



Fourth Sunday of Advent
Preparation for **Worship**

Holy child of Bethlehem, you are the hope of the world, the song of the angels, the treasure of our hearts, and the glory of God among us. Call us to worship you in the places where your love is born anew: wherever kindness prevails, justice flourishes, and peace reigns. Send us out to serve you, sharing good news of great joy, and praising God through you in the unity of the Holy Spirit.

Gathering and Preparing for **God's Word**

Welcome and Announcements

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Hunter & Caroline Blouin, Nora and Bo

Processional Hymn 140 *Once in Royal David's City* IRBY
arr. Willcocks

Stanza 1 – Solo: *Mary Eliza Duncan*
Stanza 2 – Choir only
* Stanzas 3 & 4 – All

Service of Giving
Offertory *Creator of the Stars of Night* arr. Smith
* Doxology 108 "Of the Father's Love Begotten" DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

**Christ, to thee with God the Father,
and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
and unwearied praises be.**

**Honor, glory, and dominion,
and eternal victory, evermore and evermore! Amen.**

* Prayer of Dedication

Children in K5 - first grade are invited to leave for Children's Church.

64th ANNUAL SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

Call to Prayer, Hymn 91 "Come, Come, Emmanuel" COME, COME EMMANUEL

The Bidding Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

The Lessons

At the conclusion of each reading, the reader will say, "*The Word of the Lord.*"
The congregation will respond by saying, "**Thanks be to God.**"

The First Lesson - *God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.* Genesis 3:8-15

Reader – *Alex Kester*
Carol – *People, Look East* Bensaçon Carol
arr. Malcolm Archer

The Second Lesson - *God promises that, through Abraham, all the peoples of the world will be blessed.* Genesis 22:15-18

Reader – *Ellis McLarty*
Carol – *Creator of the Stars of Night* CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM
arr. Robert E. Smith

The Third Lesson - *The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.*

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Reader – *Julia Mowlajko*
Carol – *Prince of Peace*

Todd Monsell

The Fourth Lesson - *The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.*

Isaiah 11:1-9

Reader – *Michael Powell*
* Congregational Carol 121

St. Louis
arr. Berry

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

The Fifth Lesson - *The angel Gabriel appears to Mary and announces that she will bear a holy child.* Luke 1:26-33, 38

Reader – *Lizzy Holt*
Carol – *The Linden Tree*

Old German tune
arr. Reginald Jacques

The Sixth Lesson - *Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem, where Mary gives birth to her child.* Luke 2:1-7

Reader – *Coleman Kirven*
Carol

Mary Had a Baby

Spiritual
arr. William L. Dawson

The Seventh Lesson - *Angels appear to shepherds in the fields and announce the birth of the Messiah.* Luke 2:8-16

Reader – *Hannah Dias*
* Congregational Carol 119

MENDELSSOHN
arr. Ferguson

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

The Eighth Lesson - *Magi from the East are led by the star to Jesus.*

Matthew 2:1-11

Reader – *Gary Boley*
Carol – *O Holy Night*

Adolphe Adam
arr. Brian Luckner

* The Ninth Lesson - *John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.*

John 1:1-5, 14

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth."

* Congregational Carol 108

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM
arr. Burkhardt

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

* The Blessing

* Choral Response 130

"Break Forth, O Beauteous, Heavenly Light" from *Weihnachtsoratorium*

* Postlude

Hodie Christus Natus Est Gabrieli

*All who are able may stand

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Ben Dorr, *liturgist*

The Sanctuary Choir

Marlon Hurst, *music director*

Todd Monsell, *organist*

Westminster Brass:

Craig King, Gary Malvern, *trumpet*

Mark Britt, Art Haecker, *trombone*

Kathi Hurst, Allie Ablewood, *soloists*

Jacob Barker, *head usher*

Susan Grier, Mary Gentry, Walker Miller,

Elizabeth Timmons, Carroll Farmer, *greeters*

WORSHIP NOTES

NURSERY

Childcare is available for infants through 4K. Our nurturing staff of experienced caregivers and parent volunteers offers a welcoming environment for children. The Nursery is located on the mezzanine level. The entrance is at Westminster Drive, at the columbarium or near the Westminster Weekday School offices. The Family Lounge, located down the stairs from the front office and straight down the hallway on the right, is available for any child caregiver and includes worship livestream, comfortable seating, and a changing table.

WORSHIP BAGS

Each Sunday we offer worship bags in the Atrium for children. The worship bags are designed to include reusable items that engage children in open ended play during worship. While children attend worship with their families, they can participate in worship and play to make meaning in faith. Please return the zipper bag and its contents each Sunday.

With Thanksgiving We Celebrate

BIRTH

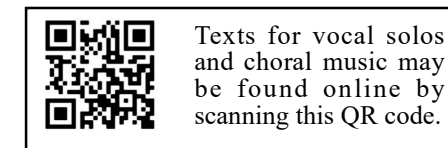
The birth of a son, *Julian Camillo Asaro*, to Sergio & Kathryn Asaro on Tuesday, December 3, 2024.

BIRTH

The birth of a son, *Timothy Banks Clunan*, to Cody & Sarah Clunan on Monday, December 9, 2024.

We Remember in Prayer

Gena Runnion and her family on the death of Gena's mother, Myrna Staggs, on Sunday, December 15, 2024



Texts for vocal solos and choral music may be found online by scanning this QR code.

OPEN HEARTS • Giving@WPC

PREMIERING IN WORSHIP, "PRINCE OF PEACE"

The 64th Service of Lessons and Carols features the debut of "*Prince of Peace*" by Westminster organist Todd Monsell. "*Prince of Peace*" was written for this service. We are deeply grateful for Todd's commitment to our congregation and choir, and proud to premier his work.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Presbyterians have long celebrated the birth of Jesus Christ by giving generously to a Christmas season offering. Fifty percent of the receipts to the Christmas Joy Offering are distributed to the Board of Pensions for assistance programs that provide support to retired and active church workers and their spouses and families. The other fifty percent supports the eight Presbyterian related racial ethnic schools and colleges through the National Ministries Division of the General Assembly Council. Joy Gift Christmas Offering envelopes are available in the Ritual of Friendship.

RETIREMENT GIVING

Make Qualified Distributions from your IRAs: Westminster members age 70.5 and older can support the church with a gift from their Individual Retirement Account. Qualified charitable distributions from IRAs may offer tax advantages while benefiting WPC's local and global ministries. Contact the church office for more information.

POINSETTIAS

If you purchased a poinsettia as a memorial/honorarium and would like to take your flower with you following today's service, please do so. Flowers left in the sanctuary will be used to decorate the chancel for the Christmas Eve candlelight services.

Advent & Christmas at Westminster

December 22 *Fourth Sunday of Advent*
 The 64th Annual Service of Lessons & Carols
 One Worship Service at 11:15a in the Sanctuary
 Reception preceding the service in the Atrium.

December 24 *Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship*
 4p and 6p in the Sanctuary
 Nursery is available for infants at the 4p service.
 Overflow seating will be available in the Atrium.

December 29 *One Worship Service*
 11:15a in the Sanctuary
 Reception preceding the service in the Atrium.

Our two-service schedule will resume alongside Sunday School on Sunday, January 5.

2024 FINANCIAL UPDATE

As of December 15, we have received 91.8% of pledges made for 2024. If you need to know where you stand with your 2024 giving, please contact Lynn Bennett (lbennett@wpc-online.org), or contact the church office. Thank you for your generosity to Westminster!

2025 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

As of Monday, December 16, we have received \$2,422,667 in pledges, which is 89% of our 2025 pledge goal. For your convenience, you may pledge online or send your pledge via email or USPS to the Church Financial manager, Lynn Bennett (lbennett@wpc-online.org).

HERITAGE LECTURE - 2025

Announcing the 2025 Heritage Lecturer, the Reverend Dr. Hunter Farrell. Join us on Sunday, February 23, to hear Dr. Farrell preach at both 9a and 11:15a. He will also lead the adult Sunday School class. Farrell previously served the PCUSA as Director of World Mission, and is presently the Leader of World Mission Initiative at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. He is also the author of several books including *Freeing Congregational Mission: A Practical Vision for Companionship, Cultural Humility, and Co-Development*.

VOLUNTEER FOR PROJECT HOST

Please consider signing up to volunteer at Project Host in 2025. This is a great opportunity to serve our community with other members of Westminster. Four volunteers are needed every other Tuesday from 9a-1p. During this time, you will prepare a nutritious lunch, serve the patrons, and clean up after lunch service. Please sign up at <https://wpc-online.org/events-registration>. Contact Susan Clark at 864-982-4130 or susanhunterclark@gmail.com for more information.

**SUPPERS WITH SEVEN
 JANUARY - MARCH 2025**




Sharing a meal is one of the best ways to establish and renew relationships with members of the Westminster church community. "Suppers With Seven" is seven (or so) persons - some couples, some singles, some older and some younger - gathering for a series of two or three meals at a time convenient to the group. To sign up, return this form to the church office, or fill out the online form on the church website by navigating to the Suppers With Seven page. The deadline to sign up is Monday, January 6.

Name(s): _____ (include both names, if a couple)
 Phone: _____ (will be shared with your group)
 Email Address: _____ (will be shared with your group)

Preferred Method of Contact: email phone call text

Please check as many as apply:

_____ I/We can host and lead the first gathering of Suppers with Seven.
 _____ I/We cannot host the first gathering but would consider a subsequent.
 _____ I/We cannot host but would like to be part of a group.

   [wpcgreenville](http://wpcgreenville.com) | wpc-online.org | 2310 Augusta St.

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS
 December 22-29, 2024**

Sunday, December 22
Fourth Sunday of Advent
 10:00a Reception
 10:55 Sunday Session Meeting
 11:15 64th Annual Service of Lessons & Carols
 4:00p Youth Choir/Senior Choristers Caroling and Cookies

Monday, December 23
Weekday School Closed
 8:00p Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, December 24
Weekday School Closed
Church Office Closed
 4:00p Candlelight Service
 6:00 Candlelight Service

Wednesday, December 25
Weekday School Closed
Church Office Closed

Thursday, December 26
Weekday School Closed
 8:00p Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, December 27
Weekday School Closed

Sunday, December 29
First Sunday after Christmas
 10:00a Reception
 10:55 Sunday Session Meeting
 11:15 Worship

Our Vision:
Open Minds
Open Hearts

Our Pillars:
Hospitality
Generosity
Justice
Imagination
Joy

Our Goals:
Connect
Serve
Grow

the
HARBINGER
open minds open hearts

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From the Choir Loft, Marlon Hurst

The 20th century Protestant Theologian Karl Barth is often quoted as having quipped, "Take your Bible and take your newspaper, and read both. But interpret newspapers from your Bible." As we once again encounter the familiar (and yet still surprising) texts and songs of Advent and Christmas as found in the Service of Lessons and Carols, I'm reminded of how we, as Christians, always live in the tension between God's Realm and Earth. We are a people whose worship practices call us to look at the world and its events through the lens of our sacred texts and traditions. Then as we look to the future on our journey of faith, these texts and traditions set the direction of our lives. However, in times of personal or social upheaval and unrest, it is easy to grow weary and lose heart, wondering "Will God's realm ever arrive?" "Is our faith little more than aspirational?" "How can we continue to keep faith in the face of the troubles of the world?"

In the midst of this tension, I find both strength and comfort in God's promises conveyed in the scriptures and interpreted through the songs of the Lessons and Carols liturgy. Together, they invite us into the miracle of our present moment - which would not exist but for God's grace, and by which our lives are ordered and directed towards a future of God's imagining where all of creation is honored, respected and nourished.

In ways both implicit and explicit, "Peace" plays a particularly significant role in the choral and congregational song of this year's service. We hear the words of the prophet Isaiah, both read and sung, pointing us to a time when there shall "be endless peace." The African-American spiritual *Mary Had a Baby* lifts Isaiah's words and places their mantle on Mary's baby, Jesus. The angels sing, "Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" And the beloved song *O Holy Night* reminds us that, "Truly he taught us to love one another; his law is love and his gospel is peace." As these words are read and sung, we come face to face with the "already and not yet" - the realized eschatology that is central to Reformed theology.

Although peace in our time is elusive and the hope for a future peace may seem unattainable, let us find solace and strength in the words of our Advent Doxology that frame this service, "...hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be." In God's promises of old we find strength for this moment and direction for our future. May we not grow weary in seeking the peace that is ultimately found only in the Prince of Peace.

2024 Poinsettias continued

Blair, Jon, Campbell, and Emmons Miller
in memory of **Elaine G. Miller**

Tim Miller
in memory of **Jack, Ellen, and Jennifer Miller**

Walker, Leigh, Lillian, and Robert Miller
in memory of **Martha Albrecht Miller**

Lee Anne, Jack, Alex, and Chapman Montgomery
in memory of **Ryan Montgomery**

Lee Anne, Jack, Alex, and Chapman Montgomery
in memory of **Haynes Morrow**

Lee Anne, Jack, Alex, and Chapman Montgomery
in memory of **Wallace "Ace" Pohl**

Anne Nuttall
in memory of **Nancy Quinn**

Derek, Janell, and Shirley Bea Pitman
in memory of **Shirley Emery**

Derek, Janell, and Shirley Bea Pitman
in memory of **Lois Jensen**

Kathy, Bryant, Cara, Anna, Claire, and Charlie Puntch;
Emily, Travis, Emma Kate, Hayes, and Reece Hudson
in memory of **Bubba Puntch**

Margaret Williams Rich
in memory of **her husband, James D. Semans**

Margaret Williams Rich
in memory of **her mother, Margaret C. Williams**

Margaret Williams Rich
in memory of **her father, Braxton H. Williams**

Margaret Williams Rich
in honor of **Circle 5**

Margaret Williams Rich
in honor of **Kelly Moorhead**

Margaret Williams Rich
in honor of **Libby & Meg Holleman**

Margaret Williams Rich
in honor of **Charles Gentry**

Jan & Conrad Ross
in memory of **Carolyn & Jim Lewis**

Jan & Conrad Ross
in memory of **Russie & Conrad Ross, Sr.**

Jan & Conrad Ross
in memory of **Margaret Williams**

Joel & Gaye Sprague
in memory of **Heidi Sprague Kennel**

Joel & Gaye Sprague
in memory of **Bart Garrison**

Joel & Gaye Sprague
in memory of **Ben Sprague**

Payne & Elizabeth Thomas
in memory of **William Hughes Gage**

2024 Endowment Fund continued

Margaret Paylor
in memory of **John Hill Paylor, Jr.**
and in honor of **her children, grandchildren,**
and **great-grandchildren**

Jim & Susan Robbins
in memory of **Bill & Nancy Patterson**

Jim & Susan Robbins
in honor of **Lud & Jean Weaver**

Sandra Wallace
in honor of **Julia & Henry Bellew**

Bill Young
in memory of **Bette Young**

2024 Heritage Lecture Fund

The Heritage Lecture Series is a long-standing tradition of Westminster's which seeks to expand the religious horizons of our community by inviting world-class lecturers to teach and preach one Sunday per year.

Margaret & Duff Bruce
in memory of **Tom & Ducky Gower**

The Edwards Family
in memory of **Dave Edwards**

Kay Kelly
in memory of **her parents, Don & Pat Taylor**

Betty King and Family
in memory of **Gerry King**

Annie Leonard
in honor of **Alma Steading**

The McFadden Family
in memory of **Charles & Paula McFadden**

The McFadden Family
in memory of **Ronald J. Meyer**

Pat Shufeldt
in honor of **The Library Committee**

Pat Shufeldt
in honor of **WPC Pastors and Staff**

Sam, LeAnne, Grayson, and Sarah Katherine White
in memory of **Margaret Bishop**

Sam, LeAnne, Grayson, and Sarah Katherine White
in memory of **Laurie Jeanes**

2024 Poinsettias

The beautiful poinsettias in the sanctuary
have been given by the following:

Gwyn Anderson
in memory of **Lynn Foushee Rowell**

Gwyn Anderson
in memory of **Dr. Vernon Anderson**

Jack & Winn Ballenger
in memory of **Nancy Quinn**

Margaret & Duff Bruce
in memory of **Ben Sprague**

Margaret & Duff Bruce
in memory of **Amy St. Pierre**

Aaron Cizon
in honor of **Eliot Cizon and Addy Cizon**

Michael & Coleman Dixon
in memory of **John F. Ellenberg**

Edward & Sandra Dobson
in memory of **Allan McGill Dobson**
and **Bradley Glenn Godfrey**

Edward & Sandra Dobson
in memory of **Frances & Dennis Dobson**
and **Bonnie & Stanley Holtzclaw**

Ben & Alissa Edwards
in memory of **Dave Edwards**

Ben & Alissa Edwards
in honor of **Joan Edwards**

Ben & Alissa Edwards
in honor of **Mary Kathleen Duncan and Anna Hanor**

Will & Beth Edwards
in memory of **Dave Edwards**

Will & Beth Edwards
in honor of **Joan Edwards**

Diane Ellison & Family
in memory of **Dr. Roy J. Ellison, Jr. and Roy J. Ellison, III**

Gray Geddie
in memory of **Betty Geddie**

Katy Glidewell
in memory of **Jim Glidewell**

Katy Glidewell
in honor of **The Westminster Music Ministry**

David & Kristen Goff
in memory of **Johnnie & Winifred Goff**
and **Bill & Janet Wolfe**

Brad, Meredith, Ford, & Tom Gower
in memory of **Tom & Ducky Gower**

Susan & Paul Grier
in honor of **Hayward Grier & Elizabeth West Grier**

Susan & Paul Grier
in honor of **Elizabeth Grier**

2024 Poinsettias continued

The Grier Family
in memory of **Dr. & Mrs. John Miller Grier**

The Grier Family
in memory of **Mr. & Mrs. David Guritz**

Susan & Paul Grier
in honor of **Westminster's Staff**

Henry, Garrison, and John Hill
in memory of **their grandparents, Grace & Leo Hill**

Henry, Garrison, and John Hill
in honor of **their grandmother, Kathryn Algary**

Darah Huffman
in honor of **Elizabeth, Jan, Ella, Catherine, and Tate**

Darah Huffman
in honor of **Martha & Rocky Huffman**

Becky Kaplan and The Leary Family
in memory of **Thomas John Kaplan**

Lydia Kellett
in memory of **Bill Kellett**

Betty King and Family
in memory of **Gerry King**

Reed & Harriett-Graham Kramer
in memory of **Sarah Jane Hardrath Kramer**

Reed & Harriett-Graham Kramer
in memory of **Harriett Courtney Lemke**

His Children and Their Families
in memory of **Don Lester**

Her Children and Their Families
in honor of **Dolores Lester**

The Lordo Family
in memory of **Tommy Wilson**

Brad, Sarah, Bradley, Laney, Murray, and Maisie Lucas
in memory of **Brad Whitlock**

Brad, Sarah, Bradley, Laney, Murray, and Maisie Lucas
in memory of **Tommy Sinn**

The Marguet Family
in memory of **Nancy Billings**

The Marguet Family
in memory of **Pat & Joan Marguet**

The McFadden Family
in memory of **Charles & Paula McFadden**

The McFadden Family
in memory of **Ronald J. Meyer**

Bruce & Brenda Meyer
in memory of **Mr. & Mrs. William Meyer**

Bruce & Brenda Meyer
in memory of **Mr. & Mrs. Foster Brown**

Blair, Jon, Campbell, and Emmons Miller
in memory of **Paul E. Miller**

2024 Endowment Fund continued

Jack & Roxanne Cromartie
in honor of **Sam, LeAnne, Grayson, and Sarah Katherine White**

Michael & Coleman Dixon
in honor of **Natalie & Caroline Dixon**

Michael & Coleman Dixon
in honor of **Richard & Elizabeth Roche**

Michael & Coleman Dixon
in honor of **Tom & Kathy Dixon**

Michael & Coleman Dixon
in honor of **Susan Dixon & William Dixon-Lavergne**

Michael & Coleman Dixon
in honor of **Lynne Dixon & Daegen Dixon**

Ingrid Erwin
in memory of **her father, Frank Blackwelder**

Ingrid Erwin
in memory of **her sister, Julie Blackwelder**

Gray Geddie
in memory of **Betty Geddie**

Mike & Ellen Hall
in memory of **Mike's parents, Floyd & Martha Hall**

Mike & Ellen Hall
in memory of **Ellen's parents, Elmer & Edna Johnson**

Mike & Ellen Hall
in memory of **Mike's brother, Reggie Hall**

The Houston Family
in memory of **Eddie Houston**

Kay Kelly
in memory of **her parents, Don & Pat Taylor**

Bill, Katherine, McCrae, and Sadie Mattice
in honor of **Mary Kathleen Duncan**

Bill, Katherine, McCrae, and Sadie Mattice
in honor of **Marlon Hurst**

Bill, Katherine, McCrae, and Sadie Mattice
in honor of **Donn James**

Bill, Katherine, McCrae, and Sadie Mattice
in memory of **Susan "SuSu" McCrae Moore**

Bill, Katherine, McCrae, and Sadie Mattice
in memory of **John "Poppy" McCrae**

Bill, Katherine, McCrae, and Sadie Mattice
in memory of **Rip Harris**

Bill, Katherine, McCrae, and Sadie Mattice
in memory of **Haynes Morrow**

Bill, Katherine, McCrae, and Sadie Mattice
in memory of **Marlie Sullivan**

Bill, Katherine, McCrae, and Sadie Mattice
in memory of **Vonceil "Granny" Ozburn**

Anne Nuttall
in memory of **Carl Nuttall**

2024 Poinsettias continued

Melissa, Tony, Lillian, and Miles Threatt
in memory of **Kathryn Turner Baker**

Melissa, Tony, Lillian, and Miles Threatt
in honor of **Jane Hill Morrow**

Melissa, Tony, Lillian, and Miles Threatt
in honor of **Lee Ann & Jerry Threatt, Harry Baker**

Kristin and Tatum Timmerman
in memory of **Nancy & Shelden, Sr. Timmerman**

Kristin and Tatum Timmerman
in memory of **Granddaddy Phifer**

The Turner Family
in memory of **Joseph Jackson Turner, IV**

The Turner Family
in memory of **Inger Myrdal Waters**

Whit, Ellie, Colin, and Cameron Walker
in memory of **Connie Walker**

Sam, LeAnne, Grayson, and Sarah Katherine White
in memory of **Margaret Bishop**

Sam, LeAnne, Grayson, and Sarah Katherine White
in memory of **Laurie Jeanes**

Kay Newsom Williams
in memory of **her student, Ben Sprague**

Rand, Kim, Clay, and Cathryn Wilson
in memory of **David Wilson**

Rand, Kim, Clay, and Cathryn Wilson
in memory of **Don Seemuller**

Rand, Kim, Clay, and Cathryn Wilson
in memory of **Elizabeth Houser Seemuller**

The Wilson Family
in honor of **Mary Walter**

The Wilson Family
in honor of **Buffie Taylor**

2024 Endowment Fund

In both facilities and ministry, we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, those who have gone ahead of us, and with their gifts of time, talent, and treasure have provided for our continual growth and maintenance of our facility.

Susan, William, Thomas, and TJ Boyd
in memory of **Howard Boyd**

Linda Carpenter
in memory of **Rick Carpenter**

Marian Carpenter
in memory of **Fred Carpenter**

Jack & Roxanne Cromartie
in honor of **Sam & Nancy White**

Jack & Roxanne Cromartie
in honor of **Tod, Meg, Mary Hunter, and Thomas Hyche**

Once in Royal David's City 140

1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly
 2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and
 3 Je - sus is our child - hood's pat - tern; day by day like
 4 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re -

cat - tle shed, where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a
 Lord of all, and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his
 us he grew; he was lit - tle, weak and help - less; tears and
 deem - ing love; for that child so dear and gen - tle is our

man - ger for his bed: Mar - y was that moth - er
 cra - dle was a stall; with the poor and meek and
 smiles like us he knew; and he feels for all our
 Lord in heaven a - bove; and he leads his chil - dren

mild; Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
 low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 sad - ness, and he shares in all our glad - ness.
 on to the place where he is gone.

Like "All Things Bright and Beautiful" (see no. 20), this popular Christmas hymn was written by an Irish poet to illustrate for children the various articles of the Apostles' Creed. It is not known which of several English villages the composer had in mind when naming this tune.

- 7 Harken to my voice, O LORD, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.
- 8 **You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face."
Your face, LORD, will I seek.**
- 9 Hide not your face from me,
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.
**You have been my helper;
cast me not away;
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.**
- 10 Though my father and my mother forsake me,
the LORD will sustain me. *Refrain*
- 11 Show me your way, O LORD;
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.
- 12 **Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries,
for false witnesses have risen up against me,
and also those who speak malice.**
- 13 What if I had not believed
that I should see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living!
- 14 **O tarry and await the LORD's pleasure;
be strong, and the LORD shall comfort your heart;
wait patiently for the LORD. *Refrain***

Come, Come Emmanuel

91

Musical notation for the first line of the hymn. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in the key of D major and 3/4 time. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass clef provides harmonic support. The lyrics are: "Come, come Em - man - u - el. Come, Em -"

Musical notation for the second line of the hymn. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in the key of D major and 3/4 time. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass clef provides harmonic support. The lyrics are: "man - u - el. man - u - el." The first phrase is marked "For repeat" and the second phrase is marked "Final ending".

This Advent refrain centers on the name of Jesus meaning "God with us" (Matthew 1:23, quoting Isaiah 7:14). Intended for repeated congregational singing, it can be expanded by the addition of stanzas sung by a soloist or choir, or it can serve effectively as a prayer response.

121 O Little Town of Bethlehem

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y and, gath - ered all a - bove,
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!
 4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

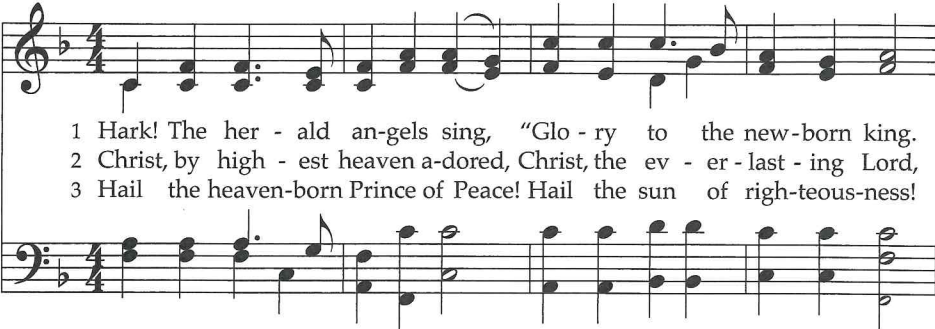
A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by.
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
 cast out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.

Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light;
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad ti - dings tell;

the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 O come to us; a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Though he was famed during his lifetime as a great preacher, no sermon Phillips Brooks ever preached has been heard or read by as many people as have sung this carol he wrote in December 1868 for the Sunday School children of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Philadelphia.

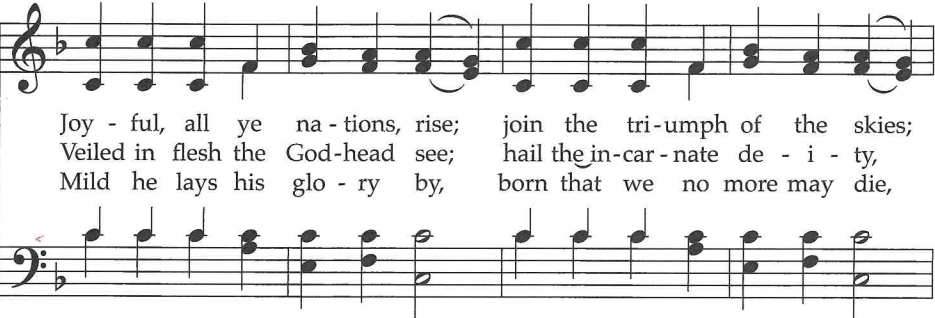
119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



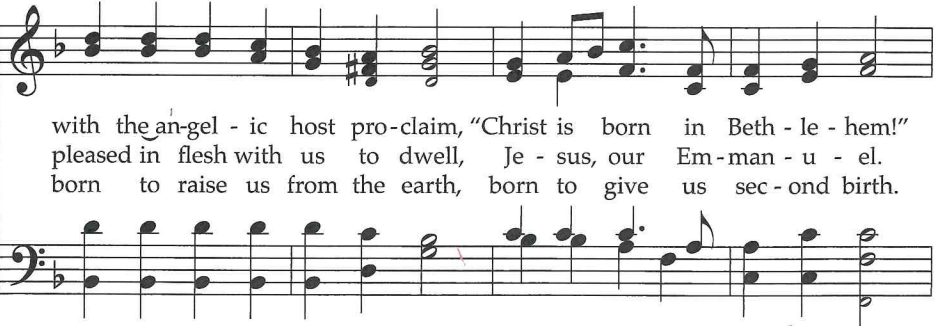
1 Hark! The her - ald an-gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king.
 2 Christ, by high - est heaven a-dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righ-teous-ness!



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 late in time be-hold him come, off-spring of the vir-gin's womb.
 Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise; join the tri-umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car-nate de - i - ty,
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with the an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Brought together in the mid-19th century, the text and tune of this familiar carol began in quite different forms. The text had ten stanzas and began, "Hark, how all the welkin rings." The tune was created for a festival celebrating Gutenberg's introduction of moveable type.

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

Where Shepherds Lately Kneled 120

Capo 4: (G7) (C) (F) (Dm)
 B7 E A F#m

1 Where shep-herds late - ly kneled and kept the an - gel's
 2 In that un - like - ly place I find him as they
 3 How should I not have known I - sa - iah would be
 4 Can I, will I for - get how Love was born and

(G) (G7) (Em) (Am) (Dm)
 B B7 G#m C#m F#m

word, I come in half - be - lief, a pil - grim strange-ly
 said: sweet, new-born Babe, how frail, and in a man - ger
 there, his proph - e - cies ful - filled? With pound-ing heart, I
 burned its way in - to my heart: un - asked, un - forced, un -

(G7) (C) (C7) (F) (Dm) (G7)
 B7 E E7 A F#m B7

stirred. But there is room and wel-come there for
 bed: a still, small voice to cry one day for
 stare: a child, a son, the Prince of Peace for
 earned: to die, to live, and not a - lone for

(C) (Dm) (C) (Am) (Dm) (F/A) (C)
 E F#m E C#m F#m A/C# E

me; but there is room and wel-come there for me.
 me; a still, small voice to cry one day for me.
 me; a child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me.
 me; to die, to live, and not a - lone for me.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Witnessing the beginning or the end of life evokes very personal responses (emphasized by the "for me" at the end of each stanza), especially when the scale is intimate, as in this imagined visit to Christ's manger. The prophecies recalled in stanza three come from Isaiah 9:6.

Of the Father's Love Begotten 108



1 Of the Fa-ther's love be - got - ten, ere the worlds be - gan
 2 By his Word was all cre - at - ed; he com-mand-ed; it
 3 O, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed when the Vir - gin, full
 4 This is he whom seers in old time chant-ed of with one
 5 O ye heights of heaven, a - dore him. An - gel hosts, his prais -
 6 Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly Ghost,



to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga; he the
 was done: heaven and earth and depths of o - cean, u - ni -
 of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, bore the
 ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets prom - ised
 es sing. Powers, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him, and ex -
 to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing and un -



source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that
 verse of three in one, all that sees the moon's soft
 Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's Re -
 in their faith - ful word. Now he shines, the long - ex -
 tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
 wea - ried prais - es be. Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
 shin - ing, all that breathes be - neath the sun,
 deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,
 pect - ed. Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord,
 si - lent; ev - ery voice in con - cert ring,
 min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry,

(after stanza 6)



ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

Seldom has the wonder of the Incarnation been expressed so beautifully as in this text, created in the era when the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds were being codified and mindful of similar theological affirmations. It is set here to a plainchant melody from the late Middle Ages.

130 Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light

Break forth, O beau-teous heaven-ly light, and ush-er in the

morn-ing. You shep-herds, shud-der not with fright, but hear the

an-gel's warn-ing. This child, now weak in in-fan-cy, our

con-fi-dence and joy shall be, the power of Sa-tan

break-ing, our peace e-ter-nal mak-ing.

This exuberant text, based on Isaiah 9:2–7, was the ninth of twelve stanzas in its original German hymn. The chorale tune associated with this hymn went through many changes at the hands of later composers, reaching its present form in J. S. Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*.