver; Eloise Peters; Jane & Jimmy Reed;
 Kathleen Smith; Barbara Taylor; Stuart & Barbara Turille; Otto Vallastro; Queen Webb;
 Shawn Hart (Angela Hart); Melissa Lily (Valerie Harris); The Reilly family (Valerie Harris);
 Irby King (Otto Vallastro); Students, teachers, staff, and parents; Our Military Service Members
 and their families; Our Local, State, and National Leaders.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

MOMENT FOR GRATITUDE

You are invited to silently thank God for one of your recent blessings.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

* RESPONSE

Doxology

*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 OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe. . . Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all the faithful of every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**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.**

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. . .
Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts...Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PARTAKING OF THE ELEMENTS

We will eat, drink, the elements together.

PRAYER

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD TO SERVE

* HYMN

"Comfort, Comfort You My People"

PSALM 42 p. 3

1 Comfort, comfort you my people;
tell of peace, thus says our God;
comfort those who sit in darkness
bowed beneath oppression's load.

Speak you to Jerusalem
of the peace that waits for them;
tell them that their sins I cover,
and their warfare now is over.

2 For the herald's voice is calling
in the desert far and near,
bidding us to make repentance
since the kingdom now is here.

Oh that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way;
let the valleys rise in meeting
and the hills bow down in
greeting.

3 Make you straight what
long was crooked;
make the rougher places plain;
let your hearts be
true and humble,
as befits God's holy reign,
for the glory of the Lord
now o'er earth is shed abroad,
and all flesh shall see the token
that God's word is never broken.

CHARGE and BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*** A note to our visitors: many in our congregation enjoy remaining seated for the postlude to listen to the music. You are invited to stay seated and listen as well, or join the pastor at the back of the church so we can greet you. We are so glad that you are here with us today! ***

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Sunday Dec. 5th Love Your Neighbor Arts & Crafts Fair 2-5 p.m. in Westminster Presbyterian "Backyard."

Wed., Dec 8 – ChUM Fruit sale arrival (Nancy Duncan will receive WPC orders for pick up at the church, please call if delivery is needed)

Wed., Dec 8 – Choir practice 7:00 p.m.

Sun., Dec 12– Third Sunday of Advent

Sun., Dec 12 – **PLEDGE SUNDAY**

Mon., Dec 13 – PW Circle TBD

Tues., Dec 14 – Stewardship & Finance Committee Meeting

Tues., DEC 14 – CHIMES DEADLINE for January 2022 Chimes

Tues., Dec 14 – Deadline for ordering Poinsettias

Wed., Dec 15 Choir Practice

Sat., Dec 18 – Blessing Place 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Sun., Dec 19 –Fourth Sunday of Advent - **LESSONS & CAROLS**

Thurs., Dec 23 through December 31st. – Christmas & New Year Holidays – Office Closed

Sun., December 26 - First Sunday of Christmas - no Sunday School – **HYMN SING**

Sat., Jan 1 – Office Closed - HAPPY NEW YEAR 2022

Sun., Jan 2 – Worship schedule resumes

POINSETTIAS –

Please use the order form on the podium in the Narthex to request a beautiful poinsettia.

Deadline December 14th.

They will enhance our sanctuary for Lessons & Carols Service December 19th.

You may take your poinsettia home after the Service. The price is \$8.00 each.

<p>December 5, 2021 Acolyte: Jerry Ferguson Ushers: Charlie Ross & Angela Hart Collection: Hoc Hughes & Charlie Ross Communion Preparation: Ann Allen</p>	<p>December 12, 2021 Acolyte: Jerry Ferguson Ushers: Ann Allen & Richard Mahler Collection: Hoc Hughes & Jeff Evans</p>
<p>December 19, 2021 Acolyte: Jerry Ferguson Ushers: Valerie Harris & Charlie Ross Collection: Hoc Hughes & Richard Mahler</p>	<p>December 26, 2021 Acolyte: Jerry Ferguson Ushers: Nancy Duncan & Angela Hart Collection: Hoc Hughes & Barbara Taylor</p>

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Ministers: Every Member of the Congregation

Pastor: The Rev. Kristie M. Miles

Home/Cell-434-610-4032

pastorkristiemiles@gmail.com

Director of Music/Organist: Robert W. Blevins

Ministry Assistant: Alice Renshaw

Treasurer: Holcombe A. J. Hughes

Bookkeeper: Robert W. Blevins

THE SESSION:

Clerk of Session—Pix Mahler

2021

Shirley Caskie

2022

Sharee Evans

Pix Mahler

2023

Valerie Harris

Charlie Ross

TRUSTEES:

2021

Kendall Sydnor, Jr.

2022

Robert Blevins

2023

Mary Sue Childress

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN:

Moderator: Betty Oliver

Treasurer: Sylvia Knowles

Historian: Angela Hart

Secretary: Eloise Peters