

First Sunday of Christmas
December 26, 2021



Westminster
Presbyterian
Church

GATHERING

(Silence during the Prelude is requested in preparation for worship.)

About the Prelude

The Prelude is a musical offering to help move the hearts and minds of the gathering community from the daily struggles of life to the worship of God.

The Season of Christmas

"Christmas" is the church's celebration of the incarnation and nativity of Jesus Christ. At the nativity of the Lord and throughout the season of Christmas, we give thanks that, in the fullness of time, God's Word became flesh to live among us, full of grace and truth. We proclaim this good news of great joy for all people: that God has sent us a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord. We bear witness to the light of Christ that has come into the world, the light that darkness cannot overcome.

PRELUDE	Bethlehem Carol Medley	arr. Ramm
	Coventry Carol	arr. Ramm
	Invention on Sussex Carol	Richard Hudson
	Joy to the World	Wilbur Held
	In the Bleak Midwinter	Holst/arr. Ramm

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Let us worship God!

(Those who are able may stand.)

If you are tired from carrying heavy burdens,
come to me and I will give you rest.

Take the yoke I give you.

Put it on your shoulders and learn from me.

I am gentle and humble, and you will find rest.

This yoke is easy to bear, and this burden is light.

**Christ calls us to come to worship,
to rest from the things that are troubling us,
to learn what Christ can teach of life,
to realize what we can offer to others,
and so to return into the world to serve**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

This is your day, God.

We will use it to honor you.

We will stand here and inhale your air.

We will feel the sunlight on our face.

We will sing your songs. We will praise your name.

We will remember you in all things, God.

We will thank you for the gift of living another week.

Thank you for your kindness.

Thank you for your peace

that's beyond our understanding.

Thank you for your love, God. Amen.

*(The Cross and Bible lead the procession,
symbolic of the centrality in worship
of Jesus Christ - the Living Word,
and the Bible - the written Word.)*

*FANFARE AND HYMN 133

ADESTE FIDELES

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Please wear your mask when singing.

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; O come
 2 True God from true God, Light from light e - ter - nal, born
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; sing,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je -

ye; O come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come, and be - hold him,
 of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; ver - y God, be -
 all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all
 sus, to thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther,

Refrain

born the King of an - gels!
 got - ten, not cre - at - ed! O come, let us a - dore him; O come, let
 glo - ry in the high - est!
 now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

us a - dore him; O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

From its Roman Catholic origins, this 18th-century hymn has spread to worldwide use by many denominations in both Latin and vernacular versions. Once popular with a wide range of hymn texts, this tune is now firmly associated with this Christmas text from which it is named. TEXT and MUSIC: John Francis Wade, c. 1743.

*Call to and Prayer
of Confession*

Having praised the holiness of God, we must also face the errant state of the world and of our lives, confessing our unworthiness to enter into God's presence. Nevertheless, we approach God with confidence, trusting in the mercy of Jesus Christ. This turn from communal praise to corporate confession, established on the promise of God's grace, is one of the hallmarks of the Reformed tradition.

Assurance of Pardon

A declaration of forgiveness proclaims the good news of God's mercy and offers the assurance of pardon in Jesus' name. The liturgist pours water into the font, which reminds us of the grace and cleansing of our Baptism, and the baptismal call to new life in Christ.

Act of Praise

The Act of Praise brings together the choir and congregation to sing God's praise.

CALL TO CONFESSION

To open our hearts to God is to risk
vulnerability, judgment, and condemnation.
But throughout the scriptures, we learn that
God is merciful and just, slow to anger, and eager to forgive.
Let us then risk our confession.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of tender mercies,
we admit that sometimes
we don't know what to do with ourselves.
We anger at the slightest insult
and imagine great vengeance
upon those who wronged us.
We laze about in the good news of our faith
and do not consider the deep commitment of faith.
We care for ourselves but not for others.
Forgive us, help us to repent,
and make us whole. Amen.**

(Silent confession)

Kyrie *(Singing together Hymn 115, verse 3)* **MUELLER**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.**

ASSURANCE AND PARDON

*(The liturgist pours water, which reminds us of our baptism,
and then speaks words of pardon.)*

Friends, believe the Good News:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen!

***The Peace**

Since God in Christ has forgiven us,
let us also forgive one another.

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

(Please exchange the peace with the words, "The peace of Christ be with you.")

***ACT OF PRAISE**

GLORIA

(Singing together Hymn 113, verse 1 and the refrain)

**Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply
echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

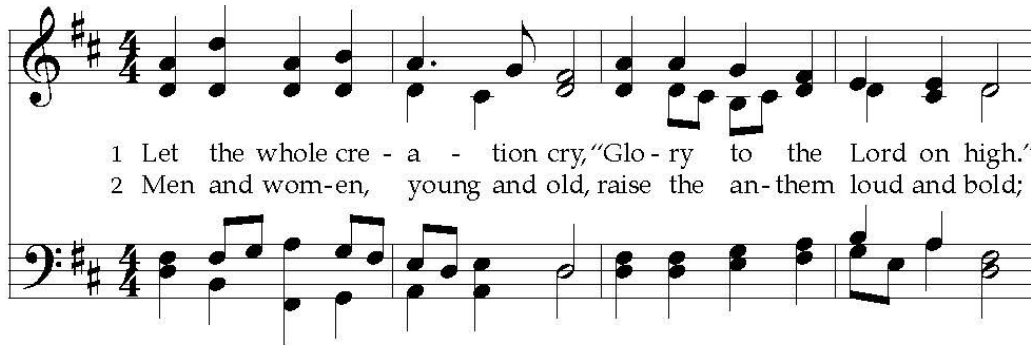
Hear the Word of God! **Our ears are open.**

Luke 2:41-52 (*New Testament, page 59 in your pew Bible*)

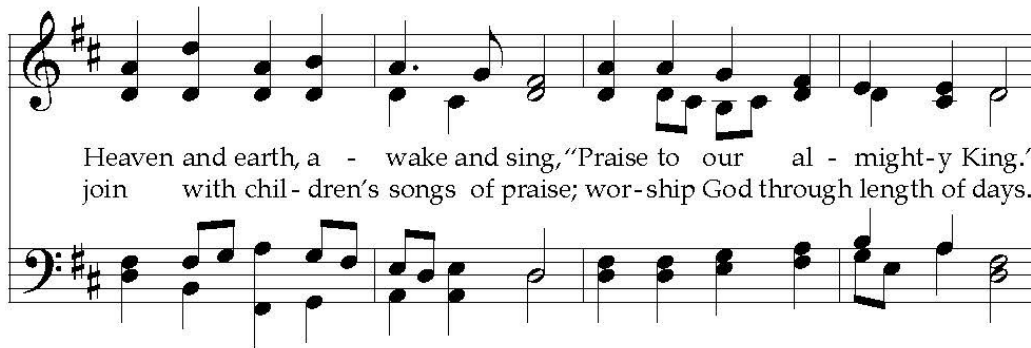
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Psalm 98, Hymn 679 (all sing)

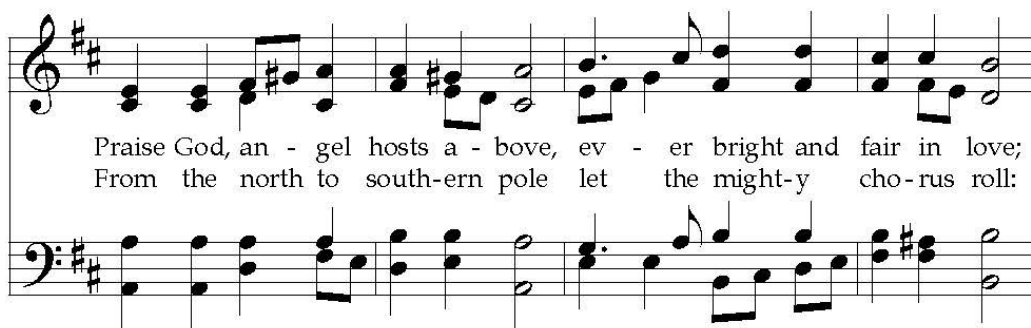
SALZBURG



1 Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, "Glo - ry to the Lord on high."
2 Men and wom-en, young and old, raise the an-them loud and bold;



Heaven and earth, a - wake and sing, "Praise to our al - might-y King."
join with chil - dren's songs of praise; wor-ship God through length of days.



Praise God, an - gel hosts a - bove, ev - er bright and fair in love;
From the north to south-ern pole let the might-y cho-rus roll:



sun and moon, up - lift your voice; night and stars, in God re - joice!
"Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly One, glo-ry be to God a - lone!"

Prayer for Illumination
A Prayer for Illumination calls on the Holy Spirit to empower the reading, understanding, proclaiming, and living of God's word. This sense of utter reliance on the illumination of the Spirit is an important and distinctive mark of the Reformed tradition.

Please wear your mask when singing.

Originally this text was more than twice as long as the present version because it followed Psalm 148 in directing additional parts of the created order to praise God. This wide-ranging text is set here to a suitably expansive and well-crafted 17th-century chorale melody. TEXT: Stopford A. Brooke, 1881; MUSIC: Jakob Hintze, 1678.

Colossians 3:12-17

(New Testament, page 201 in your pew Bible)

SERMON

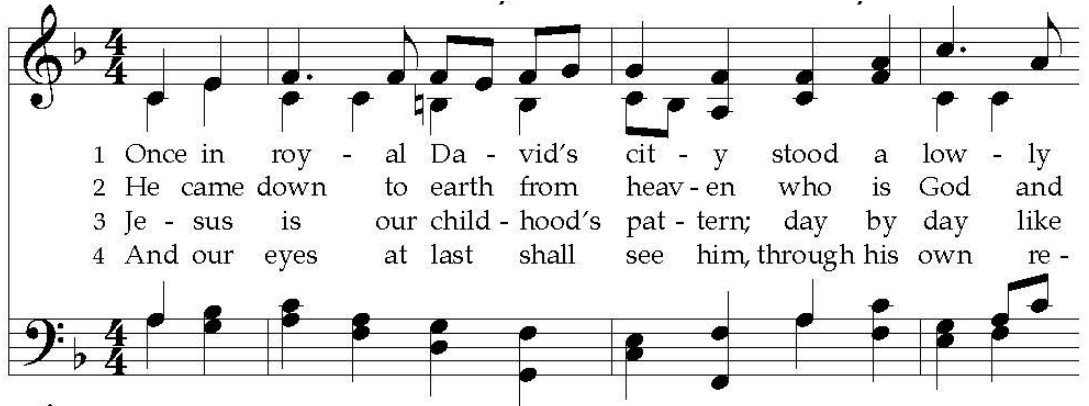
Margie Quinn

(A moment for meditation)

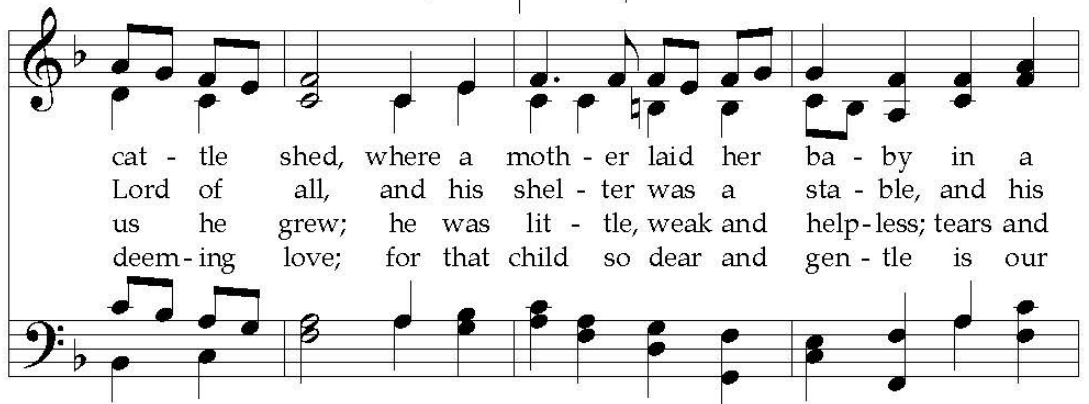
*HYMN 140

Once In David's Royal City

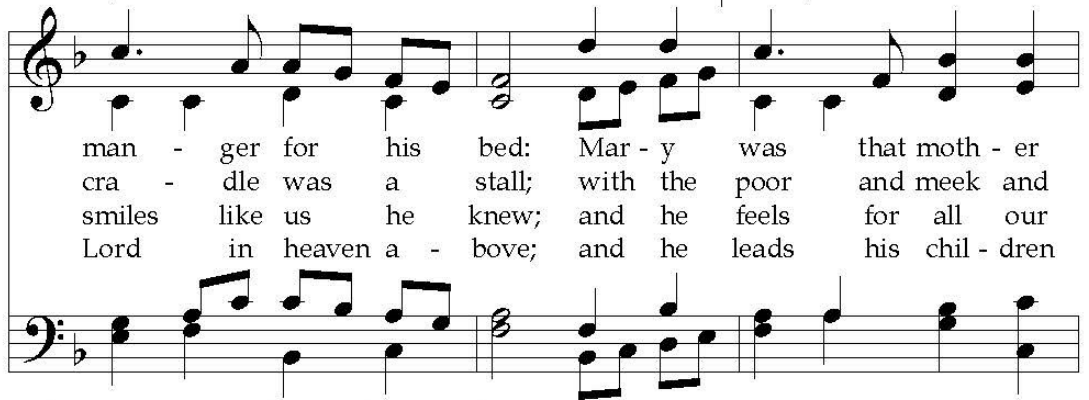
IRBY



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly
2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and
3 Je - sus is our child - hood's pat - tern; day by day like
4 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re -



cat - tle shed, where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a
Lord of all, and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his
us he grew; he was lit - tle, weak and help - less; tears and
deem - ing love; for that child so dear and gen - tle is our



man - ger for his bed: Mar - y was that moth - er
cra - dle was a stall; with the poor and meek and
smiles like us he knew; and he feels for all our
Lord in heaven a - bove; and he leads his chil - dren



mild; Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
sad - ness, and he shares in all our glad - ness.
on to the place where he is gone.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**“We are not alone, we live in God’s world.
We believe in God: who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.
We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God’s presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.**

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.”

Affirmation of Faith

Responding to the word proclaimed, we affirm our faith in the holy, triune God. This affirmation of faith is drawn from sentences of scripture or the creeds, confessions, and catechisms.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

Anthem

What Child is This?

Bernie Walker

***DOXOLOGY**

CRANHAM

**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 give him: give my heart.**

Doxology

A short hymn of praise to the triune God (God, Jesus Christ, Holy Spirit).

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**We thank you, O God for your love for us.
Love that reaches out to accept us,
wherever we are, whoever we are.
Love that demands a lot, but at the same time, somehow,
amazingly enables us to meet those demands.
Love that reassures, affirms, prompts, challenges,
and overwhelms us with the completeness of its response.
Help us, your people, held within the security of your love,
to risk showing that same love to others.
May our love, too, be known for its abundance,
its readiness to speak out and its healing power. Amen.**

***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.**

SENDING

***HYMN 136** Go, Tell It on the Mountain GO TELL IT

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Hodie Christus Natus Est Gabrieli/arr. Olson

**(Those who are able may stand.)*

136 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain $\text{♪} = \text{♪}^3$

Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;

go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a - bove the earth
 3 Down in a low - ly man-ger the hum - ble Christ was born,

be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
 rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
 and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

to Refrain

Please wear your mask when singing.

About Hymn 136

Like other material from oral traditions, 19th-century African American spirituals flourished without being written down. Their refrains were their most stable parts, and narrative stanzas were often improvised to fit. These Nativity stanzas attempt to recall that tradition.
 TEXT and MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. John W. Work III.

COPYRIGHT INFORMATION:
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Our Mission

*Ordinary people testifying to the extraordinary light
found in our Lord Jesus Christ.*

“For it is the God who said, ‘Let light shine out of darkness,’ who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.”

(2 Corinthians 4:6-7)

TODAY @ WESTMINSTER

Worship Leaders

Preaching

Margie Quinn

Director of Youth and Their Families

Liturgist

Rev. Heidi Hudnut-Beumler

Associate Pastor for Congregational Care

Lay Liturgist

11:00 AM Ann Harris

Music

Dr. John Semingson

Director of Music Ministries

Jeff Bailey, Trumpet

Joel Treybig, Trumpet

Leslie Norton, French Horn

David Loucky, Trombone

Gilbert Long, Tuba

Flowers

*The flowers in the Sanctuary
are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of
family and friends
by Janet R. Hirt.*

Childcare Room Locations

Classroom 146 - babies

Classroom 152 - toddlers

Classroom 151 - 2s and 3s

Classroom 160 - 4s, 5s and kindergarten

TODAY @ WESTMINSTER

WORSHIP

Welcome

Westminster Presbyterian Church welcomes you to share our common journey to become more faithful disciples of Christ. Any who are interested in joining us in this journey are invited to contact:
Heidi Hudnut-Beumler, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care, 615.292.5526; hhudnutbeumler@nashvillewpc.org

Worship Services

To watch a service later in the day or the week, go to nashvillewpc.church and look for a Past Services box, go to Worship Service Archive and click on the service you would like to watch.

Mask Policy

An update from Session:
Mask-wearing is strongly-encouraged at the 8:30 AM service and mandatory at the 11:00 AM worship service. The balcony remains open only for people wearing masks.



Communion kits are available for Seniors living in a residency or independently.

Please contact Sylvia Leins, srleins@yahoo.com to receive one or add someone you know to the list for the next Communion Sunday.

GENEROSITY 2022

Please scan the QR code below to make your 2022 pledge.



As we near the close of the calendar year, we offer a gentle reminder to those with outstanding pledges for our 2021 campaign. We still have a ways to go to meet our 2021 budget. The investment that you have so generously made in Westminster is making a difference - to the congregation that worships here and to the community that our congregation faithfully serves. Please know how very grateful we are for your continued generosity. We could not do this without you!

"But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24:15

- Kelly Christie, Generosity Chair



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