



WESTMINSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*December 26, 2021*

*Morning Worship*

*9:30 A.M.*

**The Prelude**

*Savior of the Nations, Come*  
(Hymn #316)

Ms. Bertha Dykstra

*Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light*  
(Schop, arr. Berry)

**The Welcome and Announcements**

**The Preparation for Worship**

*Christians, Awake, Salute the Happy Morn*  
(Hymn #312, vv. 5-6)

**† The Call to Worship**

Revelation 12:10; Isaiah 9:6-7

**Leader:** And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, “Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.”

**People:** For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

**† The Hymn of Adoration**

*Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come*

#299

**† The Invocation 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.

**† The Confession of Faith**

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell\*; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;\*\* the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*\*this refers to the realm of the dead, not the place of punishment.*

*\*\*“catholic” means “universal” church, the true church in all times and places.*

**† The Gloria Patri**

#572

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen, amen.

## The Call to Repentance

Romans 6:15-19, Church Bible, pg. 943

## The Silent Confession of Personal Sins

### The Corporate Confession of Sin

Lord, every day proves us guilty in your sight. Our prayers have often been spoken from a prayerless heart. Our praise has often been just a praiseless sound. Our best services are filthy rags before you. Blessed Jesus, let us find a hiding place in your sin-appeasing wounds. Though our sins rise to heaven, your merits soar above them; though unrighteousness weighs us down to hell, your righteousness exalts us to your throne. All things in us call for our rejection, all things in you plead for our acceptance. We appeal from the throne of perfect justice to your throne of boundless grace. Thank you for the assurance that by your stripes we are healed, that you were bruised for our iniquities, that you were made sin for us, that we might be righteous in you, that our grievous and manifold sins are all forgiven, buried in the ocean of your concealing blood. Please give us perpetual broken-heartedness and keep us always clinging to the cross. Amen. (Adapted from *The Valley of Vision*)

## The Assurance of Pardon

Romans 6:20-23, Church Bible, pg. 943

## The New Testament Reading

John 4:7-12, Church Bible, pg. 888

### † The Psalter

*O God, You Are My God Alone*

#63A

## The Prayer of Intercession and Dedication

Mr. Joe Steele

## The Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

### The Offertory

*What Child is This* with *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*  
(arr. McDonald)

## The Prayer for Illumination

## The Proclamation of the Word of God

“The God of Power and Protection”  
Nahum 1:3-8

Mr. Joe Steele

Church Bible, pg. 782

### † The Hymn of Response

*Jesus, Lover of My Soul*

#450

### † The Benediction

### † The Doxology

#567

### † The Postlude

*Angels, from the Realms of Glory*  
(Hymn #313, arr. Long)

Ms. Bertha Dykstra

## Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth re - ceive her  
 2. Joy to the earth! The Sav - ior reigns: let men their songs em -  
 3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the  
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions

King; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him room,  
 ploy; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
 ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow  
 prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his  
 and heav'n and na - ture sing,

and  
 sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

## Jesus, Lover of My Soul

1. Je - sus, lov - er of my soul, let me to thy bos - om fly,  
 2. Oth - er ref - uge have I none, hangs my help - less soul on thee;  
 3. Thou, O Christ, art all I want; more than all in thee I find:  
 4. Plen - teous grace with thee is found, grace to cov - er all my sin;

while the near - er wa - ters roll, while the tem - pest still is high:  
 leave, ah! leave me not a - lone, still sup - port and com - fort me!  
 raise the fall - en, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.  
 let the heal - ing streams a - bound; make and keep me pure with - in:

hide me, O my Sav - ior, hide, 'til the storm of life is past;  
 All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring;  
 Just and ho - ly is thy name; I am all un - righ - teous - ness;  
 thou of life the foun - tain art, free - ly let me take of thee;

safe in - to the ha - ven guide, O re - ceive my soul at last!  
 cov - er my de - fense - less head with the shad - ow of thy wing.  
 false and full of sin I am, thou art full of truth and grace.  
 spring thou up with - in my heart, rise to all e - ter - ni - ty.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS IN MORNING BULLETIN**  
**THIS WEEK & BEYOND**

**December 26, 2021**

**Church Office Holiday Schedule:** The church office will be closed **Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup> – Friday, December 31<sup>st</sup>** for the Christmas and New Year's holidays. Staff will return on Monday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022.

**Congregational Meeting:** Your Session has called for a congregational meeting on **January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022**, during the Sunday school hour. The purpose of this meeting will be to provide ministry team updates, an update on Gathering, and to present the church budget. Childcare will be provided for ages 0-3 years in the nursery.

**Men's Bible Study via Zoom:** John Davis will be leading a weekly study on R.C. Sproul's "The Holiness of God" beginning **Tuesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Interested in participating? Contact John Davis at [mrddavisja@gmail.com](mailto:mrddavisja@gmail.com) or 540-216-4079 for more information.

**Youth Ministry Sunday School:** We need volunteers to help teach/aide our Youth Sunday school classes (grades 5<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>) starting **January 16<sup>th</sup>**. If you are interested in mentoring our youth and helping them grow in their faith, please contact James Ensley ([james.ensley@wpc-hsv.org](mailto:james.ensley@wpc-hsv.org)) or sign up on the Blue Sheet today!

**Summer International Missions Trip:** The WPC Missions Ministry Team is making plans for an overseas summer trip. The details are still being finalized, but tentative dates are **June 25<sup>th</sup> - July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022**. If you think you may want to participate, we encourage you to file now for a passport if you do not have one, or renew your passport now if it expires before January 2023 (as many countries want more than six months left on your passport before letting you in). As with everything else, it is taking longer to get your passport requests processed. The country we are considering does not currently require a person to be vaccinated against COVID 19. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Roberts.

**SAVE THE DATE**

- Congregational Meeting: January 9, 2022
- ROOTs Youth Conference: January 21-23, 2022
- Ladies' Multi-generational Tea: February 5, 2022
- Missions Conference: February 25-27, 2022

<b>Pastoral Staff</b>		
Joe Steele	Senior Pastor	joe.steele@wpc-hsv.org
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James Ensley	Assistant Pastor of Student Ministries	james.ensley@wpc-hsv.org
<b>Ministry Team</b>		
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Jennifer Murphree	Women's Ministry Coordinator	jennifer.murphree@wpc-hsv.org
Jessica Perez	Nursery Coordinator	jessica.perez@wpc-hsv.org

### **WPC Officers**

#### **Deacons:**

Craig Bosma, Josh Brown, Josh Buhl, Paul Galloway, John Gunn, Matt Harness, John Kirkwood, Sam Lowrance, Monday Mbila, Art McKinney, Wade Pettus, Nate VanKirk, Chris Wellborn

#### **Ruling Elders:**

Tom Adams, Nat Causey, Joe Crowhurst, John Davis, Bill Emrich, Scooter Johnson, Paul Keel, Curry Knight, Scott Lynn, Brian McFadden, Scott Nicol, Ken Shipman, Allen Zumbach

#### **Teaching Elders:**

James Ensley, David Hammond, Stephen Hooks, Jim Roberts, Nick Robison, Joe Steele

# Home Worship Guide

Beloved congregation,

The ongoing coronavirus pandemic is affecting every family, business, and institution in our country. Even churches like ours are not exempt from its life-altering influence. As you know, Westminster Presbyterian Church has a deep commitment to the Bible-mandated practice of corporate worship on the Lord's Day. Our goal during this challenging season is to retain as much of this corporate worship experience as we possibly can for those unable to join us in person. Please use the suggestions in this guide to help you toward this end.

One of the benefits of being able to worship together in our beautiful sanctuary is that it naturally engenders a corporate atmosphere of reverence mingled with joy. Visible markers of corporate reverence include our rising together during the invocation, the offering up of solemn prayers, periods of sustained silence, and attentive listening. Visible markers of corporate joy include the vigorous singing of praises, heartfelt confession of creeds, delighting in the assurance of pardon, and offering up of tithes and offerings.

As you follow along with the streamed worship, we encourage you to worship at home just as you would at church. For this to happen, you will need to be intentional about the following:

- Find a place in your home that is devoid of unnecessary distractions. Be careful about not allowing your smartphone, tablet, radio, pets, magazines, or anything else to divert your attention from worshipping the Triune God in Spirit and truth.
- Have your Bible and worship bulletin readily accessible. We have slightly modified our bulletin to facilitate easy viewing and printing at home. We strongly recommend having printed copies of the bulletin for your family members, especially the children.
- Dress appropriately as a means of rightly framing your mind toward the task at hand. For most people, it will be difficult to foster a serious and contemplative attitude of worship if they are lounging around in pajamas. How we dress has a profound influence on our behavior.
- Unless providentially hindered, be sure to stand with the congregation when asked to do so. Standing will unite your posture with the gathered assembly and also serve as a natural deterrent to laziness.
- Audibly participate in all corporate prayers, confessions, and singing. The purpose of our Livestream worship service is to glorify God, not to be entertained. There is no such thing as a "passenger" in the worship of God. He has created everything to be participating actively in his praise (Psalm 148).
- Participate in pastoral prayers by bowing your head, closing your eyes, and agreeing silently with the prayers offered up to God. Don't use this as a time to recharge your coffee cups.
- Every Livestream service will still contain an offertory hymn. We urge you to use this time to make an online offering or write a check for later mailing. Even though you are unable to attend in person, our church and missionaries are still very much dependent on your regular tithes and offerings.
- Participate in sermons by actively listening and engaging with the text of Holy Scripture.
- In sum, approach this Livestream worship service precisely as you would if you were present in the sanctuary.

Beloved, these are challenging times, but they afford us a unique opportunity to express our corporate solidarity as God's redeemed people. Many of our friends, neighbors, and co-workers remain blind to the glorious Gospel of our crucified and risen Savior. The confusion and fear of the unbelievers around us will likely increase during this season of uncertainty. Please invite them to join us in corporate worship. In doing so, you will be offering real hope to their imperiled souls.

~Pastor Joe