



# Order of Worship

## God the Father Calls Us to Worship Him

### The Third Sunday in Advent

In the Christian year, Advent is a time that helps us to remember Christ's first coming and reflect on the mystery of the Incarnation. It also teaches us to look eagerly for His second coming when He will return to redeem His creation and exercise His rule with all power and authority.

### Preparation for Worship

*Christ Came to Fulfill the Law*

*"Wherein did Christ's humiliation consist? In His being born, and that in a low condition, made under the law, undergoing the miseries of this life, the wrath of God, and the cursed death of the Cross...in His incarnation, His taking flesh, and being born... In the creation, man was made in God's image; in the incarnation God was made in man's image.*

*Was there no other way for the restoring of fallen man but that God should take flesh? It was not fit for any to satisfy God's justice but man; none could do it but God."*

*--Thomas Watson*

### Call to Worship

*Galatians 4:4-5, read by Terry Marsh*

When the fullness of time had come,  
God sent forth His Son,  
born of woman, born under the law,  
to redeem those who were under the law,  
so that we might receive adoption as sons.

### Song of Adoration

#### Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Let all mortal flesh keep silence  
And with fear and trembling stand  
Ponder nothing earthly minded  
For with blessing in His hand  
Christ our God to earth descendeth  
Our full homage to demand

King of kings, yet born of Mary  
As of old on earth He stood  
Lord of lords, in human vesture  
In the body and the blood  
He will give to all the faithful  
His own self for heavenly food

Rank on rank the host of heaven  
Spreads its vanguard on the way  
As the Light of light descendeth  
From the realms of endless day  
That the powers of hell may vanish  
As the darkness clears away

Alleluia, Alleluia  
Alleluia, Lord Most High

At His feet the six winged seraph  
Cherubim with sleepless eye  
Veil their faces to the presence  
As with ceaseless voice they cry  
Alleluia, Alleluia  
Christ our God, Lord Most High  
Alleluia, Lord Most High

*"Be silent, all flesh, before the LORD, for He has roused Himself from His holy dwelling." Zechariah 2:13  
Liturgy of St. James, 5<sup>th</sup> century, trans. Gerard Moultrie (1864); Tune: PICARDY, traditional French Carol (17<sup>th</sup> century). Music from Picardy (French carol melody); Arrangement: High Street Hymns, ©2007 Ross Byrd. Used by permission.*

### 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.*

### Old Testament Reading

*Jeremiah 23:5-6*

*"Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'"*

### The Ministry of Prayer

#### Come Lord Jesus, Come

Come Lord Jesus, come  
All creation groans  
Savior, come and dwell with us  
Make Your glory known

*"Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!" Revelation 22:20  
Becca Wethered, Advent 2021*

### 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 Quioccasin Road, Henrico, VA, 23229), or visit [www.wepc.org/giving](http://www.wepc.org/giving) for online giving options.*

## Song of Praise

### Make A Way

Come, Son of God, and make us new  
Light of the world, our hearts renew  
Hope in our inner darkness lies  
Oh, healing Sun of Justice rise

Come, promised since our Eden's end  
Child of the woman, come defend  
Long have we felt the serpent's sting  
Come, strike his head, and mercy bring...

*Oh make a way! Open wide the gates  
Oh make a way! Through the sorrow and the pain  
Oh make a way! Though the road is dark and winding  
Oh come, come*

Come, Son of Man, to show the way  
Oh, through the tears, may we see the day  
So long did we in darkness dwell  
Come down to break the chains of hell...

Oh come, make a way  
Oh come, make a way  
Oh come, make a way  
Oh come, come

*"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  
Kate Bluett | Isaac Wardell | Paul Zach. ©2021 Integrity Worship Music/PG Songs  
and Hymns/ASCAP. Used by permission.*

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

Children, age 4 through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, will be dismissed prior to the sermon for a Bible Lesson, activity, and fellowship. Pick up from the Chapel.

[www.wepc.org/grow/children](http://www.wepc.org/grow/children)

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

Gather round ye children come  
Listen to the old, old Story  
Of the power of death undone  
By an Infant born of glory  
Son of God, Son of Man

*"But Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.'" Matthew 19:14  
Andrew Peterson ©2005 New Springs (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music  
Publishing, Inc.) Used by permission. CCLI #708363.*

## God the Son Renews Us through His Word & Sacrament

### Scripture Reading

Matthew 5:17-20

<sup>17</sup>Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. <sup>18</sup>For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup>Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup>For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

### Sermon

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

## God the Holy Spirit Transforms Us by His Grace

### Preparation for the Lord's Supper

### Words of Institution

Mark 14:16-25

The disciples prepared the Passover. And when it was evening, Jesus came with the twelve. And they were reclining at the table and as they were eating, He took bread. And after blessing it, He broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And he said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

### Confession of Sin

From the Book of Common Prayer

**Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Your holy laws. We have left undone what we ought to have done, and we have done what we ought not to have done, and there is no health in us. Yet, good Lord, have mercy on us: restore those who repent, according to Your promises declared to us in Jesus Christ our Lord. And grant, merciful Father, for His sake, That we may live a godly, righteous, and obedient life, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

*Silence*

### Words of Encouragement

Matthew 1:21

She will bear a son,  
and you shall call His name Jesus,  
for He will save His people from their sins.

## The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

*West End Presbyterian Church welcomes all baptized Christians who actively trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, who are willing to forsake their sin and heart-idols, and who are members of congregations that proclaim the Gospel, to participate in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper with us.*

*There are four tables on the floor at the front of the sanctuary. Please come forward as you are ready to participate in the Lord's Supper individually, with a friend, or as a family. Feel free to take additional elements to bring back to your seats to serve others in your family or group. After all are served and have returned to their seats, we will take the bread and the cup together as a congregation.*

*Wine and grape juice with gluten free bread are available in double cups. The wafer is found in the bottom cup.*

*The Elders presiding over the Supper today are standing at a safe distance from each communion table. Know that they are praying for you as the congregation participates in the sacrament.*

*If you need special assistance and are not able to come forward for Communion, please raise your hand and an Elder will come to serve you the elements. If you are unable to attend today's worship service and desire Elders to come to your home to administer the Lord's Supper, please let the church office know.*

*If your child is ready to make a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ, please contact the WEPC office.*

## Songs of Response to God's Grace

### It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

It came upon a midnight clear, that glorious song of old  
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heav'n's all gracious King"  
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing

And ye, 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

For lo, the days are hast'ning on, by prophet bards foretold  
When with the ever-circling years comes round the age of gold  
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling  
And the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing

*"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" Luke 2:14*  
*Edmund Sears, 1850. Public Domain.*

### Father Long Before Creation

Father, long before creation  
Thou hadst chosen us in love  
And that love so deep, so moving  
Draws us close to Christ above  
Still it keeps us, still it keeps us  
Firmly fixed in Christ alone

Though the world may change its fashion  
Yet our God is e'er the same  
His compassion and His covenant  
Through all ages will remain  
God's own children, God's own children  
Must forever praise His name

God's compassion is my story  
Is my boasting all the day  
Mercy free and never failing  
Moves my will, directs my way  
God so loved us, God so loved us  
That His only Son He gave

Loving Father now before Thee  
We will ever praise Thy love  
And our songs will sound unceasing  
Til we reach our home above  
Giving glory, giving glory  
To our God and to the Lamb

*"Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God." Psalm 90:2*  
*Text: from a Chinese hymn, translated by Francis Johnson (1951) Tune: Andrew Osenga ©2005 The Velvet Eagle Songs. Used by permission. CCLI #708363.*

### O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem  
Come and behold Him born the King of angels...

*O come let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him*  
*O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above  
Glory to God, glory in the highest...

*"Let us go to Bethlehem and see." Luke 2:15*  
*Attr. to John Francis Wade (1751); Tune: ADESTE FIDELES, John Francis Wade, Cantus Diversi (1751). Public Domain.*

### 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 100th", 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

***Our Elders are available for prayer at the front of the Sanctuary following the 9AM & 10:30AM services.***

***Pastor Steve Shelby* preached today's sermon. *Pastor Kevin Greene* led worship. *Elder Kevin Shaffer, Sarah Shrader, Hill Shore, Deacon Karl Kuder, Elder Tom Krieger, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, and Gordon Collier* led this morning's congregational singing. *Jay Smith, Deacon Tim Andrews, and Rob MacBride* managed today's audio and video live stream. *Michael Whitman* managed the in-house video system.**

## Announcements

### Adult Ministry

#### Adult Sunday School [www.wepc.org/grow/adults](http://www.wepc.org/grow/adults)

9:00 AM

- Series on Advent / Library
- Series on Discipleship / Rm. 21

#### Third Saturday Mature Singles Fellowship

[www.wepc.org/MASfellowship](http://www.wepc.org/MASfellowship)

NO December Meeting

Next Meeting: January 15 / 4-5:30PM

#### Women's Ministry [www.wepc.org/grow/women](http://www.wepc.org/grow/women)

- **Women's Advent Prayer Gathering**  
Sundays, December 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> / 8:30-9AM / Chapel  
Join us as we bring our longing hearts to Jesus, the Light of the World, during this season. All women are welcome!

*Please note: During this intimate time in the Chapel, and to serve the most vulnerable among us, we request that you wear a mask during this gathering. Masks will be provided.*

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

##### 9 AM

- Nursery (infant-3 years old)--upstairs
- Preschool Quest (4 & 5 years old)--downstairs
- Sunday School (K-5)--downstairs

##### 10:30 AM

- Nursery (infant-3 years old)--upstairs
- Children's Worship (4 years old - 2nd grade)--Chapel

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

#### Missions [www.wepc.org/missions](http://www.wepc.org/missions)

##### Are you involved with any of the following ministry organizations?

Please contact the WEPC Mission Team at [missions@wepc.org](mailto:missions@wepc.org) to let us know so we can be better coordinated with these ministries!

- Christian Counseling and Training Center
- Needles Eye Richmond
- seeJesus.net
- STEP
- Sweet Monday

#### Neighborhood Outreach Ministry [www.wepc.org/neighborhood](http://www.wepc.org/neighborhood)

##### Sewing Friends Restarting Jan. 19

Wednesdays / 9:30-11:30AM / Rm. 33

Looking for ways to connect with immigrant women and share the love of Jesus? Join Sewing Friends for opportunities to sew together and develop relationships – ability to sew is helpful, but not required.

Contact Christine Morobe, [christine@wepc.org](mailto:christine@wepc.org), if interested.

##### Simple English Christian Service [www.wepc.org/simpleenglish](http://www.wepc.org/simpleenglish)

TODAY / 12PM / Chapel

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

##### Youth Sunday School: 9AM / Fellowship Hall

##### Wednesday Night Youth Group

- **Middle School:** 6-7:30PM / Gym
- **High School:** 7:30-9PM / Gym

#### General Information

##### Fiscal Year Giving Report (as of 11/28/21):

Operating gifts YTD: \$ 819,039.76

Forecasted gifts YTD: \$ 865,731.79

% of expected budget received: 94.61%

##### End-of-Year Contributions

To ensure your church contributions are tax-deductible, please drop off any donations by 12PM on 12/31 or make sure they are postmarked by 12/31. Please check your bank and investment account statements for uncleared stock or cash donations to WEPC. Contact AmyCaroline Wilks ([acwilks@wepc.org](mailto:acwilks@wepc.org)) with any questions.

##### Counseling

Lara Finnie, Licensed Professional Counselor at WEPC, is available by appointment. Visit [Abiding Branches](#) for more information.

#### Advent & Christmas at WEPC

##### Angel Tree

WEPC is again working with Prison Fellowship to provide gifts to children whose parents are currently incarcerated. Like last year, we are doing everything online. Please click [HERE](#) to purchase a gift card. Please purchase gifts by **TODAY**. Contact Steve Glissman at [steveglissman@gmail.com](mailto:steveglissman@gmail.com) with any questions.

##### Cookies & Caroling

TONIGHT / 6PM / Fellowship Hall

Join us for a night of fellowship and Christmas caroling with your WEPC family! Contact Becca Wethered ([becca@wepc.org](mailto:becca@wepc.org)) with any questions.

##### Christmas Eve Services:

- **4PM: Family-Friendly Service** celebrating our Savior's Advent through Scripture and song. Children are encouraged to bring an offering of non-perishable food for the WEPC Food Pantry.
- **7PM: Communion Service of Lessons & Carols** celebrating our Savior's Advent through Scripture and song.

*\*At both Christmas Eve services, we will take an offering which provides financial assistance for the needy in our church and community and for ministries approved by the WEPC Diaconate, such as South Sudan Community Development, WEPC's In Jesus Name Food Pantry, and Afghan Refugee Resettlement.*

##### Sunday, Dec 26 Worship Services

We will have our regular 9:00 and 10:30 AM worship services with nursery services provided. The following ministries will NOT meet: Adult & Children's Sunday School, Children's Worship, and Youth Group.