

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WELCOME**

We are so glad you are here to worship with us today! Worship services are also available online. Sermons can be found at [www.winppc.org/sermons](http://www.winppc.org/sermons).

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY**

Our sympathies are extended to the family and friends of the following. Please keep their families in your prayers.

☞ Ann MacDiarmid passed December 9th. A service will be held in the WPPC Sanctuary on Saturday, January 18 at 2pm.

☞ Phil Ettinger passed December 11th. Service information has not been provided at this time.

**CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING—TODAY**

The Christmas Joy Offering will be taken today. This is one of the four annual PC (USA) Special Offerings taken every year. Presbyterians have long celebrated the birth of Jesus Christ by giving generously to an Advent Offering. Fifty percent of receipts from this offering are distributed to the Board of Pensions for assistance programs that provide support to retired and active church workers and their spouses/families. The other fifty percent supports Presbyterian-related ethnic schools and colleges through the Racial Ethnic and Women’s Ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Please give generously to those who serve the church: past, present and future. Thank you. ~The Compassion Committee

**SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS—ONE SERVICE AT 10:30AM**

Join us at 10:30am on December 22nd as we worship together with a special service of Lessons & Carols. Scripture readings and beloved carols will tell the Christmas story and remind us of God’s great Gift to the world!

**NEIGHBORS & FRIENDS LUNCH—JANUARY 19TH**

Join the Neighbors and Friends Ministry on December 19th for our monthly luncheon. Justin Chase will bring some of the Lake Nona Choir students to present a musical performance at 11:30am in Fellowship Hall. The catered lunch will follow at the cost of \$15. If you would like to purchase an extra meal for a student guest, you may do so as it will help offset our expenses. Reservations are due December 16th by calling the front office (407-647-1467).

**POINSETTIAS**

Our church will once again be graced with poinsettias as we celebrate Christmas. Forms for purchasing a poinsettia to serve as a memorial, or as a tribute of honor are available in the narthex and the front office. Each poinsettia is \$15. Order forms must be returned by Monday, December 16.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING—JANUARY 5TH**

A Congregational Meeting will be held immediately following the 10:30am worship service on Sunday, January 5. The purpose of the meeting is to elect the new class of Elders and Deacons.

**WHITE SOCKS**

Please bring NEW WHITE SOCKS and deposit them in the marked containers in the front office. We will be accepting the socks through the end of December. The Hannah Circle will be folding and packing them for the January Meal. The recipients of these socks are the people that come to the Coalition for the Homeless for an evening meal, or they are residents in the program. Our church has been doing this drive for over 20 years and have dispensed literally thousands of pairs of socks. It’s hard to describe the joy and thanks that is expressed for these simple gifts.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**UP NEXT...**

- Tues, 12/17 2:30pm Young at Heart Chorale
- Wed, 12/18 5pm Kid’s Night Out
- Thurs, 12/19 11am Communion Svc at Westminster WP
- Thurs, 12/19 11:30am Neighbors & Friends Luncheon
- Fri, 12/20 6:30-8pm Living Nativity
- Sun, 12/22 10:30am Service of Lessons & Carols (One Service at 10:30)
- Tues, 12/24 5pm Christmas Eve Family Service
- Tues, 12/24 7pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



**Winter Park**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 15, 2024  
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



The Session		
2024	2025	2026
Mike Galyean	Theresa Coker	Syd Davis
John Gehrig	Mary Ferguson	Betty Johnston
Jayne Leach	Cathy House	Shaheed Mohammed
Audrey Santiago	Glenn Riccio	Nelson Roe
Sara Van Arsdel	Ron Thompson	

The Diaconate		
2024	2025	2026
Lisa Dreasher	Meg Baldwin	Ernestine Beattie
Jerry Fitzgerald	Anna Caparis	Sue Howard
Nancy Galyean	Lynne McKnight	
Andy Riccio	Debbie Pauzar	
	Debby Roberts	

**Missions Supported by WPPC**

- Audrey Santiago, *Transitions Orphan Assistance Foundation*, Ukraine
- Dr. Robert Gamble, *This Child Here*, Ukraine
- Dennis & Susan Walters, *SIL*, Asia
- Steve & Sonia Dettweiler, *Wycliffe*, Nigeria
- Dr. Anne Hallum, *A.I.R. (Alliance for Reforestation)*, Guatemala
- Iglesia de Santa Clara Presbyterian, Santa Clara, Cuba

**PC(USA) World Missions**

- Mark Hare & Jenny Bent, Costa Rica
- Dan & Elizabeth Turk, Madagascar

**Staff**

- The Rev. Dr. W. Darren Bess, Senior Pastor
- The Rev. Dr. James A. Capps, Senior Adult Ministry Coordinator
- Justin Chase, Director of Music
- Penny Walsh, Organist
- Sandra Shafer, Pianist
- Scott Beck, Director of Handbells
- Carolyn Achenbach, Director of Operations/Accountant
- Cindy Mitchum, Executive Assistant
- Barbara Hordern, Administrative Assistant
- Valerie Beltrán, Children’s Ministry Coordinator
- Wendy Stafford, Health Care Coordinator
- Nicole Fye, Director of Preschool Programs
- Adam Davies, Sexton

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

\* Please stand as you are able

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINISTRY MOMENT • Ron Thompson

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRELUDE • *In Dulci Jubilo* - J.S. Bach (10:30)

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

God You are our salvation and trust.

**Rejoice in the Lord, for our God is near.**

You redeem Your people; You restore our fortunes.

**Rejoice in the Lord, for our God is near.**

You have become for us our strength and salvation.

**Rejoice in the Lord, for our God is near.**

Let us sing to the Lord, who has done glorious things.

**Let us offer joy, thanks, and praise this day. Hallelujah!**

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD CANDLE OF THE ADVENT WREATH

RESPONSE • ***Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah*** (Hymnal 85, Verse 3)

\* PRAYER OF ADORATION

**God of good news, God of joy, Your Spirit is always at work in our midst. Your nearness brings life and salvation. Help us join in the songs of our ancestors who have declared Your mighty works through the generations. Let our praise arise with theirs as we rest in the joy of Your arriving presence. Amen.**

\* HYMN 145 • ***What Child Is This***

CALL TO CONFESSION

Trusting in God's salvation, faithfulness and merciful love, let us confess our sin and the sins of the world, as we lift our voices together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, we confess that, in the midst of Your glorious creation, we have neglected our role in its care. We ignore the cries of the hurting and the lonely. We focus on our own desires, while forgetting the needs of our neighbors. We have not prepared a way for the Lord, through either our words or our deeds, neither through our actions nor our thoughts. Grant us Your mercy in forgiveness; and lead us to act with compassion and justice, guided by Your glorious light. Amen.**  
*(Continue with silent confession and reflection.)*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Surely God is our salvation! We will trust in the Lord's goodness and will not be afraid. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

\* RESPONSE • **Refrain from *Angels We Have Heard on High*  
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL

PASTORAL PRAYER

\* RESPONSE • ***Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*** (Hymnal 347, verse 3)

**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 shadows clear away.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 12:2-6

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Luke 3:7-18

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

"BE THE MOON, REFLECT THE SUN" • The Rev. Dr. W. Darren Bess

\* THE REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH - *Adapted from the Presbyterian Church Brief Statement of Faith*

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the One triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC *Lo, How a Rose/The Rose* - Craig Hella Johnson (10:30)

\* OFFERTORY RESPONSE ***Doxology*** (Sung to the tune of "Veni Emmanuel")

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

\* HYMN 143 • ***Angels, from the Realms of Glory***

THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE • Good Christian Friends, Rejoice - Young (10:30)

## ☞ SERVING TODAY ☜

**OFFICIATING MINISTER**

The Rev. Dr. W. Darren Bess, Senior Pastor

**LITURGISTS**

Jim Esch (8:15); Meg Thomas (10:30)

**ADVENT LIGHTERS**

Betsy Peters & Ralph Drtina (8:15)

Rickie Gustafson, Sandy Matrick, Cynthia Nants, Debbie Pauzar, Sue Rudolph, and Phyllis Woods (10:30)

**MUSICIANS**

Sandra Shafer, Piano (8:15)

Justin Chase, Director of Music; Penny Walsh, Organ (10:30)

**AUDIO/VISUAL**

Carole Reece, Doug Reece, Nelson Roe & Carissa Taylor (10:30)

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## ☞ WORSHIP MATTERS ☜

**FLOWERS**

The flowers today are given to the Glory of God in celebration of this wonderful Christmas Season.

**ANTHEM TEXT**

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung. Some say love, it is a river that drowns the tender reed; Of Jesse's lineage coming as men of old have sung. Some say love, it is a razor that leaves your soul to bleed; It came, a Flow'ret bright, some say love, it is a hunger, an endless aching need; Amid the cold of winter I say love, it is a flower, and you, its only seed. When half spent was the night. It's the heart afraid of breaking that never learns to dance; It's the dream afraid of waking that never takes the chance; It's the one who won't be taken who cannot seem to give; And the soul afraid of dying that never learns to live. This Flow'er, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air, when the night has been too lonely and the road has been too long; Dispels with glorious splendor the darkness ev'rywhere. And you think that love is only the lucky and the strong; True Man, yet very God, just remember in the winter far beneath the bitter snow; From sin and death He saves us lies the seed that with the sun's love, in the spring becomes the rose. And lightens ev'ry load.

**MUSIC**

Our CCLI License number is 11184426; OneLicense.net number is 725233; Our CVLI License number is 505405959.

**WORSHIP AIDS**

Assistive hearing devices are available from an audio/visual technician at the rear of the sanctuary.

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## ☞ COMMUNICATION INFORMATION ☜

**PASTORAL CARE**

If you (or someone you know) are going through a difficult time, please reach out to us. Our Deacons and pastoral care staff are available for support, home and hospital visits, and prayer. Please contact Dr. Darren Bess at 407-647-1467 or [darrenb@winppc.org](mailto:darrenb@winppc.org). For pastoral emergencies when the church office is closed, call 407-647-1467 x 112.

**PUBLICITY**

If you have a church event that needs to be publicized in the church bulletin, newsletter, etc., please fill out the form located at: <http://winppc.org/publicity-request/>.