



# Order of Worship

## God the Father Calls Us to Worship Him

### The Second Sunday of Christmas & approaching the beginning of Epiphany

We are now celebrating the Season of Christmas, a time that helps us to remember Christ's birth and reflect on the mystery of the Incarnation. Epiphany is traditionally celebrated on January 6, after the close of the 12 days of Christmas. Epiphany is a time that helps us to remember Jesus as the long-awaited Hebrew Messiah and His mission to the nations. Epiphany has a particular focus on Jesus as the Light of the World and "God with us," and the Church's role in proclaiming that Jesus is Lord.

### Preparation for Worship

*As Lights in the World*

"We draw people to Christ not by loudly discrediting what they believe, by telling them how wrong they are and how right we are, but by showing them a Light that is so lovely that they want with all their hearts to know the Source of it."

*-Madeleine L'Engle*

"Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

*-Matthew 5:16*

### Call to Worship

*Isaiah 60:1-3*

Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.

**See, darkness covers the earth  
and thick darkness is over the peoples,**

but the Lord rises upon you  
and His glory appears over you.

**Nations will come to Your light,  
and kings to the brightness of Your dawn.**

### Invocation

### Song of Adoration

#### Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply,  
Echoing their joyous strains...

*Gloria, in excelsis Deo.*

*Gloria, in excelsis Deo.*

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be,  
Which inspire your heavenly song?...

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing,  
Come, adore on bended knee,  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King...

See Him in a manger laid,  
Whom the choirs of angels praise.  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,  
While our hearts in love we raise...

*"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."*

*-Luke 2:14*

Traditional French Carol, trans.1862; Tune: GLORIA, French Carol (18th century)  
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### Welcome

*We are glad you have joined us this morning! If you are visiting our church for the first time, or are a regular attender or church member, we encourage you to use our online "Keep in Touch" form to introduce yourself, request prayer, or request more information about our church.*

### The Ministry of Prayer

*Psalms 148*

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens;  
praise Him in the heights!

**Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts!**

Praise Him, sun and moon, praise Him, all you shining stars!

**Praise Him, you highest heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens!**

Let them praise the name of the LORD!  
For He commanded and they were created.

**And He established them forever and ever;  
He gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.**

Praise the LORD from the earth,  
you great sea creatures and all deeps,  
fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling His word!

**Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!**

Beasts and all livestock, creeping things and flying birds!

**Kings of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the earth!**

Young men and maidens together, old men and children!

**Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
for His name alone is exalted;  
His majesty is above earth and heaven.**

He has raised up a horn for His people, praise for all His saints,  
for the people of Israel who are near to Him.

**Praise the LORD!**

## Offering

If participation in the offering is part of your weekly worship, please place your offering in one of the offering plates near the rear Sanctuary doors, mail your offering to the church office (9008 Quiocassin Road, Henrico, VA, 23229), or visit [www.wepc.org/giving](http://www.wepc.org/giving) for online giving options.

## Song of Praise

### Magnificat

My soul magnifies the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God.  
My soul magnifies the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God.

For He who is mighty has done great things for me.  
Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy is His name.

*"Then Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my savior!'" -Luke 1:46-47*

Music: Flo Paris Oakes, as recorded by Rain for Roots on Waiting Song; ©1999 Flo Paris Music; Used by permission. CCLI #708363

## Backyard Children's Worship

Children's Worship will resume on 1/10/21.

## Children's Message (10:30 AM)

WEPC Children's Ministry Director, Emily Meeks

## God the Son Renews Us through His Word

### Scripture Reading

Philippians 2:14-16

<sup>14</sup>Do all things without grumbling or disputing, <sup>15</sup>that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, <sup>16</sup>holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.

### Sermon

Each Sunday, Worship Notes with the Scripture text, study questions, and recordings are posted at [www.wepc.org/sermons](http://www.wepc.org/sermons).

## God the Holy Spirit Transforms Us by His Grace

### Confession of Sin

based on Psalm 5

**Hear our words and our groanings, O Lord. Give attention to our cry for mercy. You are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with You. The boastful shall not stand before Your eyes; You hate all evildoers. You destroy those who speak lies; You abhor the bloodthirsty and deceitful. Forgive us, good Lord. We have sinned against You and our neighbor. We have sought to justify ourselves before You. We have attempted to atone for our own sins and punish the sins of others. And so, we have boasted in sin and self. By Your mercy alone, by the abundance of Your steadfast love may we enter Your house. Because of Your Son, O Lord, let us find refuge in You. Take away our sins and let us ever sing for joy. Cover us with Your favor as with a shield. For the sake of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*Silent Confession of Sin*

## Words of Encouragement

Romans 8:1-2, 11

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death...If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies.

## Songs of Response to God's Grace

### All Things New

Come, Lord, and tarry not; bring the long looked for day.  
O, why these years of waiting here, these ages of decay?

Come, for Thy saints still wait, daily ascends their sigh,  
The Spirit and the Bride say come, does Thou not hear the cry?

*O come and make all things new;  
Come and make all things new.  
O come and make all things new;  
Build up this ruined earth.  
Come and make all things new.*

Come, for creation groans, impatient of Thy stay,  
Worn out with these long years of ill, these ages of delay.

Come, for love waxes cold; its steps are faint and slow.  
Faith now is lost in unbelief; hope's lamp burns dim and low.

*"And he who was seated on the throne said, 'Behold, I am making all things new.'  
Also he said, 'Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.'  
-Revelation 21:5*

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### Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven

Praise my soul, the King of heaven,  
To His feet thy tribute bring.  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
Evermore His praises sing:  
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for His grace and favor,  
To His people in distress.  
Praise Him still the same as ever,  
Slow to chide, to swift, to bless.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Glorious in His faithfulness,  
Alleluia, alleluia! Glorious in His faithfulness.

Father-like He tends and spares us,  
Well our feeble frame He knows.  
In His hand He gently bears us,  
Rescues us from all our foes.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Widely yet His mercy flows,  
Alleluia, alleluia! Widely yet His mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore Him,  
Ye behold Him face to face.  
Sun and moon, bow down before Him,  
Dwellers all in time and space.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace,  
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

*"Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth." -Psalm 98:4*  
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### **Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*"Let everything that has breath praise the LORD." -Psalm 150:6*  
Thomas Ken (1709); Tune: "OLD 100<sup>th</sup>", Louis Bourgeois (1551); Public Domain

"Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality." -Romans 12:12-13

### **Benediction**

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***Our Elders are available for prayer in the West Foyer following both services.***

***Pastor Steve Shelby*** preached today's sermon. ***Pastor Kevin Greene*** led worship. ***Elder Kevin Shaffer, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, Lara Finnie, Jamison Taggart, and Troy Arnold*** led this morning's congregational singing. ***Jay Smith, Andy Becker, Elder Tim Sinclair, and Sean & Jesse Winterhalter*** managed today's audio and video live stream. ***Clara Bender*** managed the in-house video system.

### **Q & A with Pastor Steve**

Join Steve this morning after the 10:30 AM worship service, as he responds live to some of your text inquiries related to the worship service, the sermon, or general encouragement. We plan on the Q & A lasting approximately 15 minutes. Please text **804-608-9372** with your questions and encouragements.

*In the event that an attendee of a worship service tests positive for COVID-19, WEPC will contact the Virginia Department of Health and follow the advised protocols for notifying attendees who may have been exposed to the virus.*

### **Announcements** (listed alphabetically)

**Children's Ministry** [www.wepc.org/grow/children](http://www.wepc.org/grow/children)

Backyard Children's Worship will resume on 1/10/21.

**Food Pantry needs** [www.wepc.org/foodpantry](http://www.wepc.org/foodpantry)

**Tutoring Ministry volunteers needed** [www.wepc.org/tutoring](http://www.wepc.org/tutoring)

One-on-one tutoring help with virtual learning.

**WEPC Community Preschool** [www.wepc.org/preschool](http://www.wepc.org/preschool)

**Wrap Around Foster Care** [www.wepc.org/fostercare](http://www.wepc.org/fostercare)

1/10/21: Speaker (10:30 AM) & monthly meeting (11:30 AM)

**Youth Ministry** [www.wepc.org/grow/youth](http://www.wepc.org/grow/youth)

Youth Group will resume on 1/10/21.

\*\*\*Please help yourself to a poinsettia as you exit the building.