

**The Order of Worship**

**December 24, 2009**

**11:00 P.M.**

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**

*We welcome all to this service of worship, especially our visitors and guests. In the time before the service begins, we invite all who worship here to take a moment to offer a prayer lifting up to God the life and work of this family of faith and its pastors.*

**PROCURE A CANDLE IN THE NARTHEX**

**PRELUDE** Pastorale in F, Parts I and II

J. S. Bach

Pietro A. Yon

Gesù Bambino  
When blossoms flowered 'mid the snows Upon a winter night, Was born the Child, the Christmas Rose, The King of Love and Light. The angels sang, the shepherds sang, The grateful earth rejoiced, And at His blessed birth the stars Their exultation voiced. O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Again the heart with rapture glows To greet the holy night That gave the world its Christmas Rose, Its King of Love and Light. Let ev'ry voice acclaim His name, The grateful chorus swell. From paradise to earth He came That we with Him might dwell. O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

trans. Frederick Martens

Andrea and Nicola Harrison and Meredith Mackay, Sopranos

Margaret Harrison, Piano

**WELCOME AND INVOCATION**

Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips

**LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

Meredith and JP Mackay

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Katie Ellis

Leader: Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

**People: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a savior, who is Christ the Lord.**

Leader: And this shall be a sign for you.

**People: You will find the baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.**

Leader: And suddenly there was, with the angel, a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God.

**People: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.**

**\*HYMN NO. 31** (blue hymnal) Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

*Mendelssohn*

**CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYER**

Rev. John Muntz

**\*HYMN NO. 116** (red hymnal) Angels We Have Heard on High

*Gloria*

**SCRIPTURE** Isaiah 9:2,6-7

Margaret McKeegan

**SCRIPTURE** Psalm 96:1-6,10-13

Jonathan Wiesehuegel

**\*HYMN NO. 40** (blue hymnal) Joy to the World!

*Antioch*

**SCRIPTURE** Micah 5:2-5a

Tom Grobe

**CAROL** Huron Carol

*Jesous Ahatonhia*

arr. C. H.

'Twas in the moon of wintertime, When all the birds had fled, That mighty Gitchi Manitou [The mighty Lord of all the world] Sent angel choirs instead; Before their light the stars grew dim, And wond'ring hunters heard the hymn: Jesus your King is born, In excelsis gloria.

Within a lodge of broken bark The tender Babe was found, A ragged robe of rabbit skin Enwrapped his beauty round: But as the hunter braves drew nigh The angel song rang loud and high. (Refrain)

Jean de Brébeuf, 1643

trans. Jesse Edgar Middleton

**SCRIPTURE** Luke 2:1-7

Sammy Murrian

**CAROL** Sing We Now of Christmas

*Noël nouvelet*

arr. Richard Zgodava

Sing we now of Christmas, Sing we here Noel! Of our Lord and Savior We the tidings tell. Sing we Noel! For Christ the King is born, Noel!

Angels did say, O shepherds come and see, Born in Bethlehem, A blessed Lamb for thee. (Refrain)

In the manger bed, The shepherds found the Child. Joseph was there, And Mother, Mary mild. (Refrain)

Magi oriental journeyed from afar. They did come to greet him 'Neath the shining star. (Refrain)

Now together sing, Let our voices ring, Thanks to God on high. Sing we here Noel!

Traditional

**SCRIPTURE** Luke 2:8-14

Ryan Wright

**CAROLS** All This Time

William Walton

All this time this song is best: "Verbum caro factum est [The Word was made flesh]."

This night there is a child yborn That sprang out of Jesse's thorn; We must sing and say therefor, (Refrain)

Jesus is the childes name, And Mary mild is his dame; All our sorrow shall turn to game: (Refrain)

It fell upon high midnight: The starres shone both fair and bright; The angels sang with all their might, (Refrain)

Now kneel we down on our knee, And pray we to the Trinity Our help, our succour for to be; (Refrain)

I Saw Three Ships

I saw three ships come sailing in, On Christmas Day in the morning.

And what was in those ships all three? (Refrain)

Our Saviour Christ and his lady, (Refrain)

Pray, whither sailed those ships all three? (Refrain)

O, they sailed into Bethlehem, (Refrain)

And all the bells on earth shall ring, (Refrain)

And all the angels in heav'n shall sing, (Refrain)

And all the souls on earth shall sing, (Refrain)

Then let us all rejoice amain! (Refrain)

Anonymous, 16<sup>th</sup> century  
arr. David Willcocks

Traditional

**SCRIPTURE** Titus 2:11-14

**CHRISTMAS EVE MEDITATION**

**\*HYMN NO. 41** (blue hymnal) O Come, All Ye Faithful

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*Tonight we will be celebrating Holy Communion by the method of intinction, where worshipers may come forward and take a piece of bread to dip into the cup. The ministers and ushers will direct you.*

**MUSIC FOR COMMUNION** (*the congregation singing*)

Hymn No. 44 (blue hymnal) O Little Town of Bethlehem

Hymn No. 25 (blue hymnal) Away in a Manger

*St. Louis*

*Mueller*

Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips

*Adeste fideles*

## SERVICE OF CANDLE LIGHTING ...

*The lights will be dimmed and the minister will light a candle from the Christ Candle. The minister will then light the candles of the ushers, who will then light the candles of the first person on each aisle. Light will then be passed from worshiper to worshiper. Remember that the lighted candle remains upright and the unlighted candle is tipped to the lighted candle.*

**\*HYMN** Silent Night, Holy Night

*Stille Nacht*

*(The candle is held close to the breast)*

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright,

Round yon virgin mother and child!

Holy infant, so tender and mild.

Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

*(The candle is extended outward)*

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight.

Glories stream from heaven afar.

Heavenly hosts sing: "Alleluia;

Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born."

*(The candle is extended upward)*

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light.

Radiant beams from Thy holy face.

With the dawn of redeeming grace

Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy Birth.

*Following the singing of the final hymn, the ministers will lead a silent recessional to carry the light outside, weather permitting. After everyone has gathered in the front courtyard, we will sing the first verse "O Come All Ye Faithful."*

**\*BENEDICTION**

\*Indicates standing.

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC:** Chancel Choir

**OUR THANKS** to Andrea, Margaret, and Nicola Harrison and Meredith Mackay for their enrichment of our worship tonight.

**COLLEGE YOUTH ASSISTING IN WORSHIP** are Margaret McKeegan, Jonathan Wiesehuegel, Sammy Murrian, Ryan Wright, Katie Ellis, Tom Grobe

**ELDERS:** Rob McKeegan, Tim Crais, Stephanie Lynch-Wright, Pam Potocik, Bob Murrian, Tim Ryan, Debbie Schmid

## Advent Flowers 2009

We would like to thank everyone for their contributions to our service with the beautiful flowers that were given during the Advent season.

### Given By:

Anonymous. . . . . In celebration of Advent  
Laura and Jack Barron . . . . . In honor of Laura's mother, Harriette D. Rowe  
. . . . . In memory of Lester Rowe and Viola and John Barron  
Carol Beilharz, children and grandchildren . . . . . In loving memory of Clark  
The Bonnyman family . . . . . In honor of Westminster's staff  
Gary and Fidelia Boshears. . . . . In memory of Barbara Schilling  
. . . . . and Barbara Finney  
Sharon Boyce and Jack Woodall. . . . . In memory of Eloise Woodall,  
. . . . . Jack Woodall, Sr., Erwin Boyce and Lee Boyce  
. . . . . In honor of Virginia Boyce  
Marlene Browning . . . . . In memory of Larry Browning  
Sara Cantrell . . . . . In memory of Bob Cantrell and Scott Dean  
Scott and Jerry Carley . . . . . In honor of Georgann and Tom Byerley  
The Dean Family . . . . . In memory of Scott and Carter Dean  
Christie Dowling . . . . . In honor of her mother, Betty M. Caldwell  
Andrew, Kristi, Maggie and Lucy Gordon  
. . . . . In memory of our dear friend, Deborah Rhatigan  
Ross and Suzanne Graham . . . . . In honor of their children  
John and Betty Hanes  
. . . . . In memory of Anne Knox Dobbins Oldham and Muriel R. Hanes  
Gary, Katherine, Kaitlyn and Nathan Harmon. . . . . In memory of Benjamin Harmon  
Russell Holt . . . . . In memory of Edith Diane McFadden  
Sky and Kathy Huck . . . . . In memory of Kathy's parents, Albert and Phyllis Clark  
Thomas and Lee Ingram . . . . . In honor of Audrey Belyea  
Lucy, Buz, John, Bill and Katie. . . . . In honor of Mary Watson  
. . . . . In memory of John Watson, Bernice Johnson,  
. . . . . Ewing Johnson and Judy Durant  
Anne and John Langley . . . . . In honor of Mrs. Robert B. Shepard  
. . . . . In memory of Robert B. Shepard, Clarmont J. and Anne Langley,  
. . . . . and Robert W. Langley  
Meredith Harrison Mackay  
. . . . . In honor of her grandmothers, Barbara Harrison and Audrey Belyea  
. . . . . In memory of Joilinn  
June Martin . . . . . In celebration of Advent  
Norman, Linda and Caroline McRae  
. . . . . In memory of Norman's grandmother, Nora Orr Icenhower

Ibbie and John Muntz . . . . . In memory of Laura Joy Muntz  
The Murrian Family  
. . . . . In memory of Betty S. Smith, Albert K. Murrian and William M. House, Jr.  
Rookie and Jane Norton. . . . . In memory of their parents, Elmer and Edith Norton  
. . . . . and Julius and Frances Hegedus  
Rick and Janice Rawe . . . . . In honor of Maggie, Sammy and Nina  
Lacy, J.B. and Lily Reafsnyder . . . . . In memory of JoAnn Reafsnyder  
The Reafsnyder Family . . . . . In memory of JoAnn Reafsnyder  
Tim, Joyce, Matt, Tiffany and Chandler Ryan, Lauren and Brandon Bice  
. . . . . In honor of Helen Ryan  
John and Elizabeth Salsbery . . . . . In memory of Chris Salsbery and Scott Dean  
Jay and Debbie Schmid. . . . . In memory of Jay's parents, Jim and Flip Schmid  
. . . . . In memory of their sister-in-law, April Schmid  
John and Kathy Shilling . . . . . In memory of Frank and Doris Thrams,  
. . . . . Harvey and Doris Shilling and Sam J. Smith, Sr.  
Kathleen and Larry Tragesser  
. . . . . In memory of Justine Dukas, Clovis Tragesser and Gene Tragesser  
. . . . . In honor of George Dukas, Chloe' and Lacey Tragesser  
Robin and Joe Ben Turner. . . . . In honor of Joel, Ashley, Will, Nathalie and Bennett  
Renee Wiesehuegel. . . . . In loving memory of Shirley Jean Rechenbach  
Wes, Sandra and Spencer Williams  
. . . . . In memory of N.W. McCown and Rev. Ryan Dearman  
The Woehr Family. . . . . To the glory of God and in thankfulness for Jesus' birth  
Jim and Linda Yates. . . . . In memory of Bob Cantrell, Barbara Finney,  
. . . . . Chris Salsbery and Barbara Schilling

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and thanks to all of you for our year together from your staff: Angela Grobe, John Muntz, Buran Phillips, Pete Trofatter, Peter Van Eenam, Renee Wiesehuegel, and Sandra Williams.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL REOPEN on December 31. Please make sure you get your 2009 contributions and any pre-paid pledges for 2010 in no later than 1:00 p.m. December 31.

DECEMBER 27 WORSHIP SERVICE will be held at 11:00 a.m. (no early service).

2010 FLOWER CALENDAR is on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Please remember to choose a date for 2010 in honor or memory of family or friends. A reminder card will be sent to you. We ask for a \$60.00 donation, payable to Westminster Flower Guild at the time of your dedication. If you have any questions, contact the church office.

### Symbolism of the Lights

The significance of the Candlelight Service is twofold. First, in the distribution of the lights, we see dramatized before us the spreading of the Gospel Message and the growth of the church through the centuries. The pastor's candle is symbolic of Christ, the living Word, and is an extension of the Christ candle in the Advent wreath. The ushers who carry the light to the congregation represent the Apostles whom Christ sent out to spread the Word and draw the world to Him. The church has grown because men and women and young people who have heard the Good News have been faithful in telling someone else about it, and this is symbolized by your passing the light to the person beside you. The ushers will light the candle closest to the aisle. As each candle bursts into flame and the sanctuary gradually brightens, we catch the significance of Jesus' statement that we are "the light of the world," and that we should spread this light to the "very ends of the world."

Secondly, we find significance in the lights during the singing of the dedication hymn. During the singing of the first verse, we hold our lights close as we rededicate ourselves to Christ. As we sing the second verse, we hold the candle out in front of us as we rededicate our homes and families once again to him. During the last verse, we hold our candles high as we rededicate our part of His church here to the task of taking the Gospel Light to every corner of the earth.

After the Benediction, please extinguish your light. Receptacles for the spent candles are located in the narthex.

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Please use extreme caution in the handling of the lighted candles to prevent accidents with the hair or clothing of the person in front of you and the pews or carpet. Children must be carefully supervised. For safety's sake, it is requested that children under six should "share" their parents candle.

## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips, Senior Pastor  
Rev. John Linton Muntz, Interim Associate Pastor  
Peter Van Eenam, Organist and Choirmaster  
Pete Trofatter, Youth Director  
Renee Wiesehuegel, Office Manager / Bookkeeper  
Angela Grobe, Christian Education  
Sandra Williams, Administrative Assistant  
Debbie Bendy, *Abbey* Editor

*Where Faith and Life Connect*

### THE SESSION

#### Class of 2010

Laura Barron  
Jeff Bendy  
Mary Lou Crow  
Terry Crow  
Lee Ingram  
Matt Mathews  
Robert McKeehan  
Youth Elder: Megan Milam

#### Class of 2011

Brian Bonnyman  
Gail Clark  
Tim Crais  
Anne Dungan  
Judy Jordan  
Stephanie Lynch-Wright  
Michael Yates

#### Class of 2012

Don Byerly  
Bill Farnham  
Bonny Naugher  
Pam Potocik  
Leslie Rotella  
Cindy Serbin  
Wes Williams

#### TRUSTEES

Martin Krall

Cile Mathews

Jerry Faerber