

Westminster Presbyterian Church
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

DECEMBER 24, 2024 5:00 P.M.



WE GATHER TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

Prelude

Sinfonia (Overture)

*(Unless otherwise noted, all music performed is from Messiah by G. F. Handel.
Accompaniment provided by Serenata Strings)*

Westminster Chimes

Words of Welcome

Rev. Dr. John Blacklock

Words of Scripture: Isaiah 40:1-2

Accompagnato

Da'On Boulanger-Chatman, Tenor

*Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people
The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness*

✠Call to Worship (You are invited to rise in body or spirit and join in the Call to Worship.)

One: On this Christmas Eve we come with JOY to worship Almighty God, giving thanks to God for the gift of Jesus, the Messiah.

All: Our help is found in the Name of the Lord, the Maker and the Redeemer of all the heavens and the earth.

One: We come with JOY to give thanks to God for the gift of Jesus, the Son of God and the Son of Man.

All: With all that is within us we give you thanks and praise, O God Most High. Your gift of salvation and new life through Jesus Christ gives hope to your people. We give you thanks and praise: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. AMEN!

✠Hymn

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

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✠Opening Prayer

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

Lisa Hammond & Andrew Thacker

Words of Scripture: Isaiah 40:5

Chorus:

“And the Glory of the Lord”

Westminster Choir

The Passing of the Peace of Christ

One: The Peace of Christ be with you. Merry Christmas!

All: And also with you.

(Please pass the peace to each other, greeting one another in Christ's name.)

A Scripture Reading from Haggai 2:6-7 and Malichi 3:1-2

Accompagnato

Stephen Bolduc, Bass

*Thus saith the Lord, the Lord of hosts
The Lord, who ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple
But who may abide the day of His coming
For He is like a refiner's fire.*

Christmas Eve Offering: Pifa ("Pastoral Symphony") Serenata Strings

The Christmas Eve Offering will be donated to The Stewpot, a ministry that offers a safe haven for the homeless and at-risk individuals of Dallas, providing resources for basic survival needs, as well as opportunities to start a new life. The Stewpot, established in 1975 as a community ministry of First Presbyterian Church of Dallas, has helped to "birth" new organizations to meet community needs including Austin Street Center, Genesis Women's Shelter, Interfaith Housing and The Bridge.

Prayer of Dedication

Let us pray: Bless these gifts, O Lord, that come from Thy bounty. May they feed the hungry and feed all our lives with your peace. We ask these things in Jesus Holy Name. AMEN.

Scripture Reading - Isaiah 35:5-6 and Isaiah 40:11

Recitative and Air

Anna Clarkson, Soprano

*Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened
He shall feed His flock like a shepherd.*

A Gospel Reading from Luke 2:8-10a

Recitative/Accompagnato

Anna Clarkson, Soprano

*There were shepherds abiding in the field
And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them.*

A Scripture Reading: Luke 2:10b, 13-14

Recitative/Accompagnato

Kalli Hansen, Soprano

*And the angel said, for unto you is born in the city of David,
a Savior, who is Christ, the Lord.*

A Christmas Meditation

Rev. Dr. John Blacklock

“God’s Love, the Cross, Hallelujah”

✠Hallelujah Chorus (from Messiah)

Westminster Choir

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving and Intercessions

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise**

One: **It is right to give you our thanks and praise, Lord Christ. You have humbled yourself and become one of us. Through the child of Christmas, you have shown us love. Give us courage to show love in this same way as we lay down our lives for the people you put in our path. Give us love instead of resentment, mercy instead of judgment, and hearts of forgiveness instead of bitterness. Allow these common and earthly elements to become your spiritual body and blood to all who come to you in faith. We are your children, Lord God. Pour your Holy Spirit on us as we come to your table. Let us pray together:**

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.

Special Music

“O Holy Night”
Kalli Hansen, Soprano

A. Adam/Arr. D. Dobrin

The Sharing of Jesus' Body and Blood – Holy Communion

The Bread

The Wine

Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion (Unison)

Thank you, Lord God, for gathering us around your table of grace on this Christmas Eve. We remember your gift of love: Jesus, your only begotten Son, is born among us. Jesus, the Messiah, lays down his life for us on the cross. Give us renewed courage and strength to lay down our lives for others in the same way Jesus has laid down his life for us, showing love. With all that is within us, we give you thanks and praise. Hallelujah! AMEN.

WE BEAR THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

As we stand and sing “Silent Night,” the ushers will light the candles of the person seated closest to the center aisle in each pew. Please pass the light of the candle to the others seated in your pew, keeping the lighted candle upright and tilting the unlit candle to pass the flame. Please extinguish the candle following the benediction.

✠Hymn

“Silent Night”

#122

✠A Final Singing of Silent Night (verse 1 – acapella)

✠Benediction

A Scripture Reading: Luke 2:13-14

Accompagnato

Dani McArter

*And suddenly there was with the angel, a multitude of the heavenly host,
praising God, and saying: (Luke 2:13)*

Chorus

“Glory to God”

Westminster Choir

*Glory to God in the Highest,
and on earth peace among those whom God favors.*

Postlude

LET US GO IN PEACE – MERRY CHRISTMAS!

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastors: Rev. Dr. John Blacklock

Liturgist: Lisa Hammond

Music Director/Organist: Duilio Dobrin

Sound Technician: Leiza McArter

Livestream: Leiza McArter

Choir: Stephen Bolduc, Da’On Boulanger-Chatman, Anna Clarkson, Kalli Hansen, Jeremy Hunter, Dani McArter, Nancy Morton, and Bill Tiffany

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**WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN WORSHIPS ON SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 10:45 A.M.
COME JOIN US!**

ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE

Westminster welcomes your continued support. Checks can be sent to Westminster Presbyterian Church, 8200 Devonshire Dr, Dallas, TX 75209 or you may give online through Venmo (our username is West-Presby and the last four digits, if requested, are 5290). If you have questions or need help, contact Dan Stoyak in the business office at dans@wpcd.org or 214-351-3251.



ONLINE WORSHIP INFORMATION

Worship at Westminster is broadcast live on Facebook directly from the WPC sanctuary beginning at 10:45 am every Sunday morning. To access the live stream, be sure to “Like” the Westminster Presbyterian Church – Dallas Facebook page at www.facebook.com/westminsterpresbyteriandallas. You can see previously broadcast full worship services and sermons by clicking the “Videos” tab on the Facebook page. Videos of services, sermons, and choral anthems are also available on our YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@WestminsterPresbyterianDallas>

SESSION

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