

ORDER OF WORSHIP

* Please stand as you are able.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

MINUTE FOR MISSION • Syd Davis

PRELUDE • *Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming* - Bish (10:30)

* CALL TO WORSHIP

We are waiting for the dawn of God's incarnation.

Restore us, O God. Let us see Your face.

We are like clay awaiting the potter.

Restore us, O God. Let us see Your face.

Teach us to keep alert as we wait.

Restore us, O God. Let us see Your face.

Sustain us this day as we worship You.

Amen. Let us worship God!

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST CANDLE OF THE ADVENT WREATH

RESPONSE • **Light One Candle** (Hymnal 85, Verse 1)

* PRAYER OF ADORATION

God of all generations, though signs and seasons change, Your promise is faithful, and Your word will never pass away. Give us courage and strength as we watch and wait for Jesus Christ, our redeemer, Who is coming in glory to reign. Amen.

* HYMN 88 • **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (verses 1, 6, 7)**

CALL TO CONFESSION

In this season so many voices wish to claim our attention, our time, and our dollars. At this font one Voice claims our whole lives: soul, body, heart, and mind. In humility let us confess our faults to the Voice who proclaims our forgiveness.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Coming Christ, You may not find us as You hoped. We've looked away from signs we do not wish to see. We've stopped listening to distress we do not wish to hear. We are numb to inconvenient truths. Keep us alert, O God, to the needs of our neighbors. Revive our hearts laden with compassion fatigue. Sharpen our minds clouded by worries. Sober our lives addicted to privilege. Show us the signs of Your coming, that we may stand before You, the Son of Man, in whose name we pray. Amen.

(Continue with silent confession and reflection.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

As sure as the fig tree blossoms, so sure is the salvation of God, poured out for the world in Jesus Christ our Lord. Believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

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

PASTORAL PRAYER

RESPONSE • **While We Are Waiting, Come** (Hymnal 92)

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 33

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

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

John 1:1-5

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

SERMON

"Hope" • The Rev. Dr. W. Darren Bess

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC *Advent Proclamation* - Olaf G. Malmin (10:30)

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

* 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.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE INVITATION

THE PRAYER OF BLESSING

THE WORDS OF SACRAMENT

SERVING GOD'S PEOPLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING 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 82 • **Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus**

THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE • *Deck the Halls* - Ellsasser (10:30)

✠ SERVING TODAY ✠

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

LITURGIST: Jim Esch (8:15); Rick Davis (10:30)

ADVENT LIGHTERS Sylvia Reaves (8:15); Dawn & George Sumrall (10:30)

COMMUNION SERVERS: Anna Caparis, Syd Davis, Mary Ferguson, Nancy Galyean, Fred Kittinger, Debbie Pauzar, Glenn Riccio, Debbie Roberts, Ron Thompson; Mike Galyean, Coordinator (10:30)

MUSICIANS: Sandra Shafer, Piano (8:15)
Justin Chase, Director of Music (10:30)
Penny Walsh, Organ (10:30)

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

✠ WORSHIP MATTERS ✠

ANTHEM TEXT

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. The light has shined on the nations who live in the shadow of death. Arise, be clothed in light, your light has come, Alleluia, alleluia. Though darkness covers the earth, the Lord will shine upon you. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus Christ is the light of the world, the light no darkness can overcome, the light no darkness can overcome. Let your light scatter the darkness, let your light scatter the darkness, let your light scatter the darkness and illumine your Church.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. The light has shined on the nations who live in the shadow of death. Arise, be clothed in light, your light has come, Alleluia, alleluia. Though darkness covers the earth, the Lord will shine, will shine upon you. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

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.

✠ COMMUNICATION INFORMATION ✠

PASTORAL CARE

If you (or someone you know) are going through a difficult time, please contact us. Our Deacons and pastoral care staff are available for support, home and hospital visits, and prayer. Please call Dr. Darren Bess at 407-647-1467 x103 or email him at darrenb@winppc.org. For pastoral emergencies when the church office is closed, call 407-647-1467 x112.

PUBLICITY

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

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.

JOY OF GIVING—UPDATE

We are grateful for the response to our Joy Of Giving stewardship emphasis. As of Monday, November 27th, we have received 89 faith promises for a total of \$360,454. In order to accomplish God's purpose for us for 2024, everyone's commitment is important. If you haven't made your commitment, there are cards in the pew racks and on the usher's table. Completed cards can be placed in the offering plates or taken to the office. Please note, if you make a commitment and your financial situation changes, you can make adjustments at any time.

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.

LIVING NATIVITY

Thanks to all who have volunteered to help with Living Nativity! Our poster is nearly full! For those who are helping with stage setup, we are planning to set up the stage area the morning of Saturday, Dec 16, from 8am to 12pm. For the actors (Mary/Joseph, Herod, Wise Men, shepherds and angels), we are planning to do a walkthrough of the performance from 1pm to 2pm that same day. If both of the above groups can be in attendance at those times, it will help us be prepared for a smooth performance. Please contact Steve House, 407-758-3613, with any questions, and stay tuned for more news! ***(P.S. We are still in need of one more wise man and one or two angels. These are non-speaking parts).***

WELLNESS PROGRAM—AED DEMONSTRATION

As part of our Wellness Program, we are receiving two defibrillation devices from our local Fire Department. As we know, these devices can help save lives. However, we also need to know how to use them effectively in the event of an emergency. On December 12th at noon, that's 12/12 at 12, there will be a representative from the Fire Department here to perform a demonstration on the use of these AED's. Everyone is welcome, no prior medical training required, and if you are currently serving as an elder or deacon and are available to attend, it would be highly encouraged and greatly appreciated. This event is part of our Wellness Program here at our church, and since this demonstration is from 12-1pm there will also be a delightfully delicious, as well as, a highly nutritious lunch provided. If you plan to attend, please contact the church office (407-647-1467). We hope to see you there!

BIBLE RECAP GROUP MEETS TODAY

Reminder for meeting change due to the holidays/travel: The Bible Recap Group will meet today, December 3rd, in room 301 to discuss our introduction into the New Testament. Come share your questions, something you learned, or additional background you discovered.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL TOY DRIVE—DECEMBER 10TH—ONE MORE WEEK!!

Our annual Toy Drive will take place on Sunday, December 10 during both services. We will deliver them to Apopka on Tuesday, December 12 after we load the bus starting at 9am. If you would like to participate in any portion of this event, please contact Rachel Myers at 407-484-7290. A list of suggested toys is available in the Narthex.

POINSETTIAS—ORDER FORMS DUE BY DECEMBER 14TH

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 December 14th.

BLUE CHRISTMAS

This is a time to remember and cherish the ones we love. We bring them home again to be with us at Christmas. Please join us on December 23rd at 4pm in the Chapel, where we will recognize our loss of friends, family, and our aloneness in this season.

HANNAH CIRCLE

The Hannah Circle will meet Monday, December 11 at 6pm in the Parlor. Please bring a dish to share for our pot luck dinner. Also bring a small gift that will fit in a small brown paper bag—\$10 or under. No breakable items please! All are welcome.

HEALTH NEEDS

There comes a time when we all may need assistance, in one way or another. As the church Health Care Coordinator, I am here to help you with your physical needs as well as your spiritual ones. Please note that we have available crutches, walkers and wheelchairs for anyone who may need them, at any time. I understand that things happen – your wheelchair may need maintenance, or you have recently fallen and needed a walker or crutches and may not have the means to acquire one, or you may just need one temporarily to get you through an injury. We can help supply the needs of the congregation, so if you have a physical problem you need help with, please see me at church or email me at wendys@winppc.org if you have a need for any of these medical supplies. I am here to help if you let me know.

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

December 10th - No Class

The Compassion Committee will be using the classroom for the collection of Community Toys for Apopka so RiNA will not meet.

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
Wendy Stafford, Health Care Coordinator
Nicole Fye, Director of Preschool Programs
Adam Davis, Sexton



Winter Park
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 3, 2023
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
COMMUNION SUNDAY

