# *Westminster Presbyterian Church*
# *2020 Christmas Pageant*

*Based on Luke 2 and Matthew 2 (King James Version (KJV))*

**Prelude** *Prelude on "Divinum Mysterium"* JOHN CARTER

**Words of Welcome** *The Coming of God* by Ann Weems **Pastor Enikő**

Our God is the One who comes to us
In a burning bush,
In an angel's song,
In a newborn child.
Our God is the One who cannot be found
Locked in the church,
Not even in the sanctuary.
Our God will be where God will be
With no constraints, no predictability.
Our God lives where our God lives,
And destruction has no power
And even death cannot stop
The living.

**Hymn No. 88** O Come, O Come, Emanuel VENI EMMANUEL

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

2 O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily:
To us the path of knowledge show; and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

**Reading** **Cheryl and Bill Weiss**

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed.

(And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

And all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, our of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

**Hymn No. 121** O Little Town of Bethlehem ST. LOUIS

1 O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

2 For Christ is born of Mary and, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.

**Reading** **Dawn Kridel**

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

**Hymn No. 115** Away in a Manger MUELLER

1 Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

2 The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

**Reading** **Linda Barbu**

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

**Hymn No. 135** Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow FOLLOW

1 There's a star in the east on Christmas morn.
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.
It will lead to the place where the Christ was born.
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

*Refrain*
Follow, follow;
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.
Follow the star of Bethlehem.
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

2 If you take a good heed to the angel's words,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.
You'll forget your flocks; you'll forget your herds.
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

*Refrain*

**Reading** **Jim and Francis Bonk**

And the angel said unto them, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger."

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

**Hymn No. 119** Hark! The Herald Angels Sing MENDELSSOHN

1 Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king.
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise; join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

2 Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity,
Pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

**Reading** **Sherry and Eric Miller**

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, "Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us."

**Hymn No. 133** O Come All Ye Faithful ADESTE FIDELES

1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!

*Refrain*
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

2 True God from true God, Light from light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Very God, begotten, not created!

*Refrain*

**Reading** **Sherry and Eric Miller**

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

**Hymn No. 128** Infant Holy, Infant Lowly W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY

1 Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all! Christ the babe is Lord of all!

2 Flocks were sleeping; shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of the gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you! Christ the babe was born for you!

**Reading** **Linda and Greg Barbu**

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,

Saying, "where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the east and are come to worship him"

**Special Music** *Fantasie on "I Wonder as I Wander"* JOHN NESS BECK

**Reading** **Janelle and Jim Collier**

When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.

And they said unto him, "In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet…"

Then Herod, when he had privately called the magi, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, "Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also."

**Special Music** *King Herod and the Cock* ENGLISH TRADIDIONAL CAROL

**Reading** **Joshua Amimo**

When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense and myrrh.

**Special Music** *Interlude on "Coventry Carol"* SHARON AARONSON

*Lullay, thou little tiny child*
*Sleep well, lully, lullay*
*And smile in dreaming, little one*
*Sleep well, lully, lullay*

*Oh sisters two, what may we do*
*To preserve on this day*
*This poor youngling for whom we sing*
*Sleep well, lully, lullay*

*Herod the king in his raging*
*Set forth upon this day*
*By his decree, no life spare thee*
*All children young to slay*
*All children young to slay*

*Then woe is me, poor child, for thee*
*And ever mourn and say*
*For thy parting, neither say nor sing*
*Farewell, lully, lullay*
*Farewell, lully, lullay*

**Reading** **Dawn Kridel**

And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.

**Hymn No. 122** Silent Night STILLE NACHT

1 Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
'round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

3 Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

4 Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King:
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born.

**Closing Prayer** *The Work of Christmas*, by Howard Thurman **Pastor Enikő**

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star of the sky is gone,
When the kings and 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 the people,
To make music in the heart. Amen.

**Hymn No. 110** Love Has Come BRING A TORCH

1 Love has come: a light in the darkness!
Love shines forth in Bethlehem skies.
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;
Hear how their song of joy arises:
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!
Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

2 Love is born! Come, share in the wonder.
Love is God now asleep in the hay.
See the glow in the eyes of his mother;
What is the name her heart is saying?
Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers.
Love! Love! Jesus, Emmanuel.

3 Love has come and never will leave us!
Love is life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us.
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas.
Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Music for the Christmas Pageant led by:

Ken Shafer, *piano*
Pong Thiemmedh, *tenor, drums*
Kat Beckett, *mezzo soprano*
Chris Kovach, *recorder*