

## ORDER FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD

### *Gathering*

PRELUDE *Variations on Es ist ein Reis entsprungen* Praetorius

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *Please sign the fellowship pad*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH *candle of Peace*  
Judy and the Rev. Greg Tatman

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

#### **Why do we light two candles?**

The first candle, the candle of Hope....

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

A new branch will grow from the root of Jesse.

#### **The Spirit of the Lord will rest upon him.**

We will live in peace, a child will lead us.

#### **Let us walk in the light of the Lord. Let us pray.**

**Loving God, in this time of preparation and planning, we thank you for the hope and peace you offer us. Show us the creative power of hope. Teach us your peace and prepare our hearts to be transformed by you, That we may walk in the light of Christ. Come Lord Jesus, come. Amen.**

\*OPENING HYMN *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry* #96

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves. Yet in mercy, God will forgive us and renew us.

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious and welcoming God, have mercy on your people. We confess that we do not believe in your incarnation. We do not heed your word each day in all that we say and do. We do not see our neighbors, families, and friends as beloved children whom you have made. In your mercy, forgive us, for we repent of our ways and look to your power to heal us and raise us up, so that, at the last, you will gather us to you and give us peace. Amen.**  
*(Prayers continue in silence)*

SUNG RESPONSE *It Came Upon a 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.**

#### DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

You are forgiven. Be filled with hope, believing in the power of the risen Christ to bring you to new life. Rejoice and believe.

### *The Word*

TIME WITH CHILDREN Children are invited to gather front  
*(Children ages 0-3rd grade will be in the Kid's Room. All other children are invited to stay in worship with their families)*

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### SCRIPTURE READINGS

##### *Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10*

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

##### *New Testament Reading: Matthew 3:1-12*

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. "I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

SERMON "The Kingdom of Heaven Has Come Near" Rev. David Ukropina

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed  
**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*HYMN *Comfort, Comfort Now My People* #87

#### MINUTE FOR MISSION

#### GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you

#### **And also with you**

Lift up your hearts.

#### **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

#### **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise ....who forever sing to the glory of your name:

SUNG RESPONSE #2257-b

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!**

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord ....Great is the mystery of faith.

SUNG RESPONSE #2257-c

**Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again. Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and cup, ....And now we pray using the words Christ taught us, saying... **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.**

SUNG RESPONSE #2257-d

**Amen. Amen. Amen. Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!**

The Breaking of the Bread and Distribution of the Elements

Prayer After Communion

*Responding to God's Word*

#### PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *I Wonder As I Wander* arr. Hayes

\*SUNG RESPONSE *In the Bleak Midwinter (vs. 4)* #144

**What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him: give my heart.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*Sending of God's Word*

\*CLOSING HYMN *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* #129

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Rise Up, Shepherds and Follow* arr. Hayes

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

**Let's decorate the sanctuary with Poinsettias!** Order forms are available in your bulletin or on the table in the Narthex. Please turn them into the office, with payment, by December 11th.

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath volunteers needed!** We are in need of individuals, couples, friends, family, etc. for the following date to light the Advent Wreath during worship: **December 24th 7:30 pm service**  
**Sign-up on the sheet in the Narthex or email the office at: office@wpceugene.org**

**Interested in becoming a member of Westminster Presbyterian Church?** Our Session will receive new members TODAY, December 4th, immediately following the worship service. We look forward to welcoming you into active membership!

Our **Annual Youth Progressive Christmas Party Dinner** and White Elephant Gift Exchange is TONIGHT! Meet at the church 5:00PM.

**Next week, December 11th,** our Westminster Youth and Children and our Westminster Preschoolers will lead worship through our **Annual Christmas Pageant** which will be followed by the Advent/Christmas Festival. We will be collecting jars of peanut butter for Food for Lane County as part of the Festival. Come enjoy fellowship, food, photos by the Christmas Tree, crafts and other activities for ALL AGES.

**Choir Rehearsals** will begin on **Dec. 7th** at 7:00 p.m in the Sanctuary. You do not need to know how to read music, just be willing to make a joyful noise unto the Lord! If you have any questions, please contact Michael at michael@wpceugene.org.

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

### Sunday 12/04/2022

10:00 am Worship  
11:00 am Coffee Hour: hosted by: Men's Breakfast Group  
5:00 pm AA Meeting (Meeting Room)

### Monday 12/05/2022

9:00 am Preschool  
7:00 pm Boy Scouts Meeting

### Tuesday 12/06/2022

9:00 am Preschool  
11:00 am WPC Knitter's (Fellowship Hall)

### Wednesday 12/07/2022

8:00 am Men's Breakfast Group at Countryside Pizza & Grill  
9:00 am Preschool  
9:15 am Preschool Chapel  
10:30 am Pioneer Quilters (Fellowship Hall)  
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday 12/08/2022

9:00 am Preschool  
9:15 am Preschool Chapel

### Friday 12/09/2022- Church Office Closed

9:00 am Preschool

### Saturday 12/10/2022- Church Office Closed

#### Leading in worship today:

Pastor: Rev. David Ukropina  
Music Director: Michael Mercatante  
Usher/Greeter: Mike Bagaason, Kyle Coats and Judy Coats  
Counters: Arlis Wozniak and Karen Young  
Coffee Hour: Mens Breakfast Group

#### Next Sunday:

Youth and Children  
Pastor: Rev. Marta Ukropina  
Music Director: Michael Mercatante  
Usher/Greeter: Jim Salerno, Keith Barr and Sue Martichuski  
Counters: Anita Brown and Julia Frederick  
Coffee Hour: Creation Care

#### Christmas Eve Services:

**12/24/22: Christmas Eve Worship- Family Service at 4:30pm**  
We will be taking a special offering of diapers, children's underwear and socks for *Bags of Love*  
**Candlelight and Communion at 7:30pm**



**2nd Sunday of Advent**  
**December 4, 2022**  
**10:00 am**

**Westminster Presbyterian Church**  
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Office@wpceugene.org  
**(541) 343-3140**

#### Our Church Staff

Pastor  
Pastor  
Office Manager  
Music Director  
Facilities Manager  
Preschool Director  
Preschool Staff

Rev. David Ukropina  
Rev. Marta Ukropina  
Brooke Irvin  
Michael Mercatante  
Chick DeLaitre  
Kelly Ford  
Becky Schyllander  
Erin Goggins  
Megan Waite