



WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN
ALMOST ORDINARY TIME
DECEMBER 5, 2021

Welcome to Wallingford Presbyterian Church

Members and friends gather here each Sunday morning (and lots of times during the week!) to celebrate and serve. We rejoice that you are here with us, and hope that you'll feel right at home. During our phased reopening masks must be worn securely over the nose and mouth at all times. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation, as we strive to keep all members of our community of faith safe and healthy!

Masks must be worn at all times when in the building, including during worship.

Visitors are encouraged to reach out about activities they may be interested in attending.

Large print bulletins are available upon request.

If you need a little help hearing, portable listening devices are available.

An All Gender Restroom is located in the Narthex.

An infant changing station and Quiet Room for parents with little ones is located off the Narthex.

Activity packets As part of our phased re-opening, activity packets are available for children to use during worship.

Please ask an usher if you need help; we are here to assist you!

Sunday, December 5

Second Sunday in Advent

Twenty-third Sunday in *Almost* Ordinary Time

10:00 am- Worship

Pastor Taylor Preaching

11:00 am- Fellowship Hour

11:00 am- ChristMarket

11:00 am- Pageant Rehearsal

4:00 pm- Advent Festival

Monday, December 6

2:30 pm- Staff Meeting

6:30 pm- GSA 518

7:30 pm- Session

Tuesday, December 7

7:30 pm- Financial Oversight

7:30 pm- Peacemaking and Social Justice

Wednesday, December 8

9:00 am- Breakfast Group-Court Diner

10:00 am- Fellowship of Friends

Wednesday Continued

7:00 pm- WOW Christmas Party

Thursday, December 9

6:30 pm- Bell Choir Practice

7:30 pm- Choir Practice

7:30 pm- BSA 277 & 2019

Friday, December 10

Saturday, December 11

Sunday, December 12

Third Sunday of Advent

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in *Almost* Ordinary Time

10:00 am- Worship

Pastor François Preaching

11:00 am- Fellowship Hour

11:00 am- ChristMarket

12:00 pm- Messiah Rehearsal

3:00 pm- Messiah Concert

4:30 pm- Youth Christmas Party

A community where all who seek God are Welcome...



A STEPHEN SERIES CONGREGATION

Order of Worship

GATHERING BEFORE THE WORD

WORDS OF MEDITATION

Repentance is not something God demands of you before He will take you back, and which He could let you off if He chose: it is simply a description of what going back is like. – C.S. Lewis

WELCOME, MONTHLY BIRTHDAY WISHES GREETINGS AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

*Happy Birthday to you; we give thanks for your life;
We give thanks for your presence here; we give thanks to God for you.*

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

ADVENT HYMN 106

Prepare the Way, O Zion

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

*CALL TO WORSHIP

John came out of the wilderness to preach repentance; he preaches to us still.

Make straight the paths we now walk and prepare the way for God's reign of justice and love. Let us worship God!

*OPENING PRAYER

*OPENING CAROL 113

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

CALL TO CONFESSION

Saints, let us trust in God's love for us and confess our sin, confident in God's mercy.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Refining God, you have sent us prophets and we have not listened. We have not always determined what is best or made way for your reign in our lives, our church, and our society. Forgive us, we pray, and renew your covenant within us.

(Silent Confession)

Forgive us, Lord. **Show us your mercy and sanctify our hearts and minds.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, I am confident of this: if we repent, God is sure to forgive us. The One who began a good work in us will bring it to completion. Grateful for the promise of joy and of peace, let us lift up our thankful hearts.

Thanks be to God!

*RESPONSE 582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

GLORY TO GOD (VASILE)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy One, through your Holy Spirit instruct us by the light of your prophets. Illumine our hearts, that we may hear your call to become your path into the world. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Malachi 3:1-4

OT 889-890

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES 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.

All children are invited to come forward at this time. Parents are encouraged to accompany their younger children and sit with them on the chancel steps or in the chairs provided. After the message, children ages 18mo – 5 years (Young Disciples) and Grades 1 – 5 (Junior Disciples) can go to faith formation or, if parents prefer, return to their pews and worship with their parents (activity packets provided for their use during the worship service.)

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Prepare the Way, O Zion
17th c. Swedish melody

arr. D. Paxton

GOSPEL READING

John 3:2-9, 15-18

NT 93-94

SERMON

Fruits Worthy of Repentance

Pastor Taylor

ANTHEM

Comfort Ye" and "Ev'ry Valley" from *Messiah* HWV 56
Francois Lacroix, Tenor

by G.F. Handel

Comfort ye, my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness: "prepare ye the way of the Lord and make straight in the desert a highway for our God." Ev'ry valley shall be exalted and ev'ry mountain and hill made low, the crooked straight and the rough places plain.

SHARING IN MISSION AND MINISTRY
CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

A Word from your Stewardship Council

OFFERTORY

O Come, Emmanuel

arr. Jason Krug

If you wish to give electronically from your smartphone or tablet, please scan the box at the right to go to the website where you can give to WPC via credit card, or give via the Church Center app.



*RESPONSE 606

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

God of all righteousness, receive these gifts of gratitude, the offerings of our lives. Purify them with your refining fire so that they may serve your purposes and shine with your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

+INVITATION TO THE TABLE

(The opportunity to eat and drink with Christ is not a right bestowed upon the worthy, but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance, and love. All who come to the table are offered the bread and cup, regardless of their age or understanding. Worshipers prepare themselves to celebrate the Lord's Supper by putting their trust in Christ, confessing their sin, and seeking reconciliation with God and one another. Even those who doubt may come to the table in order to be assured of God's love and grace in Jesus Christ. W-3.0409 Directory for Worship, Book of Order, PCUSA)

COMMUNION PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

CLOSING PRAYER

***CLOSING CAROL 100**

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN
(Canticle of the Turning) (v. 1,3, and 4)

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

CHORAL BENEDICTION

A Song of Parting

by J. Graham and D. Angerman

TIME OF GREETING AND SHARING THE GRACE AND PEACE WE RECEIVED

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

(Please exchange with one another, by words and gestures, signs of peace and reconciliation.)

****Those who are able, please stand.***

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+ WPC uses only gluten free products for communion.

Thank you to Jenny Miller and all who assisted with the worship service this morning.

This week's chancel flowers were given to the Glory of God.

WORSHIP SUNDAY MORNINGS Just a reminder: If you aren't feeling your best (headache, fever, body ache), please consider staying at home until you feel like your old self again.

ADVENT FESTIVAL TODAY! at 4 pm, we will be our annual Advent Festival! All are welcome to join us for crafts, a Bible story, and carol singing!

PASTOR TAYLOR is off this week. For emergencies, contact Pastor François or the office.

LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION! WE COULD USE YOUR HELP! If you have an interest in videography we could use you as one of our volunteers on Sunday mornings to video record the worship service. If you are interested see Walt Kaminski after the worship service or contact Pastor Francois at pastorfrancois@wallingfordpres.org

UP FOR A COUPLE HOURS OF OFFICE WORK? (answering the phone, opening the mail) Add your name to our list of temps to sub of a few hours at a time in Kate's absence. Contact Kate (email or 610-566-1644) to add your name to our on-call list.

IN-PERSON STAFF AND OFFICE HOURS

In an effort to meet everyone's needs and remain mindful of COVID-19, the staff has established in-person office hours. Due to the pandemic, appointments are preferred when possible.

Pastor François	Tuesday	11 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
	Wednesday	10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Pastor Taylor	Monday	11 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
	Thursday	10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Main Office	Monday	9:30 a.m.-noon
	Tues-Thursday	2-4:30 p.m.

Feel free to call the church office (610-566-1644) or email staff members at other times.

CONCERTS FOR A CAUSE: HANDEL'S MESSIAH Sunday, December 12, 3pm.

Part I + "Hallelujah Chorus" with professional soloists, chamber orchestra and a choir of local singers. Suggested donation is \$15 with all proceeds to benefit Philabundance!

CHRISTMARKET 2021 IS OPEN TO SERVE YOU RIGHT AFTER WORSHIP! ChristMarket offers shoppers the opportunity to purchase a gift that extends far beyond the Christmas season. Browse the brochure to learn about projects that make a difference in the lives of people in need around the world and here in our backyard. ChristMarket donations are accompanied by a charming Christmas card that contains a description of the organization you have supported. Whether you are shopping for the person who has everything or teaching a child about the true meaning of Christmas, ChristMarket donations will be an enriching part of your Christmas celebration. WPC ChristMarket will also be open **on December 12th and 19th**. Donations may be made by cash, check or credit card.

THE 2021 GIVING/ANGEL TREE IS READY TO GO Our Giving Tree will be a bit different again this year. Rather than donating actual gifts, most of our agencies have requested gift cards, which will be used by their staffs to do the "shopping." We will be giving to Chester Eastside and City Team, as well as local families identified by the Wallingford Swarthmore School District social worker. For the third year we will also be participating in Angel Tree through Prison Fellowship, expanding our support to 10 children for them to receive gifts from their incarcerated parents. Look For The Giving Tree in the Narthex. Elves will be available before and after the service to answer questions and receive gifts. **Donations may be returned December 5 and December 12 or placed in the church mailbox at any time.**



Christmas Flowers

Poinsettias will again be used to decorate the church sanctuary for our Christmas services. We are ordering 6 1/2 inch pots for 6-9 blooms.

- #1 Order a poinsettia in honor or memory of someone and then *take it home* after the Christmas Eve service.
- #2 Order a poinsettia in honor or memory of someone and then *leave it* as a gift to be taken by the Deacons to the homebound.
- #3 Honor or memorialize someone by making a *donation* that will go into the Christmas offering.

Poinsettias are \$9 this year for the 6 1/2 inch pot with 6-9 blooms
The deadline for your order is December 5th.

Please put your name, payment and option choice, along with the name of the person to be remembered on the form below and return to the church office.

You may also sign up and pay online at <https://bit.ly/WPCPoins2021>

Poinsettia Order Form 2021

Please return with payment (\$9 per plant) by December 5, 2021

Make check payable to: Wallingford Presbyterian Church

Memo: Christmas flowers

Name (given by) _____ Phone # _____

Option # 1 red poinsettia # _____ white poinsettia # _____

Option # 2 red poinsettia # _____ white poinsettia # _____

Option # 3 \$ _____

Total plants or memorials requested: _____ @ \$ 9.00 = \$ _____

Name (In memory / honor of) _____

STAFF

Rev. François Lacroix, Pastor
Rev. Taylor Cornelius, Associate Pastor
Lee Hagon-Kerr, Director of Music
Kate Callahan, Church Administrator
Leslie Krowchenko, Communications Coordinator
Judith Kenworthy, Clerk of Session
Ed Mattote and Todd Darr, Co-Treasurers
Michelle Hall, Financial Secretary

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