



*WELCOME TO CHRISTMAS EVE*



*9:00 PM*



*DEC 24 2020*

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

## *Christmas Eve*

*The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,  
full of grace and truth.  
We have beheld his glory. Alleluia!*

### PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME & GREETING

PRELUDE

Still, Still, Still

Westminster Chimes  
Handbell Choir

### CALL TO WORSHIP\*

Leader: This year, we have dreamed...

**People: We have dreamed of deep breaths and restful sleep.**

Leader: We dreamed of love that lasts and suffering that passes.

**People: We dreamed of doors open wide and cures for a pandemic.**

Leader: We have dreamed of smoke clearing and communities restored from wildfires.

**People: We dreamed of the day when we could all walk together in love.**

Leader: When justice for all would be more than a dream.

**People: And the dream of peace on earth would be more than liturgy.**

Leader: We dreamed, because to dream is to believe.

**People: For to dream is to hope; to dream is to see.**

Leader: So, make room in your being to dream yet again,

**People: Of a world without fear, and a God that draws near.**

Leader: For it is almost Christmas.

**People: LOVE IS ALMOST HERE.**

Leader: May we dream to see and hope to believe. Let us worship Holy God.

OPENING CAROL

**O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL**

Hymnal #41

Invocation (Leader)

*We come to you tonight with dreams tucked into our pockets, admitting that at times it feels risky to dream.*

*At times it feels risky to ask for too much, to believe in that which we cannot see. So instead, we make wishes on stars and search for luck in clover fields. Instead of sinking into you, we try to control the narrative. However, somewhere rumbling deep in our heart, there is a dream of a better world, trapped like a caged bird. Open our eyes to you in our midst. Give us the confidence of Mary to sing into the mystery. Dust your dream for us off the shelves of our hearts until once more, we are those who dream. Amen.\**

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 9:1-7

CAROL

**IT CAME UPON A MIDNIGHT CLEAR**

Hymnal #123

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Susan & Toru Tanabe, Rie Vigeland

SPECIAL MUSIC

O Holy Night

Melissa Harper & Jeffrey Larkin

CAROL

**HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING**

Hymnal #119

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-20

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Susan & Toru Tanabe, Rie Vigeland

A CHRISTMAS STORY

Room in the Inn  
By Oliver Thorne Miller

Rev. Lorne Bostwick

SPECIAL MUSIC

A Baby Born In Bethlehem

Chancel Choir

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Leader: We believe in hope.

**People: We believe that to hope is to dream with our eyes wide open.**

Leader: We believe in peace.

**People: We believe that peace is not found by accident. We prepare the way.**

Leader: We believe in joy.

**People: We believe that joy is angel choruses and gifts from the Magi, as well as soul food, big tables, open doors, candlelight, fireside fellowship, singing in the shower, and the body of Christ, gathered as one, even though we have to be apart this year.**

Leader: We believe in love.

**People: We believe that God loves us so much that God could not stay away. So God showed up as a child. We believe that *that* love is real, and we know that it changes us.**

Leader: Therefore, we believe in the power of dreams,

**People: And we believe that nightmares, which are all too real here and now, will have no place in God's promised day.**

Leader: Until then, we believe in passing the light, in showing up, in doing the work, in listening for angel choruses, and in learning from the youngest among us.

**People: We believe. Help our unbelief. Amen.**

INVITATION TO OFFERING (LEADER)

OFFERTORY

Harmonia

Ramona Morris, Katie Nelson, Linda McCreery, Sandy McLean

PRAYERS FOR PEACE

Vik Schaaf

AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

CANDLELIGHTING

*(If you have a candle at home that you would like to light with us, please do so while we are singing Silent Night. If you have a window close, put your candle up in the window. Candles are being lit all over the city, nation and around the world tonight in a witness to Christ the Lord, the light of the world.)*

CAROL

**SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT**

Hymnal #122

CANDLELIGHT LITANY

Pastor: In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God,

**People: And the Word was God!**

Pastor: For God so loved the world, that God gave an only Son.

**People: That we who believe should not perish but have eternal life.**

Pastor: God did not send a Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world.

**People: Let us share light in the world.**

CAROL

**JOY TO THE WORLD!**

HYMNAL #134



BENEDICTION

Rev. Lorne Bostwick

POSTLUDE

\*The Call to Worship and Invocation are from "A Sanctified Art.."

***WELCOME TO WORSHIP TONIGHT!*** We are glad to have you with us for this festive celebration of Christ's birth. We hope that in the liturgy, music, and scripture you have found strength, hope, and a renewed vision for a world made in the image of God. If you do not have a church home, Westminster is a diverse community of faith that values fellowship and service, and we would welcome all who wish to journey with us. If there is any way that we can be of service to you or your family, please do not hesitate to give us a call at the church office, 503-364-3327.

***CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING:*** The 2020 Christmas Eve offering supports the ministries of Westminster Presbyterian Church. Some important causes supported are: Family Promise/IHN, Congregations Helping People, Marion Polk Food Share which includes Table of Plenty, other food pantries, and Meals on Wheels and Mid-Valley Community Action Agency which includes Arches, Taylor's House HOME Youth services, DeMuniz Resource Center helping people in our community with housing, food assistance, and other social needs.

### **WORSHIP LEADERS**

**Rev. Dr. Lorne Bostwick**, Interim/Transitional Pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church.

**Rev. David Horn**, Contemporary Worship Leader

**Dr. Jeffrey Larkin**, Director of Music Ministries

**Ariana Reacher**, Director of the Worship Team

**Vik Schaaf**, Youth Director at Westminster Presbyterian Church



***We would like to thank the following musicians for sharing their gifts.***

Westminster Bell Choir  
Dr. Jeffrey Larkin, Director

Westminster Chancel Choir  
Ariana Recher, Organist/Accompanist

Westminster String Ensemble  
Dr. Jeffrey Larkin, Conductor

**THE STAFF AT WESTMINSTER** expresses sincere appreciation to the congregation for their Christmas greetings and gifts. A blessed Christmas and a healthy New Year to all of you!!!

***MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!***

**WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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