

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

\* Please stand as you are able

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRELUDE • *In Dulci Jubilo* - Bach

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

As the land is renewed each year and new crops sprout,

**So the Lord God is restoring us.**

We are transformed by God's glory and power,

**God's revelation in a little child.**

Salvation shall bring complete transformation.

**The Lord God is saving us. With our whole being we rejoice in our God.**

**Let us worship God!**

### \* PRAYER OF ADORATION

**God of wonder, this world You shaped is marvelous, from the ants to the Himalayas, from supernovas to the wind that sculpts the earth. Grant us the wonder and curiosity to question everything, as Jesus did. Don't let us settle for answers without truth. Teach us to find You in all that is true so that we may worship You in Spirit and in truth. Amen**

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

CALL TO CONFESSION

In faith and in hope, we trust that God is merciful and just and receives our prayers with grace. In humility and with meekness, let us confess our sin together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, though we are in awe of the dawn of Your light in Jesus Christ, we remain self-centered and cling to the sin of the world. We celebrate the birth of our savior, yet we struggle in our commitment to follow him. We are called to pursue justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with You; yet we are content to seek our own comfort and conveniently ignore the cries of those in need. By the light of the Christ child, lead us on a path of goodness and righteousness, as we seek to love all of Your bountiful creation. Amen.**

*(Continue with silent confession and reflection.)*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved. The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Praise be to Christ! Alleluia!**

### \* RESPONSE • *Refrain from Angels, from the Realms of Glory* (Hymnal 143)

**Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king!**

PASTORAL PRAYER

### RESPONSE • *You Are The Lord, Giver of Mercy* (Hymnal 437)

**You are the Lord, giver of mercy!**

**You are the Christ, giver of mercy!**

**You are the Lord, giver of mercy!**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

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

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Galatians 4:4-7

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

SERMON

"PRAISE" • 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 *I Wonder As I Wander* - Niles

### \* 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 136 • *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* (Congregation-Refrain only/Soloist-Verses)

THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE • *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* - Bish

## **✠ SERVING TODAY ✠**

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

**LITURGIST:** Jayne Leach

**MUSICIANS:** Justin Chase, Director of Music  
Penny Walsh, Organ (10:30)  
Jackson Chase, baritone

**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.

## **✠ 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/>.



**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).

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING—JANUARY 14TH**

A Congregational Meeting will be held immediately following the 10:30am worship service on January 14th. The purpose of the meeting is to elect Elders and Deacons.

**POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS**

If you purchased a poinsettia, please take yours home after the service today. If you know someone who would enjoy receiving one, please take an extra to brighten their day.

**KING’S BRASS CONCERT—ONE SERVICE AT 10:30 AM ON JANUARY 7TH**

Tim Zimmerman and the King’s Brass provide innovative worship for young and old alike through the “best in sacred brass music.” By teaming together, these Christian professionals from around the United States perform their original arrangements as heard on their fifteen recordings. For forty years, The King’s Brass have performed over one hundred concerts each season with three trumpets, three trombones, a tuba, keyboards, and percussion. Playing a wide variety of music from Gabrieli to hymn classics, from Handel to jazz spirituals, from Christmas carols to patriotic marches, The King’s Brass uses all corners of the concert hall to lift hearts and spirits in praise. Join us at our 10:30am worship service on January 7th to hear this amazing concert! There will be no 8:15am service.

**BEREAVEMENT GROUP—BEGINNING JANUARY 10TH @ 4PM**

The death of those precious to us changes our lives forever. We may discover this when we were young with the deaths of family or friends. The word bereaved may not have meant anything to us, but instinctively we understood. As time passed, we noticed how few if any talked about the deaths. No one checked in to see how we were doing. It was as if the deaths had never happened, yet inside we were experiencing deep pain and many confusing new thoughts and feelings. A six week group using “The Understanding your Grief Journal” by Alan Wolfelt, starts January 10<sup>th</sup>. Dennis Salmon will be the leader. The cost is \$14.00 for the book. Scholarships are available. Please call the church office (407-647-1467) to sign up.

**NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS ADULT MINISTRY**

The new "Neighbors and Friends" adult ministry will kick off on January 18th with an outing to Mt. Dora. The church bus will leave WPPC promptly at 9am for a leisurely day exploring lovely Mt. Dora; lunch is on your own. Reservations can be made by calling the office, 407-647-1467. Private transportation will be available if the bus fills up. We will return at 5pm. Reservations must be made by January 15th. This new ministry is open to adults of all ages.

**HANNAH CIRCLE**

The Hannah Circle will meet on Monday, January 8th at 6pm in room 301. Please join us.

**NOTES**



**Winter Park**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 31, 2023  
FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS



**The Session**

2023	2024	2025
Syd Davis	Mike Galyean	Theresa Coker
Fred Kittinger	John Gehrig	Mary Ferguson
Malcolm MacDiarmid	Jayne Leach	Cathy House
Jim McKinney	Audrey Santiago	Glenn Riccio
Dawn Sumrall	Sara Van Arsdell	Ron Thompson

**The Diaconate**

2023	2024	2025
Ron Ellman	Lisa Dreasher	Meg Baldwin
Betty Johnston	Jerry Fitzgerald	Anna Caparis
Sevilla Morse	Nancy Galyean	Lynne McKnight
Cynthia Nants	Andy Riccio	Debbie Pauzar
Jyme Smith		Debbie 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

**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  
La'Shai Huff-Bichet, Children's Ministry Coordinator  
Wendy Stafford, Health Care Coordinator  
Nicole Fye, Director of Preschool Programs  
Adam Davies, Sexton