

ORDER FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD

Gathering

PRELUDE *Away in a Manger* by Jonathan E. Spilman
arr. by Robert Schltz

WELCOME

MINUTE FOR MISSION Catherine York

INTROIT *Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer*
Grant Dwyer playing the cello

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We come to prepare the way;

The way for Christ –

May the hope of Christ, the peace of Christ, the joy of Christ –
enter our world and enter our hearts.

We cry out together in the wilderness:

The kingdom of heaven has come near.

We come to be part of the light–

the light that shines in the darkness.

*ADVENT PRAYER

*OPENING HYMN *O Come, O Come Emmanuel (vs. 1,2,6,7)* #88

OPENING PRAYER

God, you are our light and our salvation. Through your Spirit, remake us into hope-filled disciples who seek your peace and love in all we do. Fill us with the kind of joy which cannot be contained, but must be shared. Come, Lord Jesus, come. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Assured that God hears our confession, let us turn our minds to the truth, confessing our sins to God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Lord is near. In your presence, Holy God, we confess that we need repentance. We have broken your commands against idolatry. We do not live in peace with your creation or your people. We have not trusted your word, and we are afraid. Forgive us, restore us, and turn our shame into praise, for the sake of the One who proclaims the good news and for the sake of all the world. Amen.

(Prayers continue in silence)

SUNG RESPONSE *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear (vs.4)* #123

And you, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low, who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow, look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing: O, rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Every valley is lifted up; every mountain, made low. Now the glory of the Lord is revealed, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

ANTHEM *Maria durch ein Dorneald ging*
Anni Reidel playing the violin

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

The Nativity Story

Presented by the Westminster Youth and Children

script taken from "I Am..." by C.R. Scheidies

Adapted by The Rev. Marta Z. Ukropina

Narrator: John 1:1-5

Narrator: Luke 1:26-33

Gabriel: Greetings favored one! God is with you.

Do not be afraid, Mary for you have found favor with God. And now, you will have a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and his kingdom will have no end.

Mary: I am Mary, Mother of the promised one; Blessed to be chosen, the bearer of God's son.

Narrator: Matthew 1:18-24

Gabriel: Do not be afraid!

Joseph: I am Joseph. I know Mary carries the Son of Light. This I was told by an angel in a dream one night.

Narrator: Luke 2:1-5

Innkeeper: I am the innkeeper. I turned my Lord away, gave Him a meager stable filled with donkeys, ox and hay.

Narrator: Luke 2:6, 7

Animals: We are the animals blessed that special night. We saw the birth of our Creator a humble, marvelous sight.

Hymn: *Away in a Manger* #115

Mary/Joseph: In awe we behold Our newborn son. It's hard to realize this tiny baby is Messiah—the long awaited one.

Narrator: Luke 2:8-14

Angel: "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."

Angel Choir: We are the angel choir who announced His birth; God's Son born in Bethlehem Messiah come to earth.

Narrator: Luke 2:15-16

Shepherds: Throughout the town of Bethlehem no time to be forlorn, we had to spread the news, the Savior has been born!

Narrator: Matthew 2:1-12

Star: I am the Christmas Star, shining bright for all to see. My light reminds us of God's love that's poured out for you and me.

Kings: Gold and myrrh and frankincense. We know you've heard the story. We offered Him the best we had this King, this Child of Glory.

Narrator: Isaiah 9:6

Prayer:

Loving God, help us to remember the birth of Jesus. As we prepare for Christmas, may we share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wise ones. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Help us be grateful, forgiving people, knowing that we are forgiven in Jesus' name. Amen.

Hymn: *Go Tell it on the Mountain* #136

Responding

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH- from Colossians 1:15-20

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible. All things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn of the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. Amen.

DANCE OF PRAISE

What Child is This?

Choreography and Dance by Brynn Schukart and Audrey Ukropina

Music: Lindsey Stirling

Sending

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

*DEPARTING HYMN *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* #119

*BENEDICTION

SUNG RESPONSE *We Wish You a Merry Christmas* Preschool

POSTLUDE *Joy to the World*
Laura Stanton playing the ukelele

**indicates those who are able may stand. Congregational responses are in bold...*

Birthdays this week: Larry McKaughan 12/14, Valjean Turk 12/15, Zack Whitsel 12/16, Chick DeLaittre 12/17, Ryan Schukart 12/17, Jim Salerno 12/17

Christmas Pageant Cast

Naiya Aliotti
Jordan Andreasen
Collin Dwyer
Grant Dwyer
Carson Elliot
Camden Hendrix
Chloe Henry
Abram Holz
Mikayla Irvin
Paisley Irvin
Rowan Jaques
Carissa Johannesen
Eloise Kirsch
Jackson Kirsch
Annabelle Marwitz
Micah Marwitz
Eilidh Miller
Juliet Miller
Hazel Patton
EJ Peterson
Quincy Peterson
Penelope Puskedra
Peyton Puskedra
Anni Reidel
Rebecca Rodriguez
Saiya Sagmiller
Brynn Schukart
Reid Schukart
Ollie Snyder
Stella Snyder
Laura Stanton
Patrick Stanton
Audrey Ukropina
Eric Ukropina
Ady Valtinson
William Valtinson III
Julia Wilgus
Sam Wilgus
Myron Wise

Our Lord Jesus said "*it is more blessed to give than to receive*" and one of the ways we do this is by giving our tithes and our offerings to support the ministry and mission of the church. At this time, we are not passing a shared offering plate, but there is a place for you to leave your tithes and offerings in the Narthex.

DECEMBER AT A GLANCE...

12/24/21: Christmas Eve Worship- Family Service at 4:30pm
We will be taking a special offering of food, diapers, children's underwear and children's pajamas
Candlelight and Communion at 7:30pm

Following worship **TODAY**, you will be invited to go to various rooms for mission, craft and holiday festivities. We will have opportunities for Christmas Pictures around the beautiful Christmas Tree, A Candle Twisting craft, Ornament making, Christmas Card making, cookie decorating, and the Alternative Mission Market will be open for some holiday shopping. In addition, we will have a special collection of Peanut Butter for Food for Lane County.

Youth Christmas Party– tonight, Sunday, December 12 at 5:00–7:00pm at church. Bring your White Elephant Present and appetite. We hope to see you all there!

Bulletin Art: Audrey Ukropina, Westminster Preschool and Ollie Snyder



3rd Sunday of Advent
December 12, 2021
10:00 am

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Our Church Staff

Pastor
Pastor
Music Director
Office Manager
Facilities Manager

Rev. Marta Ukropina
Rev. David Ukropina
Ursula Damgaard
Brooke Irvin
Chick DeLaittre