

ORDER OF WORSHIP

* Please stand as you are able.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH CANDLE OF THE ADVENT WREATH

RESPONSE • ***Light One Candle*** (GTG Hymnal 85, Verse 4)

* CALL TO WORSHIP

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon His shoulders;

and He is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

* HYMN 113 (GTG Hymnal) • ***Angels We Have Heard on High (verses 1 & 3)***

PEOPLES PRAYER

Shepherd of Israel, today we enter the last week of Advent, this final time of waiting and preparation. Do we have all the gifts? No, because the light of the world is still on the way. Is our home ready for visitors? Only if our home is ready for Your arrival, O God. And even as we wait for You to come, we know that You are always with us. Even as we pray not only for ourselves but for the sick, the lost, and the grieving—come Emmanuel. With hope, peace, joy, and love we pray. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

God our Maker, we confess that we are not ready to meet You. You call us to repent, but we turn away from You. You wait patiently for us, but we fail to watch and wait for You. Forgive us, God of grace. Embrace us with tender mercy so that we may be at one with You when all Your glory is revealed; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

RESPONSE • ***Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (verse 4)***

At His feet with six-winged seraph;

Cherubim with sleepless eye,

Veil their faces to the presence,

As with ceaseless voice they cry:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord Most High

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Emmanuel did not come into this world to condemn, but to save.

God does not come to imprison us, but to set us free.

Through this abundant love, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

* RESPONSE • ***Refrain from Angels We Have Heard on High*** (GTG Hymnal 23)

Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Festival of Lessons and Carols

HARP PRELUDE

VENI EMMANUEL (BOONE HS)

THE 1ST LESSON - Isaiah 11: 1-3a; 4a; 6-9

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,

and a branch shall grow out of His roots.

The spirit of the Lord shall rest on Him,

the spirit of wisdom and understanding,

the spirit of counsel and might,

the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what His eyes see,

or decide by what His ears hear;

but with righteousness He shall judge the poor,

and decide with equity for the meek of the earth.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,

the leopard shall lie down with the kid,

the calf and the lion and the fatling together,

and a little child shall lead them.

CAROL (CHANCEL CHOIR) • *While We Are Waiting, Come*

THE 2nd Lesson - Luke 1: 26-35; 38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you."

But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name Him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to Him the throne of His ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

HYMN 104 (GTG Hymnal) • ***O Lord, How Shall I Meet You (verses 1 & 3)***

THE 3RD LESSON—LUKE 2:1; 3-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

CAROL (APOPKA HS) • *O Come All Ye Faithful*

THE 4TH Lesson - Luke 2:8-1

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock, by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, raising God and saying:

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

CAROLS (APOPKA HS) • *And Suddenly / This Little Babe*

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY (COMBINED CHOIRS) • *Gloria Fanfare*

* OFFERTORY RESPONSE • *Doxology* to the tune of "Veni Emmanuel"

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise God all creatures here below,

Praise God above, ye Heav'nly Host,

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.

CAROL (BOONE HS) • *The First Noel*

THE 5TH LESSON—MATTHEW 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed His star at its rising, and have come to pay Him homage."

They set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary, His mother; and they knelt down and paid Him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

CAROL (WPPC CHANCEL CHOIR) • *A Christmas Invitation*

CAROL (BOONE HS) • *Away in a Manger*

THE 6TH LESSON—JOHN 1:1-14

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.

THE 6TH LESSON—JOHN 1:1-14 (CONTINUED)

He was in the world, and the world came into being through Him; yet the world did not know Him. He came to what was His own, and His own people did not accept Him. But to all who received Him, who believed in His name, He gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or the will of man, but of God.

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.

* HYMN 110 (GTG Hymnal) • **Hark, the Herald Angels Sing**

CAROL (WPPC CHANCEL CHOIR) • *A Christmas Thanksgiving*

* BENEDICTION

“When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and the princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,

The work of Christmas begins:

- To find the lost,
 - To heal the broken,
 - To feed the hungry,
 - To release the prisoner,
 - To rebuild the nations,
 - To bring peace among people,
- To make music in the heart.**

POSTLUDE • *Go, Tell It On the Mountain* - Clegg

✠ SERVING TODAY ✠

OFFICIATING MINISTER: The Rev. Dr. W. Darren Bess, Senior Pastor

LITURGIST: Syd Davis

ADVENT LIGHTERS: Meg Thomas & Ethan Thomas

MUSICIANS: Justin Chase, Director of Music
Penny Walsh, Organ
Chancel Choir
Apopka High School
Boone High School

AUDIO/VISUAL: Carole Reece, Doug Reece, Nelson Roe & Carissa Taylor

✠ WORSHIP MATTERS ✠

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.

✠ 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.

COMING UP AT WPPC

- ◆ Living Nativity 7-8:30pm on Tuesday, December 20
- ◆ Christmas Eve—One Service at 7pm
- ◆ Christmas Day—One Service at 10:30am
- ◆ New Year's Day—One Service at 10:30am

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

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 50 percent supports Presbyterian-related racial 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.

CONCERT SERIES—HARP ENSEMBLE CONCERT

Today at 3pm, a Harp Ensemble concert of Christmas holiday music will be presented by the Central Florida Chapter of the American Harp Society. The Chapter's mission is to celebrate the legacy of the harp through education and awareness, inspire excellence in performance, and empower the next generation of harpists. This chapter will host the American Harp Society's National Convention in Orlando in 2024. Performers will include professional harpists, teachers, and their students. The concert is free and open to the public! A meet and greet reception will follow the concert.

WPPC LIVING NATIVITY

The Living Nativity will be held this Tuesday, December 20. The event will take place from 7-8:30pm. We are looking for volunteers to portray Joseph and the Wise Men. We also need volunteers to help wherever needed. If interested, please contact Barbara in the front office at 407-647-1467.

RELATIONSHIPS IN ACTION—SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9:15 AM IN ROOM 301

12/25: No Class—Merry Christmas!



Merry Christmas

Staff

The Rev. Dr. W. Darren Bess, Senior Pastor
Justin Chase, Director of Music
Penny Walsh, Organist
Sandra Shafer, Pianist

Carolyn Achenbach, Director of Operations/Accountant
Cindy Mitchum, Executive Assistant
Barbara Hordern, Administrative Assistant
Tricia Wilson, Director of Preschool Programs
Kenny Lovelace, Sexton



Winter Park
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 18, 2022

Lessons & Carols



FOURTH SUNDAY OF
ADVENT