

WILLIAMSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHRISTMAS EVE

DECEMBER 24, 2017 - 11:00AM

*The story of Christmas
is a story of Promise.*

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

No credit is due to you or to me; truly, all of this, this glory and strength, it must be of God. Surely no human could be capable of this, could make such an offering, could cause all to tremble. Ah, but God, here in holy splendor, dressed in offerings of wool from sheep, lying in the gifts of the trees, the judge of the world lies in Bethlehem, righteousness and truth crown our King, and the whole world pauses in breathless wonder that love has come to earth. Amen.

PASTORAL GREETING AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Let the prelude be a time for meditation and preparation

HARP PRELUDE

Sydney Harris

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Disciple

Congregation reads words in bold.

Love

Joyful, Exuberant

Adoring, Declaring, Magnifying

Affection, Devotion, Reverence, Praise

Compelling, Glorifying, Honoring

Eternal, Majestic

Love

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Light One Candle



Light one can-dle for love, love that the whole world needs. Light one can-dle for



love, love that the sav-ior will bring; love that the sav-ior will bring.



215 RICHMOND ROAD, WILLIAMSBURG, VA 23185

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MYWPC.ORG

CALL TO WORSHIP

Selections from Isaiah 9

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

**For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named**

**Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

**His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onwards and for evermore.**

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Please note:

Each scene will include a Narration, a Reading,
Children's Pantomime, and end with Congregational Song.

Scene 1

WELCOME TO THE STORY

HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful
(Please remain seated)

ADESTE FIDELES

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


WILLIAMSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCUSA)

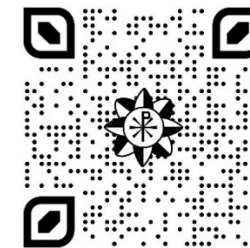
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VISIT OUR WEBSITE, WWW.MYWPC.ORG, FOR MORE INFORMATION.

≈ WORDS OF WELCOME AND INFORMATION ≈

- **Welcome to Williamsburg Presbyterian Church!** Any Usher (designated with a name tag) will be glad to answer your questions, help you find your way around, or help you find ways to connect with the ministries and people in this community of faith. Please feel free to ask an usher for large-print worship bulletins and hymns, directions to the nursery, restrooms, coat racks or access ramps.
- **We offer a nursery for infants and toddlers during the worship services.** Please see an usher for assistance. At our 11am worship service, children 3 years old through second grade begin in the main service, and then go to "Wee Worship," a worship experience designed especially for children.
- **Restrooms are located in the Narthex** and through the side doors on the left near the front of the sanctuary. An usher will be happy to direct you.
- **If you would like invitations to special events and concerts,** please sign your name and email address in the Friendship Folder at the end of each pew. We will be happy to send you information—and hope to see you again!
- **For those of you with a T-coil option** installed in your hearing aid, our sanctuary includes two loop systems allowing you to better understand the spoken word. Although you may find adequate reception in many pew seating locations on the main floor, the highest signal levels will be between the two lines shown in the photo (4th-6th rows) and extends from the center aisle to the pew divider in each row. 
- **The Christian Education Ministry provides worship bags for children to use during the worship service. You will find them hanging on a rack outside the side door to the sanctuary.** They include worship bulletins with space to color, pipe cleaners for busy and creative hands, and book marks to help children mark the pages for the hymns and scripture of the day. Take a moment to enjoy the beautiful display (outside the sanctuary) created from children's artwork from the worship bags!
- **WPC accepts cashless offerings** through the following methods:
 - 1) Use PayPal send your offering to giving@mywpc.org.
 - 2) Text the dollar amount you wish to give to 757-607-4675; be sure to include the dollar sign before the amount. Within minutes you will receive a response to lead you to the next steps.
 - 3) Scan the QR code below to access the WPC online giving page, mywpc.org/give.



PASTORAL STAFF

John E. Morgan, Pastor/Head of Staff (jmorgan@mywpc.org)

Rachel Hébert, Associate Pastor for Community Care (rhebert@mywpc.org)

Harold McKeithen, Jr., Covenant Pastor for Congregational Care (hmckeithen@mywpc.org)

MUSIC STAFF

Christopher Bechtler, Director of Music (cbechtler@gmail.com)

Norman Elton, Organist and Assistant Director of Music (wnelto@wm.edu)

Marilyn Tyrrell, Director of Adult Bells (d.tyrrell@cox.net)

Rebecca Elton, Carol Choir Director (rebecca.n.elton@gmail.com)

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Jodie Davis, Director of Childcare, MOPS and VBS (jdavis@mywpc.org)

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Lynne Bundick, Director of Administration Ministries (lbundick@mywpc.org)

Vanessa Gamble, Church Secretary (vgamble@mywpc.org)

Martha Reier, Church Administrative Assistant (mreier@mywpc.org)

FACILITY STAFF

Ed Brock, Facility Manager (ebrook@mywpc.org); Dennis Joyal, Sexton

SESSION

Moderator: John E. Morgan **Clerk of Session:** Bill Riffer

Administration: Betsy Anderson* (18), Sherry Volk (18), Jaynelle Oehler (19); Dorothea Shannon (20)

Christian Education: Faith Shartzter* (18), Emily Slack¹ (18), Brennan Harris (19), Elizabeth Padgett (20)

Christian Outreach: Carolyn Weeks* (19), Deidre Lenderking (19), Nick Nicasastro (20), Diane Schwarz (20)

Communications: Sherry Volk* (18), Tom Bozek (19)

Facilities: **Bond Carter, Don Darnton (18), Dan Patterson (20)

Resources: Hans Schwartz* (18), Marshall Atkins (18), Hank Vernon (19)

Welcoming: Sam Bowlin (20)

Worship: Tom Bozek* (19), Sam Bowlin (20)

*Moderator **Moderator not currently serving on Session ¹Youth Elder

BOARD OF DEACONS

Moderator: Tommy Michaels (18) **Vice-Moderator:** Allen Hogge (19) **Clergy:** Harold McKeithen

Secretary: Jo Ann Youhas (18)

Celebrations & Concerns: Eleanor Knowles, Chair (19), Jo Ann Youhas (18), Carolyn Condon (19)

Jane Wason (20)

Christian Fellowship: Cherie Wodarski, Co-Chair (18), Dottie Teubner, Co-Chair (18), Robert Lee (18),

Happy Simmons (18), Nancy Harwood (19), Sarah Houghland (19)

Confirmation: Karen Lee, Chair (19), Allen Hogge (19), Judy Austin (20), Jay Hardy (20), Gina Waddell (20)

Family Deacon: Nancy Patron, Chair (19), Betty Mainor (18), Carley Brubaker (20), Pat Underwood (20)

Flower Sharing: Sherrie Chappell, Chair (18), Mary Lib Puller (19), Janet Wallington (19)

Membership: Margie Ambrose, Co-Chair (19), Doris Gilfillan, Co-Chair (19), Tommy Michaels (18),

Jim Coomer (20), Cynthia McCraw (20)

Memorial Reception: Louise Skidmore, Co-Chair (18), Bob Dresch, Co-Chair (18), Carroll Creech (20),

Larry Gaskins (20), Pam Maloof (20), Tracy Trueblood (20)

Memorial Service: Don Swain, Chair (18), Suzanne Stuart (18), Deborah Rockafellow (18),

Harley Stewart (19), Ellen Maurer (19), Carolyn Morgan (20)

Scene 2

MARY RECEIVES GOD'S GOOD NEWS

HYMN

Canticle of the Turning

STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

(Please remain seated)

**My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on the servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
So from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?
My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all the tears, For the dawn draws near, And the world is about to turn.**

**Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,
And your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,
You will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn.
My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all the tears, For the dawn draws near, And the world is about to turn.**

Scene 3

JOSEPH RECEIVED GOD'S PEACE

HYMN

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

(Please remain seated)

**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.**

**O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.**

HYMN

Scene 4

JOSEPH AND MARY TRAVEL TO BETHLEHEM

O Little Town of Bethlehem

(Please remain seated)

**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.**

**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.**

**How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.**

ST. LOUIS

Scene 5

THE INN KEEPER TAKES MERCY ON THE COUPLE

Away in a Manger

(Please remain seated)

**Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.**

**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.**

MUELLER

PASTORS

John E. Morgan, Pastor
Rachel Hébert, Associate Pastor for Community Care
Harold McKeithen, Covenant Pastor for Congregation Care

MUSIC MINISTRY

Christopher Bechtler, Director of Music
Norman Elton, Organist, Assistant Director of Music

PAGEANT DIRECTORS

Adrian Williams, Director of Education Ministries
Rebecca Elton, Carol Choir Director

SPECIAL MUSIC

Sydney Harris, Harpist
Junior Choir under the direction of Chris Bechtler
Carol Choir under the direction of Rebecca Elton

GREETER AND OVERFLOW USHER

Pat Murray

USHERS

Elaine and Mike McBeth
Margaret McMillen
Maxine Cunningham
Jodie and Gary Davis

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
Rev. F. W. Pitman, John M. Pitman, Sr., Catherine P. Pitman,
Mary Sue Pitman Aldrich, Mary L. Pitman, Ella Pitman Jones,
Lawrence C. Pitman, Mary Phillips Pitman and Lawrence C. Pitman, Jr.,
by Dr. & Mrs. John M. Pitman, Jr. and Dr. & Mrs. John M. Pitman, III.

HYMN

POSTLUDE

Christmas Intrada

Conte

The service of worship concludes after the postlude. The music can be enjoyed or used as an opportunity for prayer. You may remain seated; if you wish to depart, please do so quietly and without disturbing those who choose to stay.

The Candle Lighting Liturgy for the 2017 Advent Season is drawn and inspired by different styles of poetry. This week's candle, "Love," draws from the Diamante style of poetry, and is based on Psalm 96:1-6. The Diamante style creates a diamond with its effect, and is usually seven lines long. The first line is a noun, the second 2 adjectives, the third 3 verbs, the fourth 4 nouns, the fifth 3 different verbs, the sixth 2 different adjectives, and the seventh line is a repetition of the first.

HYMN

Scene 6

THE SHEPHERDS ARE BLESSED

The First Nowell

(Please remain seated)

THE FIRST NOWELL

**The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.**

Refrain:

**Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel.**

**They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.**

Refrain

**And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went.**

Refrain

Scene 7

WISE MEN SEEK GOD'S GIFT

We Three Kings of Orient Are

KINGS OF ORIENT

(Please remain seated)

**We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.**

**O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!**

**Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never over us all to reign.**

**O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!**

ANTHEM

HYMN

Scene 8

GOD’S LIGHT LEADS US ALL

Joy to the World
(Please remain seated)

ANTIOCH

**Joy to the World , the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing. (Repeat)**

**Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!
Let all our songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy. (Repeat)**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found. (Repeat)**

**He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love. (Repeat)**

PRAYER OF ADORATION (Unison)

God with us, we celebrate that you are with us; with us in our weakness, with us in our struggles, with us in our every breath. May we be people of promise, providing hope, peace, joy, and love to all, so that your name, the name of Love, can be heard throughout the world. Amen.

MESSAGE

“A Baby Changes Everything”

Rev. John E. Morgan

HYMN

Angels We Have Heard on High
(Please remain seated)

GLORIA

**Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.**

**Gloria, in excelsis Deo;
Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Bethlehem Night
Carol and Junior Choirs
(Please remain seated)

Terry

On this night a King is born in a cattle shed.
Swaddling clothes will keep him warm in his manger bed.

Shepherds, watching flocks by night in the fields nearby,
See an angel in great light! Glory fills the sky!

What a wonder, what a story, what a joyful sight!
Can this be another ordinary Bethlehem night?

Hear the angel share the news, tidings of great joy:
"Now a savior comes to you, in this baby boy."

What a wonder, what a story, what a joyful sight!
Can this be another ordinary Bethlehem night?

***DOXOLOGY**

What Child Is This

GREENSLEEVES

**So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come one and all, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.**

**This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud
The Babe, the Son of Mary!**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***HYMN 135**

There’s a Star in the East

FOLLOW

***CHRISTMAS PRAYER**

Pastor: Loving God, deep in the night, when all the world had locked the doors on love and closed the shutters on hope, you pierced the darkness with Light and a baby's cry. Never again shall we be alone. No more shall we sit in fear. For Christ, the Light of the World and of our lives, is born. God of angels and babies, open us once again to this miracle, this wonder that you became one with us. Let the angels sing for us; let the star shine for us; let the child smile at us -- here and now on this holy night. Amen.

***HYMN 122**

Silent Night

STILLE NACHT

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**