



Second Sunday of Advent
December 10, 2023

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645 J.S. Bach

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*As the light is brought into the Sanctuary,
and the candles on the Advent wreath are lighted,
the congregation is invited to sing the following:*

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.

“Advent” means coming or arrival. The season of Advent begins with an emphasis on final things (eschatology). We watch and pray with expectant hope for the establishment of God’s justice and the return of the Prince of Peace. As the weeks of Advent progress, the focus shifts to thanks and praise for the birth of the one who has already come - Jesus Christ our Savior.

The primary symbolism of the Advent candles has to do with light growing in darkness - leading up to the coming of Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

HYMN 90

WAIT FOR THE LORD

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God!

(Those who are able may stand.)

Wilderness living calls us

to seek God in the voice that cries out,

“Valleys will be lifted up

and mountains will be made low,”

to seek God in the sound of the one who speaks of peace,

“The day of the Lord is coming,”

to seek God in the loud noise that foretells

what will be made new.

In the wilderness,

let us listen only for God’s voice.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

**Merciful God,
you sent your messengers the prophets
to preach repentance and prepare the way
for our salvation.**

**Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins,
that we may greet with joy
the coming of Jesus Christ our redeemer,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. 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.*

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 106

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

Prepare the Way, O Zion

About Hymn 106

This engaging Advent text based on Isaiah 40:3-5 and Psalm 24:7-10 has been in use in the Church of Sweden for almost two hundred years. It is set to a version of an even older Swedish tune, which in turn seems to be derived from a German folk tune that spread to Scandinavia. TEXT: Frans Mikael Franzen, 1812; MUSIC: *Then Svenska*. *Psalmboken*, 1697.

Call to and Prayer of Confession

A call to confession expresses God's initiative in calling for repentance and promising forgiveness in Christ. As members of Christ's body, we confess the reality of sin, captivity, and brokenness in personal and common life and ask for God's saving grace.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Salvation is nearer to us than when we first believed.
The night is far gone; the day is near. *(Romans 13.11)*

Therefore, let us confess our sin
before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God our Maker, we confess
that we are not ready to meet you.
You call us to repent,
but we turn away from you.
You wait patiently for us,
but we fail to watch and wait for you.
Forgive us, God of grace.
Embrace us with tender mercy
so that we may be at one with you
when all your glory is revealed;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

(Silent confession)

About the Kyrie

The Kyrie (Greek "kyrios" [Lord]) is a corporate musical prayer for grace.

Kyrie

James MacMillan

(Sung responsively by the choir and congregation)

Choir: Congregation:
 Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have
 mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Christ,
 have mer - cy. Lord, have
 Congregation and Choir:
 mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

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.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Believe the Good News:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

***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

The Act of Praise brings together the choir and congregation to sing God's praise in response to the Assurance of Pardon as the last phrase.

***ACT OF PRAISE**

WINCHESTER NEW

**All praise to You, eternal Son,
Whose advent has our freedom won,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Holy Spirit, evermore.**

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

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

Isaiah 40:1-11

(Old Testament, pages 667-668 in your pew Bible)

Choir: Lord Jesus, come soon!

Congregation: Lord Jesus, come soon!

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 *(8:30 a.m.)*

Marty Haugen

Refrain

Lord, make us turn to You, show us Your
face, and we shall be saved. _____

Lord, we are present here, show us Your kindness and love,
Oh speak Your word of peace unto Your people. **Refrain**

Lord, let salvation rain, shower down Your justice and peace,
the earth shall bring forth truth, the skies Your love. **Refrain**

See, Lord, we look to You, You alone can bring us to life,
Oh walk before us, to light our pathways. **Refrain**

Anthem *(11:00 a.m.)*

Hal H. Hopson

Sing a Song of Advent

Sing a song of Advent, sing a song of joy.

God soon comes to live among us - God, Emmanuel.

Long ago the prophets spoke, they told us signs to see:
bright flowers blooming by the road, a star to lead the way.

Sing a song of Advent...

John the Baptist preached the word, his voice was loud and clear:
“Get ready for the Lord to come, the day of God draws near.”

Sing a song of Advent...

How can we prepare the way, the way for God to come?

We'll watch and wait, we'll sing and pray,

Lord Jesus, come, come soon! *Sing a song of Advent...*

Lord Jesus, come soon!, which we sing responsively in our worship services during Advent, comes directly from 1 Corinthians 16:22. It is one of our oldest prayers of the Christian Church. It expresses the deepest longing of the Christian – that the Lord will come to us and to our world, bringing the fullness of the peace, joy and healing that God has promised.

About Hymn 88

These titles of the coming Christ appeared in daily Vesper antiphons sung during the week before Christmas; their roots date at least to the reign of Charlemagne. Both text and tune are the fruit of the 19th-century efforts to reclaim Christian treasures from pre-Reformation sources. TEXT: Latin prose, pre-9th cent.; MUSIC: Plainsong; adapt. Thomas Helmore, 1852; arr. John Weaver, 1988.

Affirmation of Faith

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

To GIVE, please scan the QR code below:



Mark 1:1-8

(New Testament, page 34 in your pew Bible)

SERMON

“Good News Begins Here”

Donovan Drake

(A moment for meditation)

***HYMN 88 (verses 1, 2 & 7)**

VENI EMMANUEL

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus.
His faith and obedience were the response
of the perfect child of God.
He was the fulfillment
of God’s promise to Israel,
the beginning of the new creation,
and the pioneer of the new humanity.
He gave history its meaning and direction
and called the church to be his servant
for the reconciliation of the world.**

(Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.19)

***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 (8:30 a.m.)

Come to Me

Dan Forrest

“Come to Me, all you who labor, and I will give you rest.”

*“Come to Me, all who are weary and burdened,
and you will find rest for your souls.”*

“Come, My Child, Learn My heart, For I am gentle and lowly.”

“See how great My love, my love for you,
That I have called you My child.”

“Come to Me...”

(11:00 a.m.) Comfort, Comfort Now My People
Genevan Psalter/arr. Proulx

“Comfort, comfort now my people,
tell of peace!” So says our God.
Comfort all those in darkness,
mourning under sorrow’s load.
To God’s people now proclaim
that God’s pardon waits for them!
Tell them that their war is over;
God will reign in peace forever!

Hark! A herald voice is
sounding in a desert far and near,
calling us to true repentance,
since the kingdom now is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God alway!
Let valleys rise to meet him
and hills bow down to greet him!

Straight shall be
what long was crooked,
and the rougher places plain!
Hearts shall be true and humble,
as befits his holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
now on earth is shed abroad.
And all flesh shall see the token
that God’s word is never broken.

***DOXOLOGY**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*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 thanks and praise.

**God of grace,
your promises stand unshaken through all generations.
Hear our voice of gratitude.
And now, stir up our hearts, O Lord,
to prepare the way for your only Son.
By his coming, give us strength in our conflicts
and shed light on our path
through the darkness of this world;
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

About Hymn 163

While all four gospels identify John the Baptist with a prophecy of Isaiah 40:3, this text (well set to a vigorous Welsh tune) draws on the report of his preaching in Matthew 3:1-12. The final lines recall that he was the first to name Jesus "the lamb of God" (John 1:29, 36).
TEXT: Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1985; MUSIC: Joseph Parry, 1876.

The *Postlude* is considered the final Alleluia of worship.

* THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Singing together, see the inside back cover of your hymnal for music.)

SENDING

*HYMN 163 Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice

ABERYSTWYTH

BENEDICTION

Choir: Lord Jesus, come soon!

***Congregation:* Lord Jesus, come soon!**

POSTLUDE

Gottes Sohn ist kommen, versets 1 and 2

J. G. Walther

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

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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

Rev. Dr. Donovan Drake
Pastor and Head of Staff

Liturgist

T.J. Piccolo
Associate Director of Youth

Advent Wreath Lighting

8:30 AM The Amber Marrow-Jones and
Mark Wilsey Family
11:00 AM The Childers Family

Beadle/Acolyte

11:00 AM Betsy Thomas

Lay Liturgists

8:30 AM Sallie Bailey
11:00 AM Lynne Trost

Music

Jordan Haas, cantor
8:30 AM Westminster Choir
11:00 AM Children’s Choirs-Ally Hard,
Susan Ramsey, and Roberta Rodgers,
leaders; Laudate Youth Choir

The Anthem *Come to Me* is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Scott Ball by his many friends and loved ones at Westminster.

Dr. John Semingson
Director of Music Ministries

Dale Nickell
*Organist and Associate Director of
Music Ministries*

Poinsettias

*Tomorrow, December 11, 2023 is the last day
to place your poinsettia order!*

If you would like to give a poinsettia in memory of or in honor of a friend or family member, please place your order online at www.nashvillewpc.church.

A donation of \$10 per name is requested.

2024 Sanctuary and Parlor Flowers

If you would like to provide flowers for the Chancel urns in the Sanctuary or the refectory table in the Parlor during 2024, please email *Terri Eckert* at teckert@nashvillewpc.org to select your Sunday.

Please note that reservations for flowers do not carry over from year-to-year.

Arranged by members of Westminster’s talented Flower Guild, this is a wonderful way to celebrate or honor your loved ones.

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.

Mask Policy

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nashville is mask optional. The balcony will remain masks required.

Hearing Aides Now Available

For those needing hearing assistance for services, we offer personal FM Receivers with an ear-piece. These devices are located in the Narthex and the Welsh dresser in the Parlor. There are directions at each location. Ask an Usher for assistance if needed.

Dial-A-Sermon

Dial 629.206.1073 after 10:15 AM each Sunday morning to listen to the sermon. The sermon is available all week.

Recorded Worship Services

To watch a service later in the day or the week, go to nashvillewpc.church and scroll down to the *Worship Service Archive*. Click on the service you would like to watch.

Looking for large-print hymns? They can be found on the Welsh dresser in the Parlor and by the window in the Narthex.

Childcare

Childcare is available on Sundays from 8:15 AM to 12:00 PM.

Nursery - Room 146
Toddlers & 2s - Room 152
3s, 4s, 5, & kindergarten - Room 151



When and why did you do a change in your life's direction?

Who are the people who call you into turning your life into good news?

What are some of the best things you've done for the glory of God in your life?

TODAY @ WESTMINSTER

Adult Education

Classes start at 9:45 AM

Covenant Class • Fellowship Hall

Prepare the Way of the Lord!
Advent Visions: Seeking the holy in these unholy days.
Led by Donovan Drake

Faith & Fellowship

Please join us in Fellowship Hall.

Young Families • Overlook Room

Advent
Led by Chad Folk

Spiritual Practices for the 21st Century

Led by Will Wellman
Please join us in Fellowship Hall.

Murdoch MacLeods • Library

We will discuss this week's gospel lesson.



Coffee and Conversation: Sunday School for Parents of Youth and Young Adults

We will meet in
Fellowship Hall to
hear Donovan about

Westminster's God-Sized Dreams.

Contact:

Fran Linley, fran.linley@gmail.com

Youth Ministry

9:45 AM Sunday School
Koinonia Youth Café
(7th - 12th Grade)

6:00 PM • Youth Group

Children & Youth Choirs

4:00 PM Children's Choirs
Tintinnabulation
Intergenerational
Handbell Choir

5:00 PM Laudate Choir

Children's Ministry

9:45 AM • Children's Sunday School

These classes go directly to their rooms...

2s are in room 149, in the preschool hall

3s are in room 161, in the preschool hall

4s are in room 163, in the preschool hall

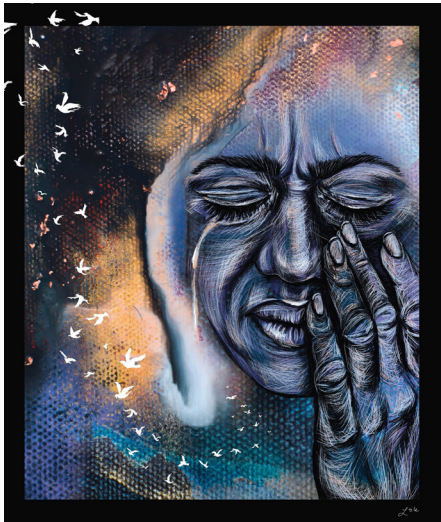
Godly Play/Kindergarten is in room 183,
near the big cross on the corner

5th and 6th are in room 292, upstairs on
the Wilson Wing

1st - 4th comes to the Chapel and then
will be picked up on the first floor of the
Wilson Wing

For info, contact Sophie Maness,
smaness@nashvillewpc.org.

TODAY @ WESTMINSTER



Advent Devotionals are Available in the Parlor

This devotional is designed to help you practice joy in a weary world. Each week offers art, reflections, poetry, and hymns. Journey through these pages at your own pace. May each week offer you rhythms for rejoicing—through acknowledging your weariness, finding joy in connection, allowing yourself to be amazed, singing stories of hope, making room, rooting yourself in ritual, and remembering your belovedness.

Created by Sanctified Art



Alternative Gift Christmas Market

9:45 AM • Parlor

Give Christmas gifts to friends and family while also giving to those in need – visit us at the market or from the comfort of your own home by visiting our website.



December 10 Christmas Caroling 5:00 PM

Join us at the North Entry at 5:00 PM, and we will sing Christmas carols for our friends in the neighborhood.

THEN, we will have dinner in Fellowship Hall. Adults wear your ugliest Christmas sweater - the children will be the judges in a contest for the best - or is it the worst - sweater. We will also be making Christmas cards.

It is a fun night for the entire family. Everyone welcome! Reservations are required for dinner. Scan the QR code to the right to make your reservations.



GENEROSITY

Advent Season is upon us, a season of Hope and Wonder and Waiting. As we try to stay awake and alert to the coming of Jesus, we are so easily distracted by the litany of things on our "to do" lists and overwhelmed by a very weary world, indeed. In the midst of it all, at Westminster we come together to focus on the birth of our Savior, Emmanuel, God with us. We sing "Lord Jesus Come Soon" and know that our joy and hope is bound to the truth that we belong to God. We turn that Light outward, spreading the Gospel, serving others, sharing our gifts of time, talent and treasure with our community and our world.

We are so thankful for the 392 families who have already made a pledge for 2024, many of whom increased their pledges by greater than our 8% goal. We are making good progress toward reaching our goal of increasing our budget over 2023 by \$300,000 and obtaining pledge commitments from 500 families.

Every member, every gift is vital to the ministry of Westminster. So in this season of Hope and Wonder and Waiting, we ask that you do add two more things to your "to do" list. Please prayerfully consider your pledge for 2024 and for those that

have not paid their pledge from last year, we invite you to complete your 2023 pledge. To meet the total pledge budget of \$3,100,000 we still need \$456,514. Please note that to add your contribution to your 2023 taxes, your pledge payment must be postmarked by December 31, 2023.



And remember that in this weary world, Jesus is our "thrill of hope" and that on that holy night, "the weary world rejoices."

In gratitude,
The Generosity Committee

Please scan the QR code below to make your 2024 pledge.



To pay your pledge for 2023, please scan the QR code below.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



>>>>> **current events** hot topics *life chapters family*
concerns *environmental issues future planning*

**WOMEN'S
COVENANT
GROUP**

- Friends
- Food
- Fellowship

Please join us!

<<<<<<<<<<

December 11

Women's Covenant Group

Goodpasture Hall

WCG gathers at 11:30 AM for BYO lunch with drinks provided for a time of fellowship.

Our program is from 12:00 - 1:00 PM.

***We're looking forward to seeing you;
ALL are welcome!***

Kim Crafton and Dr. Dave Thombs will share about their mission work with The Church at Mt. Carmel, a vital congregation located in North Nashville. For more information, please contact:

Janice Kemp
janice.b.kemp@gmail.com

Harriet Sewell
hsewell8385@gmail.com

Margaret Wheeler
margaret.wheeler@att.net



*Christmas
Variety Show*

Westminster Bells
formerly
The Changing Gears Handbell Choir

December 14

10:00 a.m.

Goodpasture Hall

Special Guest Stars
The Westminster Bell Ringers
Audrey Campbell
Jane Kirchner
Betty Pope
Hannah Boles
Dale Nickell

Everyone Welcome!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mondays

Centering Prayer

11:45 AM • Chapel

Are you searching for stillness? Looking for a way to calm your anxious mind? Craving the felt presence of God? Then Centering Prayer may be for you. Westminster holds a Centering Prayer gathering every Monday from 11:45 AM to 12:15 PM in the Chapel. The time begins with an opening prayer followed by 20 minutes of silence. It is open to all and no experience is necessary! Participants find it to be a refreshing start to the week and with practice, it can create deep peace. In the words of theologian Cynthia Bourgeault, "Centering Prayer trains practitioners to recenter themselves in God, become more aware of God's presence, let go of anxiety when it arises, and respond to life's struggles with composure."

For more information, email elizabethtrabue@gmail.com.



Support for Grief and the Holidays

This thoughtful guide with helpful support for those who are grieving during the holidays is available on the Parlor and Narthex tables.

Please also know that the pastoral staff and Bereavement Care Team are here for you as any needs arise.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Save the Date

Women's Retreat

with special guest speaker

**Kate
Bowler**

February 9 & 10

JOIN US



Tuesday - Friday
7:30 AM - Noon

Where you find that 2 or 3 are gathered... "I'm there!"
Matthew 18:19-20



Volunteer Opportunities

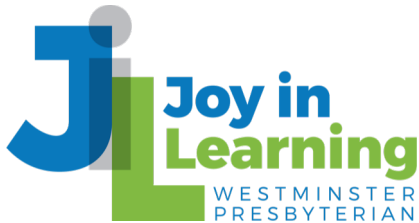
The Westminster Café is run by volunteer servers and bakers. If you are interested in helping with either/both of those needs, please contact Beth Drake. We have folks serving from 7:30 - 10:00 AM and 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM. It's a great way to meet new friends.

Café Christmas Schedule

To give our volunteers a break, the Café will be closed from December 22 through January 1. Please come visit us on January 2. We hope you have a blessed and peaceful Christmas!



ANNOUNCEMENTS



January 10, 17, 24, 31
Pottery, Chess, and Crafts for kindergartners on up!
4:00 - 5:30 PM

Activities will include pottery, chess, beads, pom poms, legos, and more!

Westminster dinners at 5:45 PM with registration through the church.

Scan the QR code to register for the activities.



Did you know that our denomination's Presbyterians for Earth Care has many recent past seminars on how we can help sustain our planet? Or that Interfaith Power and Light has resources on how to help us reduce greenhouse gases?

Presbyterians for Earth Care has regular seminars on how we can help create a more livable world. One that we recommend is how older adults can help. Scan the green QR codes for this 2023, 45-minute seminar.



Interfaith Power and Light has a greenhouse gas calculator we can use to calculate your emissions and then a suggestion list of steps to reduce them. The calculator is located by scanning the blue QR code.



Steps you can take to reduce your emissions is located by scanning the brown QR code.



The Earth Care Task Force wishes everyone a wonderful Advent season and Merry Christmas.

THIS WEEK @ WESTMINSTER

Sunday, December 10

- 8:30 AM Worship
- 9:45 AM Sunday School
Alternative Gift Christmas Market
- 11:00 AM Worship
- 4:00 PM Tintinnabulation
Children's Choirs
- 5:00 PM Journey with Jesus
Laudate Choir rehearsal
Caroling in the Neighborhood
- 6:00 PM Youth Group

Monday, December 11

- 10:00 AM Tai Chi
Cong Care Holiday Party
- 11:30 AM Women's Covenant Group
- 11:45 AM Centering Prayer
- 5:00 PM Pickleball

Tuesday, December 12

- 7:00 AM Daybreak Believers
- 7:30 AM Bible Study
Westminster Café
- 9:30 AM Harvard Handbells

Wednesday, December 13

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study
- 7:30 AM Westminster Café
- 9:30 AM Westminster Bells
- 10:00 AM Tai Chi
- 6:00 PM Room In The Inn
- 7:00 PM Men's Basketball
- 7:00 PM Westminster Choir

Thursday, December 14

- 7:30 AM Westminster Café
- 10:00 AM Knitting & Crocheting
Christmas Variety Show

Friday, December 15

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study
- 7:30 AM Westminster Café
- 10:00 AM Tai Chi
- 5:00 PM Pickleball

Saturday, December 16

- 11:30 AM AA

Contacts:

If you have questions about a certain event listed on our calendar, please contact a member of our program staff.

Donovan Drake
Pastor
ddrake@nashvillewpc.org

Guy D. Griffith, Associate Pastor
Adult Education
ggriffith@nashvillewpc.org

Heidi Hudnut-Beumler, Associate Pastor
Congregational Care, New Members,
& GET*connected*
hhudnutbeumler@nashvillewpc.org

Sophie Maness
Children & Young Families
smaness@nashvillewpc.org

John Semingson
Music
johns@nashvillewpc.org

Dale Nickell
Music
dnickell@nashvillewpc.org

T.J. Piccolo
Youth
tjpiccolo@nashvillewpc.org



3900 West End Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee 37205-1899
615.292.5526 | www.nashvillewpc.church

ADVENT SCHEDULE

December 10, 17

9:45 AM • Parlor

Alternative Gift Christmas Market & Youth Bake Sale

December 14

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

December 10

Christmas Caroling in the Neighborhood

5:00 PM • North Parking Lot

Followed by dinner at 5:45 PM

(reservations required)

December 14

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

December 14

10:00 AM • Goodpasture Hall

Westminster Bells

Christmas Variety Program

December 17

8:30 & 11:00 AM

Advent Choral Services with Choir, Soloists, and Instrumentalists

December 21

10:00 AM

Christmas Café, Carols & Cookies

Join us in the Westminster Café and enjoy singing Christmas carols and decorating cookies.

December 24

Christmas Eve Services

11:00 AM - Morning Worship Service

This service will transition from the fourth Sunday in Advent to Christmas Eve.

2:00 PM - The Family Christmas Eve Service with Children's Choirs

Children are invited up to the Chancel to participate in the telling of the Christmas story.

5:00 PM - Candlelight Service and Communion with the Westminster Choir & Instrumentalist, Sam Levine

8:00 PM - Candlelight Service and Communion with the Westminster Choir & Sam Levine

10:30 PM - Candlelight Service and Communion with the Laudate Youth Choir & Alumni
(9:15 PM rehearsal)

December 31

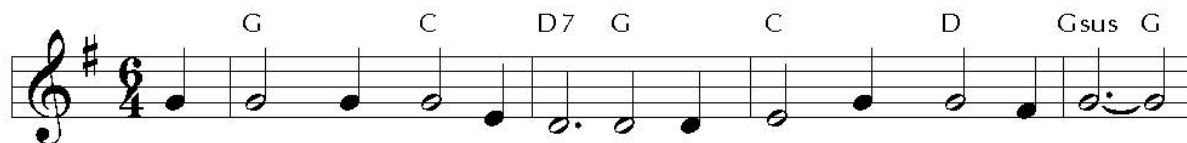
New Year's Eve Service

11:00 AM

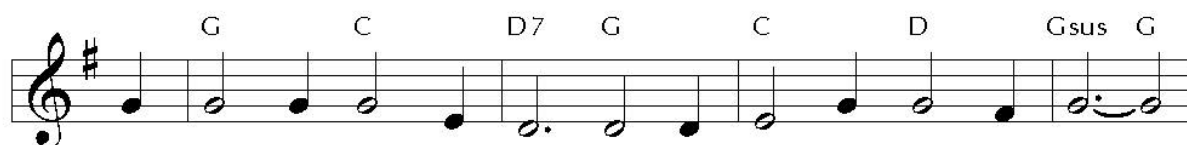
Word and Carols

December 10, 2023

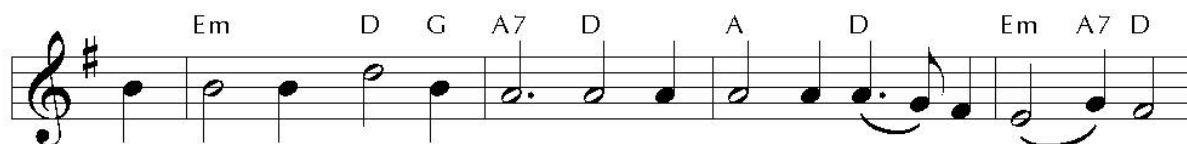
Prepare the Way, O Zion 106



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sav - ior's rule em - brace,



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
and ti - dings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow re - joic - ing, their ad - o - ra - tion voic - ing.



O blest is Christ who came in God's most ho - ly name.

Verses 1, 2, and 7 only

88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
4 O come, thou Root of Jes - se, free thine own from



cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
all things might - i - ly: to us the path of knowl - edge
tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple



here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
show; and teach us in her ways to go. Re-joice! Re-joice!
law in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
save and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 6 O come, thou Dayspring, 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.
- 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
all peoples in one heart and mind;
bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

163 Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice



1 Wild and lone the proph-et's voice ech-oes through the des - ert still,
2 "Bear the fruit re - pen-tance sows: lives of jus - tice, truth, and love.
3 With such preach-ing, stark and bold, John pro-claimed sal - va - tion near,



call - ing us to make a choice, bid - ding us to do God's will:
Trust no oth - er claim than those; set your heart on things a - bove.
and his time-less warn-ings hold words of hope to all who hear.



"Turn from sin and be bap-tized; cleanse your heart and mind and soul.
Soon the Lord will come in power, burn-ing clean the thresh-ing floor:
So we dare to jour-ney on, led by faith through ways un - trod,



Quit-ting all the sins you prized, yield your life to God's con - trol.
then will flames the chaff de - vour; wheat a - lone shall fill God's store."
till we come at last like John to be - hold the Lamb of God.

