

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

\* Please stand as you are able

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### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE • *The First Noel*

#### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

God's vision of peace is a realm where all live together in harmony:  
**enemies become friends, fear gives way to understanding.**  
God calls us to be this community;  
**Let us gather together to worship.**

### LIGHTING OF THE SECOND CANDLE OF THE ADVENT WREATH

RESPONSE • ***Light One Candle*** (GTG Hymnal 85, Verse 2)

#### \* PRAYER OF ADORATION

**God of the wolf and the lamb, God of the goat and the leopard, we gather here to worship You—You who bring enemies together, You who combine earth and heaven, You who know nothing of impossibility. Expand our hopes and our imaginations so that new dreams of peace and unity might arise. May the hearing of Your word, the singing of scared songs, and the blessing of this community awaken us anew to Your presence. With hope, peace, joy, and love we pray. Amen.**

\* HYMN 129 (GTG Hymnal) • ***Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming***

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

John the Baptist's cry echoes through the ages: Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near! Here and now, we go to God in humility and faith, confessing our sins.

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of all creation, Your vision of peace is beyond our knowing. We have been hurt and we have seen destruction, so we turn around and hurt others, destroying what You have called good. Forgive us, and fill us with Your knowledge, so we may help bring forth Your peaceful kingdom. Amen.**  
*(Continue with silent confession and reflection.)*

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Christ comes into our world—Christ comes into our lives—to purify us and give us another chance. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.  
**We rejoice in the hope Christ offers us! Thanks be to God!**

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

#### PASTORAL PRAYER

RESPONSE • ***Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*** (GTG Hymnal 347, Verse 2)

#### OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19  
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

#### NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 3:1-12  
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

#### SERMON

“JOHN THE BAPTIST” • The Rev. Dr. W. Darren Bess

#### OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

##### INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC *The Glory of the Father* - Hovland (10:30)

\* OFFERTORY RESPONSE ***Doxology*** (to the tune of "O Come 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 true 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 93 (GTG Hymnal) • ***Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates***

#### THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE • *Carol of the Bells* - Sorenson (10:30)

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## **SERVING TODAY**

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

**LITURGIST:** Jim Esch (8:15)  
Bill Cuthill (10:30)

**ADVENT LIGHTERS** Margie Meliza (8:15)  
Rusty & Meg Baldwin and Andrew, Anne, Grayson & Wade Hicks (10:30)

**MUSICIANS:** Sandra Shafer, Piano (8:15)  
Justin Chase, Director of Music (10:30)  
Penny Walsh, Organ (10:30)  
Holly Small, Piano (10:30)  
Westminster Ringers: Meg Baldwin, Janet Barnes, Justin Chase, Dana Irwin, Jayne Leach, Lynne McKnight, Sevilla Morse, Doug Reece, Jan Reiker, Holly Small, Dawn Sumrall, and George Sumrall

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

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## **WORSHIP MATTERS**

#### FLOWERS

The flowers today are given to the Glory of God by Wade & Barbara Edwards in memory of their parents, Harold & Dorothy Edwards and Earl & Stella Denson.

#### ANTHEM TEXT

The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us. We beheld the glory of the Father, full of grace and truth. In the beginning was the Word. The Word was with God. In Him was life; and the life was the light of men. He came to his own, and his own received him not.

#### 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 contact us. Our Deacons and pastoral care staff are available for support, home and hospital visits, and prayer. Please contact Dr. Darren Bess at [darrenb@winppc.org](mailto:darrenb@winppc.org) or 407-647-1467 x 103. 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 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](http://www.winppc.org/sermons).

**DON McCARTER FUNERAL SERVICE**

A service for Don McCarter will be held in the WPPC Sanctuary this Thursday, December 8 at 10:00 AM. Please keep his wife, Johnnie, and their family in your prayers.

**POINSETTIAS—ORDER FORMS DUE BY DECEMBER 11TH**

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 11th.

**WHITE SOCKS**

Please bring NEW WHITE SOCKS and deposit them in the marked containers in the front office. We will be accepting the socks up until December 5th. The Hannah Circle will be folding and packing them for the December 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.

**ANNUAL TOY DRIVE**

Our annual Toy Drive will be Sunday, December 11 during both services. We will deliver them to Apopka on Tuesday, December 13 after we load the bus starting at 9am. If you would like to participate in any portion of this wonderful event, please contact Rachel Myers at 407-484-7290. Suggested gifts are: bicycles; skateboards; scooters; helmets; tricycles; dolls of all colors; arts and crafts kits; play 'pretend' kits, jewelry & makeup; sports balls of all kinds; educational games & books; NEW socks, pajamas, play clothes, underwear for boys & girls; cars & trucks (especially medium/large vehicles); board games for children of all ages; toys, clothing & blankets for infants & toddlers; baby diapers (newborn to size 5). You can also help by ordering through Amazon and sending your order to Hope Community Center, Christmas Toy Sale, 1016 N Park Ave., Apopka, FL 32712.

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

12/11: Class planning session for January and February. All are welcome.

**FLOWERS**

If you would like to donate flowers for the weekly worship service in honor of/ in memory of someone special or of a special occasion, please pick a date and put your name on the sign-up chart located in the narthex. When you sign up, please take a form and turn it into the front office with all the information filled in.

**NOTES**



**Winter Park**

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 4, 2022

COMMUNION SUNDAY



The Session		
2022	2023	2024
Theresa Coker	Syd Davis	Mike Galyean
Bonnie Gaughan	Fred Kittinger	John Gehrig
Fran Morrissey	Malcolm MacDiarmid	Jayne Leach
Michelle Trahan	Jim McKinney	Audrey Santiago
Jay Van Hook	Dawn Sumrall	Sara Van Arsdel

The Diaconate		
2022	2023	2024
Jane Munns	Ron Ellman	Ardyth Austin
Rachel Myers	Betty Johnston	Lisa Dreasher
Christine Rich	Sevilla Morse	Jerry Fitzgerald
Meg Ball Thomas	Cynthia Nants	Nancy Galyean
Jeanne Vinci	Jyme Smith	Andy Riccio

Missions Supported by WPPC
Audrey Santiago, <i>Transitions Orphan Assistance Foundation</i> , Ukraine
Dr. Robert Gamble, <i>This Child Here</i> , Ukraine
Dennis & Susan Walters, <i>SIL</i> , Asia
Steve & Sonia Dettweiler, <i>Wycliffe</i> , Nigeria
Dr. Anne Hallum, <i>A.I.R. (Alliance for Reforestation)</i> , Guatemala

PC(USA) World Missions
Mark Hare & Jenny Bent, Costa Rica
Dan & Elizabeth Turk, Madagascar

Staff	
The Rev. Dr. W. Darren Bess, Senior Pastor	Cindy Mitchum, Executive Assistant
Justin Chase, Director of Music	Barbara Hordern, Administrative Assistant
Penny Walsh, Organist	Tricia Wilson, Director of Preschool Programs
Sandra Shafer, Pianist	Kenny Lovelace, Sexton
Carolyn Achenbach, Director of Operations/Accountant	