

The Order of Worship

**December 6, 2009
9:00 and 11:00 A.M.**

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE CHURCH GATHERS ...

When the prelude begins let us quietly prepare for the Worship of God.

PRELUDE Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland Dieterich Buxtehude
Savior of the Nations, Come

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

(9:00) Vicki Mayfield and Mark Rennich

(11:00) Bill and Lisa Oros

INTROIT

(9:00) Savior of the Nations, Come *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*
Savior of the nations, come, Virgin’s Son, make here Your home. Marvel now, O heaven and earth, That the Lord chose such a birth.

You, the chosen Holy One, Have o’er sin the victory won. Boundless shall Your kingdom be; When shall we its glories see?

attr. St. Ambrose
Michael Burkhardt

(11:00) An Advent Processional
Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, Born a child and yet a King, Born to reign in us forever, Now Thy gracious kingdom bring. By Thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone; By Thine all-sufficient merit Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free! Israel’s strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art!

Born Thy people to deliver, Born a child and yet King, Born to reign in us forever, Now Thy gracious kingdom bring. By Thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone; By thine all-sufficient merit Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Charles Wesley
Westminster Choristers
Handbell Choir
Eileen Rudd, Organ

CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted from Luke 1:76-79

Leader: Let us prepare the way for the Child who shall be called the prophet of the Most High, who shall bring salvation to the people by the forgiveness of sins.
People: **He shall give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, and guide our feet into the way of peace.**

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

***HYMN NO. 13** (blue hymnal) Prepare the Way *Bereden väg för Herran*

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Merciful God, you call all of us to see the truth of ourselves. The truth is that we want to hear the songs and glad tidings of the Christmas season, but not the convicting words of God’s prophets like John the Baptist. The truth is that we are much more ready to judge others and the world than we are to judge ourselves. We are much more willing to work to effect change in society than to allow you to effect change in us. We confess we make little spiritual use of these four weeks of Advent. We fill them with plans and preparations for seasonal activities, with too little thought of why we celebrate. And so we arrive at Christmas Day, weary and uneasy, sensing we have missed something, left something undone. Forgive us, we pray.
Amen.

***KYRIE ELEISON** Healey Willan

(Congregation singing— music is found on the inside cover of the red hymnal)

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.
(First part: women; second: men; third: all)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News!

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

***RESPONSE** Refrain from “Angels We Have Heard on High” *Gloria*

TO EXPERIENCE GOD’S WORD AND RESPOND ...

SCRIPTURE READING

Malachi 3:1-12

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN (11:00)

Lisa Trofatter

Children age 4 through 3rd grade are invited to go downstairs and participate in Children's Worship. A nursery is available during the entire service for infants through age 3.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 3:1-6

SERMON

“There’s still time to change the road you’re on...”

Led Zeppelin – *Stairway to Heaven*

Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips

***HYMN NO. 3** (blue hymnal) Comfort, Comfort You My People

Psalm 42

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Unison) 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 on 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.

THE OFFERING

Please sign and pass the Friendship Register found on the pew nearest the center aisle. If you would like to receive our newsletter or more information about the church, include your address, phone number and email address. As many of us contribute electronically 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 ANTHEM

(9:00) An Advent Processional

Michael Burkhardt

(The text is found at the Introit)

(11:00) Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Gustav Holst

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand; Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand, Christ our Lord to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood, Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the Body and the Blood, He will give to all the faithful His own Self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way, As the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day, That the pow'rs of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At His feet the six-winged seraph; Cherubim with sleepless eye, Veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry, Alleluya, Lord most High. Amen.

trans. Gerard Moultrie

Meredith Mackay, Soprano

Terrance McCracken, Baritone

***AT THE PRESENTATION** Doxology No. 591 (blue hymnal)

Tallis' Canon

(Sung to the tune of Hymn No. 542 (blue hymnal))

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (responsive)

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(Prayer continues)...to the glory of your name.

People: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, Heaven and earth are full of thy glory: Glory be to thee, O Lord most high. Amen.

(Prayer continues)...Praise to you, Lord Jesus.

People: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING THE SACRAMENT

(Seated and partaking of elements when received, followed by silent meditation.)

MUSIC FOR COMMUNION Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, Verse 1 Johann Heinrich Buttstedt

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (Unison)

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us.

Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer Our spirits by thine advent here; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

***POSTLUDE** Caprice sur les Grands Jeux

Louis-Nicolas Clérambault

(from *Suite on the Second Tone*)

*Indicates standing.

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP here today.

PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK are Mary Lou Crow and Jeff Bandy.

CARE TEAM COORDINATOR FOR DECEMBER: Georgann Byerley

LARGE PRINT HYMNALS are available from the ushers.

SERVING TODAY

ACOLYTES (11:00): Eva James and Caroline Rogers

GREETERS: Jeff and Jessamyn Hazard

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP:

(9:00) Nursery Staff

(11:00) Mark and Angela Grobe, Sam Phillips and Lily Seidner

MINISTRY OF MUSIC:

(9:00) Handbell Choir and Westminster Choristers

(11:00) Chancel and Handbell Choirs and Westminster Choristers

SENIOR USHER: George Lane

USHERS:

(9:00) Bonny and Doug Naugher

(11:00) Andrew and Kristi Gordon, Gordon and Robin Greeson, Bob James

THE BIRTH CANDLE today celebrates the arrival of Don and Connie Graham's granddaughter, Campbell West Graham. She was born November 25 to Chris and Meredith Graham.

THANK YOU to John and Virginia Eaddy for their donation to the church library of a copy of Buran Phillips' book, *Friedrich Schleiermacher's Interpretation of the Epistle to the Colossians: A Series of Sermons (1830-1831)*.

TWO-CENTS-A-MEAL collection is today. This offering, brought each "First Sunday," is our share in maintaining the Volunteer Ministry Center of Knoxville.

NAME TAG SUNDAY is today. Please fill out a name tag in the Narthex.

OUR THANKS to Eileen Rudd for her enrichment of our worship this morning as she accompanies the Handbell Choir and Westminster Choristers.

THIS MORNING'S INTROIT at the first service is an ancient German chorale first appearing in *Eyn Enchiridion*, dating from 1524. Based on chant, many composers, from the Renaissance through modern times, have set this melody. The text is attributed to St. Ambrose of Milan and is paraphrased by Martin Luther. The translation used this morning is by William Morton Reynolds.

THE WESTMINSTER BRASS CHOIR will give a brief concert of Christmas music before the Children's Christmas Drama this evening. The music will begin around 5:40 with the choir performing several popular Christmas carols, featuring Canadian Brass arrangements of "Sussex Carol," "Ding Dong! Merrily on High," and "I Saw Three Ships," as well as a Christmas medley and "Good King Wenceslas." Let the Brass Choir help you get in the Christmas spirit!

ADVENT MATERIALS for adults and children are available on the table in the narthex of the sanctuary. Among the things you'll find there are Advent devotional materials, calendars and offering banks for children, and FISH Christmas card order forms. Please take a moment to stop by.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS were mailed on Thursday. Please contact Renee Wiesehuegel with any questions you have regarding your statement. Just a reminder - the church office will be closed December 28-30 and open a half day on December 31. Please be sure we receive your 2009 offerings and any prepaid pledges for 2010 no later than 1:00 p.m. December 31.

WAMS AND SHOW: It's Erin Presbyterian youth against WPC youth for our second annual Laser Quest Adventure outing. High school and middle school youth will meet at WPC at 1:30 p.m. to carpool to Laser Quest. Bring \$12 to cover 2 games and snacks. Hope to see you there!

THE YOUTH CHRISTMAS DRAMA will be presented this evening at 6:00 p.m. Come celebrate the season and support the youth in their performance of *The Other Wiseman*. Our brass choir will start off the evening with Christmas music in the Schilling Gallery beginning at 5:40 p.m.

STEPHEN MINISTERS meet Monday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m. in the SHOW room.

MEN'S THURSDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP: Start your day off right with breakfast, fellowship, and a short study session. On Thursday, December 10 at 7:00 a.m. we will meet in the McKinnon Room for a meal and short discussion-oriented lesson. Buz Johnson will provide our breakfast and Reverend Phillips will provide our lesson. If you want to review the lesson ahead of time, you can pick up a lesson copy in the church office or email Tim Crais at timcrais@yahoo.com and he will email you the lesson. Come join us!

FISH delivery is Thursday, December 10. If you are able to help make deliveries, please contact Barbara Wilkinson. The number of families receiving bags of groceries is dependent on the number of Westminster volunteers. **YOU are needed!**

THE ABBEY DEADLINE is Wednesday. Please send your articles to unitedprinters@comcast.net.

CAROLING: In honor of the Christmas season, Westminster is seeking individuals to join in spreading some holiday cheer on Sunday December 13 at 4:00 p.m. Sign up to sing Christmas carols and serve others in our church family in the process. Congregation members will travel to the homes of friends, family, and other church members to share season's tidings. On God's earth, everyone can sing! This is a way to share the spirit of the season and remind ourselves how meaningful a church family is. You can sign up to carol with us on the bulletin board in the Schilling Gallery or the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Contact Pete Trofatter with any questions.

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGERS are needed for the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign. Please sign up in the Schilling Gallery for our one remaining slot on Saturday, December 19 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Dillard's West Town Mall Montvue entrance.

THE 2010 FLOWER CHART has been posted in the Schilling Gallery. Please stop by and sign up for your flower dedications for next year. The cost is \$60, payable on the date of your dedication.



THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING is collected throughout the Advent season. Fifty percent of your gift goes to the Board of Pensions to support retired and active church workers and their spouses and families. The other fifty percent supports Presbyterian related racial ethnic education through the General Assembly Council. Please see the bulletin insert for more information.

DONATIONS are being accepted for the Advent floral decorations. There is no set amount for each dedication. Donations for can be placed in the offering plate or brought to the office.

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I would like to contribute to the Flower Guild for Advent:

\$ _____

In memory/honor (circle one) of:

Given by:

THE LAKESHORE CHRISTMAS PARTY is Thursday, December 10 at 2:00 p.m. You are invited to celebrate and fellowship with the residents of the Lakeshore facility. A group will meet at the church at 1:00 p.m. to carpool to the party.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

THE WOMEN IN TOUCH CLASS topic for today is part 1 of "Advent Through the Eyes of Those Who Waited." The class meets in the Prayer Room.

THE ADVENT SUNDAY SCHOOL SERIES examines the history behind some of our favorite carols and helps us encounter the rich wording anew. Today we'll study "Silent Night, Holy Night", led by Terry Crow.