



WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 10TH, 2023

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, and hope that you'll feel right at home.



Please take a moment to silence your cell phone.



Face Masks are optional for all activities and are available upon request.



Friendship Pew Pads can be found at the end of each pew.

Please fill them out and pass along to your neighbors.

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

WPC Directory Our church uses the online directory feature of Planning Center.

Find it online or on the Church Center app. Contact the church office with questions.

WPC Happenings Stay informed! Physical copies available out in the Narthex.



Visual Worship Schedules are available upon request.



If You Need a Little Help Hearing, portable listening devices are available.

An All Gender, ADA Restroom is located in the Narthex.



An Infant Changing Station and Quiet Room for parents is located in the Narthex.

Activity Packets are available for children to use during worship.

Fidget Toys for children (and adults) are available at the Narthex entrance.



Gluten Free Cookies are labeled and available during coffee hour.

Communion is served the first Sunday of the month.

WPC uses bread that is gluten free and made without tree nuts or peanuts.

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

STAFF & HOURS

PASTOR: Rev. François Lacroix

- Tuesday, 11:00am-4:00pm
- Wednesday, 10:00am-2:00pm

ASSOCIATE PASTOR: Rev. Taylor Cornelius

- Monday, 11:00am-4:430pm
- Thursday, 10:00am-1:00pm

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Lee Hagon-Kerr

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: Nathan Gibson

- Monday-Friday, 9:00am-3:00pm

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR: Leslie Krowchenko

CLERK OF SESSION: Christine Darr

CO-TREASURERS: Ed Mattote and Todd Darr

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Michelle Hall

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



A STEPHEN SERIES CONGREGATION

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WORDS FOR MEDITATION

"A prison cell, in which one waits, hopes – and is completely dependent on the fact that the door of freedom has to be opened from the outside, is not a bad picture of Advent"- Dietrich Bonhoeffer, God is in the Manger

GATHERING

WELCOME AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP

A voice cries in the wilderness,

"Prepare the way of the Lord; make God's way clear.

Lift up every valley; lower every mountain.

For the glory of the Lord shall be revealed."

Let us worship God!

*OPENING HYMN #85

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

TIF IN VELDELE

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

In days when God's people longed for peace, Isaiah declared, "Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins". (Isaiah 40:1)

We who gather today also seek comfort and peace, yet we are unsatisfied with ideas of peace that tell us to keep quiet and go with the flow. We long for real peace, true peace, just peace.

We wait as people who yearn for peace that bears the fruit of community, equity, and flourishing for all.

We light these candles as signs of God's shocking hope and just peace. May they be beacons calling us to repent and to live the good news of Jesus Christ as we wait and watch and labor for the day when all people can gather together to worship and glorify God. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you who brought forth all of creation out of nothing, and while you entrust it to us we return to you emptyhanded. You who called forth light, forgive our preference to remain in darkness! You who sent John to be a voice crying, forgive our unwillingness to say anything at all! Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear these words of comfort from the prophet Isaiah: "Surely God is our salvation; We will trust, and will not be afraid, for the LORD GOD is our strength and our might; God has become our salvation." Friends, God has become our salvation, indeed! Open yourselves to the joy to be found in our forgiveness; never more are we to be held captive by that which seeks to tear us from God. Hear the Good News of the Gospel: we are forgiven.

Alleluia! Amen!

*RESPONSE 582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me GLORY TO GOD (VASILE)

***Glory to God whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.***

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen (x3)

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

All children are invited to come forward at this time. Parents are encouraged to accompany younger children and sit with them on the chancel steps or in the front seats. Then, children (18 months –11 years) are invited to Sunday School classes or to stay with us in worship. If this is your child's first time going to Sunday School, please accompany them downstairs in order to register your child.

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 1:1-8

NRSV NT 34

ADVENT MUSICAL OFFERING no 17. "Glory to God" from *The Messiah*
Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, good will towards men.

by G.F. Handel

SERMON

HYMN #92

While We Are Waiting Come

WAITING (CASON)

MISSION AND MINISTRY

MOMENT FOR MISSION

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Emmanuel Shall Come

D. Eliot



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

*DOXOLOGY

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

Lord we dedicate these offerings to you, knowing that what we bring is small in comparison to what you have offered us, but it is offered in love. May your Spirit spread the love of Advent through these gifts to all who need it. Amen.

SENDING

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION 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.

*CLOSING HYMN

He Leadeth Me

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

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

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

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Thank you to Helen Picher, and all who assisted with the worship service this morning.

Mark 1:1-8

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; ³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" ⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

85



1 Light one can - dle to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the
 2 Light two can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the
 3 Light three can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the
 4 Light four can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the



light ban - ish dark - ness. He shall bring sal -
 light ban - ish dark - ness. He shall feed the
 light ban - ish dark - ness. Lift your heads and
 light ban - ish dark - ness. He is com - ing;



va - tion to Is - rael, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
 flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.
 lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.
 tell the glad ti - dings. Let your light be shin - ing.

This text works best when used incrementally during the four weeks of Advent. It underscores the “waiting” theme of the season and concludes appropriately with reference to Matthew 25:1–13. The tune name meaning “deep in the forest” comes from the opening of a Yiddish love song.

TEXT: Wayne L. Wold, 1984

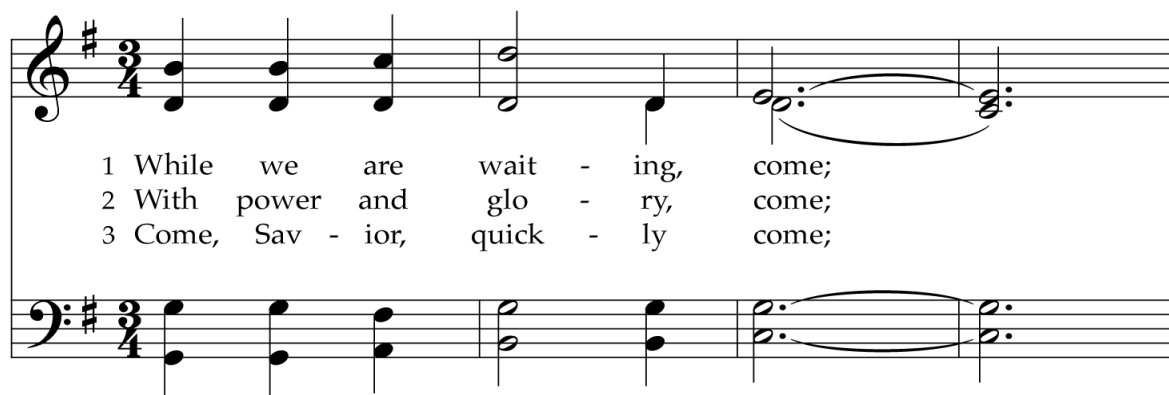
MUSIC: Yiddish folk song; arr. Wayne L. Wold, 1984

Text and Music Arr. © 1984 Fortress Press (admin. Augsburg Fortress)

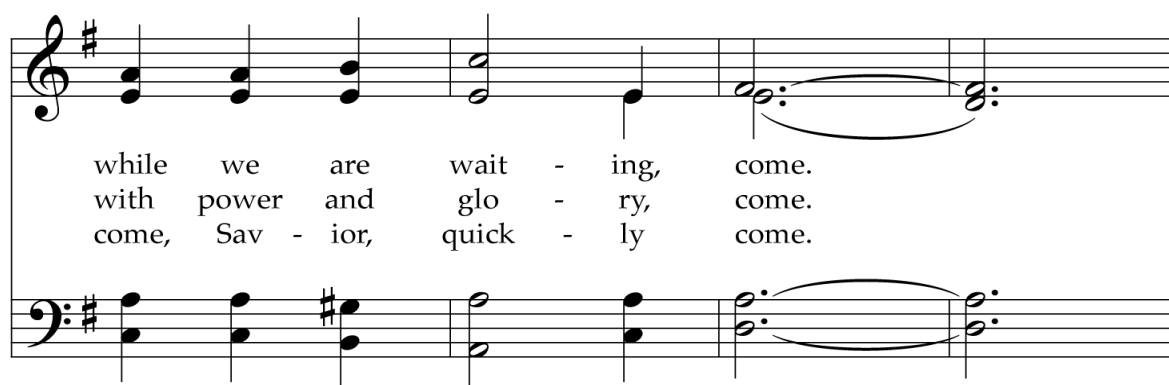
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10.7.9.6

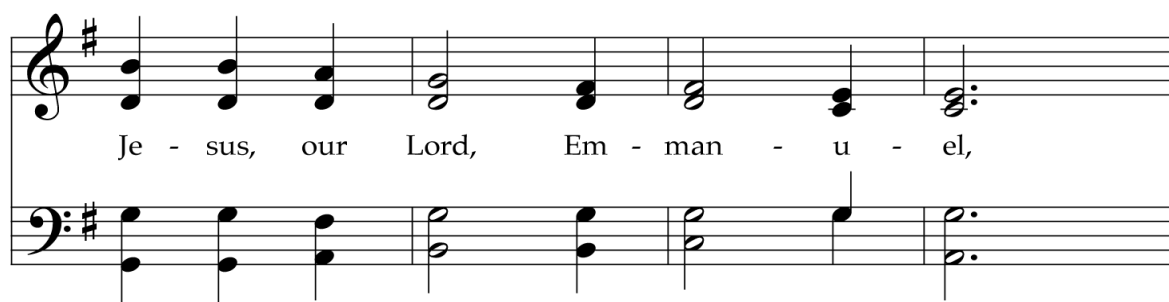
92 While We Are Waiting, Come



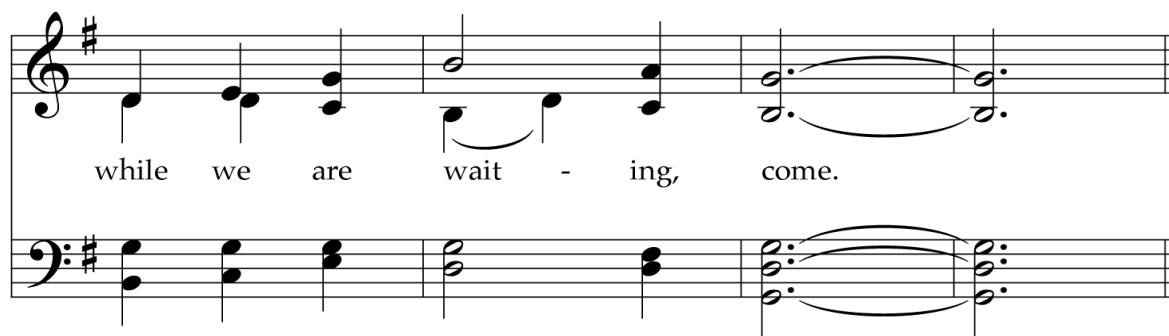
1 While we are wait - ing, come;
2 With power and glo - ry, come;
3 Come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come;



while we are wait - ing, come.
with power and glo - ry, come.
come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come.



Je - sus, our Lord, Em - man - u - el,



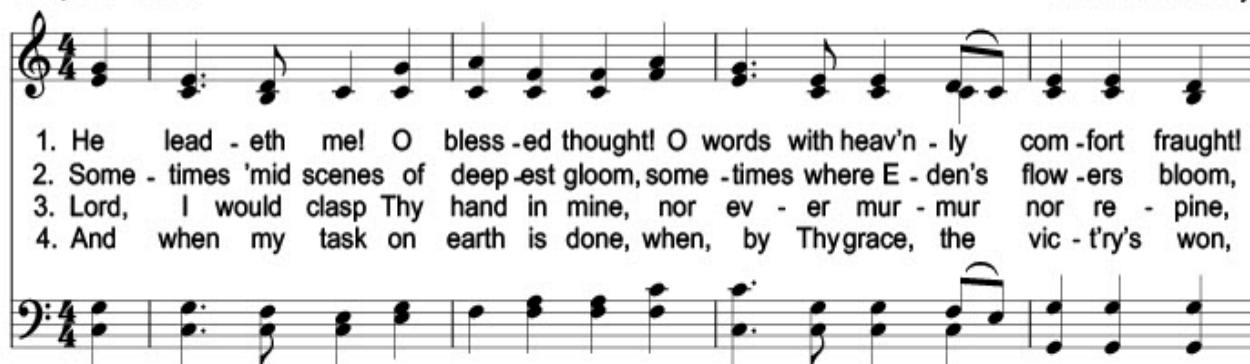
while we are wait - ing, come.

This simple and meditative Advent hymn is so uncomplicated in both text and tune that it can be learned quickly and sung without reference to a book, which might make it effective as a prayer response. It would also lend itself to improvised stanzas on appropriate occasions.

HE LEADETH ME! O BLESSED THOUGHT

Joseph H. Gilmore

William B. Bradbury



1. He lead - eth me! O bless - ed thought! O words with heav'n - ly com - fort fraught!
 2. Some - times 'mid scenes of deep - est gloom, some - times where E - den's flow - ers bloom,
 3. Lord, I would clasp Thy hand in mine, nor ev - er mur - mur nor re - pine,
 4. And when my task on earth is done, when, by Thy grace, the vic - t'ry's won,



What - e'er I do, wher - e'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that lead - eth me!
 by wa - ters still, o'er trou - bled sea, still 'tis His hand that lead - eth me!
 con - tent, what ev - er lot I see, since 'tis Thy hand that lead - eth me!
 e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God thro' Jor - dan lead - eth me!



He lead - eth me, He lead - eth me; by His own hand He lead - eth me:



His faith - ful fol - l'wer I would be, for by His hand He lead - eth me.

Wallingford Presbyterian Church

ChristMarket 2023

You may choose specific groups or choose to give a lump sum to be distributed among all of the groups. We will still have printed cards available should you want to send them to loved ones informing them that you have contributed in their honor as an alternative gift.

INTERNATIONAL:

Malala Fund <https://malala.org> Malala Fund's Education Champion Network supports the work of educators and advocates and helps bolster girls' secondary education around the world.

Heifer International <https://www.heifer.org> Works In 19 countries with local farmers and business owners. Support farmers and their communities as they mobilize and envision their futures, provide training so they can improve the quantity and quality of the goods they produce, and connections to market to increase sales and incomes.

The America Team for Displaced Eritreans www.EritreanRefugees.org Assisting Eritrean refugees and asylum seekers around the world who have fled acute oppression in their homeland in Northeast Africa.

New Life Center <https://newlifecenterfoundation.org> Based in Thailand, tribal women who are survivors of abuse and exploitation receive educational and residential services, gaining skills to become self-sufficient.

NATIONAL:

4 Paws for Ability <https://www.4pawsforability.org> Works to enrich the lives of children and veterans with disabilities by breeding, training and placing life-changing service dogs.

Arbor Day Foundation <https://www.arborday.org> Facilitating trees to fight climate issues. Will plant 500 million trees by 2027 where most. Has a network of global partners, a science-based approach, and more than 50 years of planting trees.

LOCAL:

Spring Garden Soup Society <https://springgardensoupociety.org> Provides financial aid to selected Philadelphia institutions which provide food for those in need. For 150 years the Society has been feeding the hungry in Philadelphia.

City Team - Chester cityteam.org Helping Chester residents through faith-based assistance with homelessness, hunger, poverty and addiction.

Chester Eastside <https://ceichester.org> Works to help children and families in Chester by providing access to hunger safety net programs and a safe environment for adult and youth education and exploration.

Crum Creek Watershed Association <https://www.crcwatersheds.org> Supports, encourages and promotes the enjoyment, restoration, conservation, protection and prudent management of the natural resources of the Chester, Ridley, and Crum Creek Watersheds.

PLEASE NOTE

We will not provide childcare (Nursery, Toddler Room or Sunday School) on **Sunday, December 17** (Christmas pageant) or **Sunday, December 24** (Christmas Eve) so children can enjoy the family-friendly services.



ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN Through the 11th week, we have received 78 pledges totaling \$366,916. Pledges will be received through the end of the year using the pledge card, Church Center app or QR code.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- **Sunday, December 10** – last day to return unwrapped gifts/gift cards for the Giving Tree/ Angel Tree
- **Monday, December 11** – last day to order poinsettias to decorate the sanctuary
- **Sunday, December 17** – last Sunday for ChristMarket

HANDEL'S MESSIAH Enjoy a performance, **3 p.m., today**, of Part I and "Hallelujah Chorus" with professional soloists and a choir of local singers. The event is part of Concerts for a Cause and will benefit Chester Eastside.

PRIME TIME Rose Valley Borough Manager Paula Healy will present a history of the community, **Tuesday, December 12**, from its land grant in 1681 to the Arts and Crafts community of the early 20th century and life today. Bring lunch and a friend; we will provide drinks and dessert. **Lunch begins at noon; the program, 12:15 p.m.**

W.O.W. CHRISTMAS DINNER Women of Wallingford - join in the Reception Room, **6 p.m., Wednesday, December 13**, for our annual holiday event. We will provide the main course and beverages – please bring an appetizer, salad, side or dessert.

HAM DONATION Have a ham you won't be cooking? Donate it to the Deacons. Put it in the church refrigerator/freezer through **Thursday, December 21**.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Sunday, December 24 - 10 a.m., 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m.

10 a.m. – Morning Worship A service for all ages with stories, songs and carols.

No Nursery, Toddler Room or Sunday School

7:30 p.m. – Service of Lessons and Carols A family-friendly service equally appealing to children, youth and adults, ending with "Silent Night" sung by candlelight.

10 p.m. – Candlelight Service Our traditional service of Bible readings, carols and anthems by our vocal and instrumental choirs, ending with "Silent Night" sung by candlelight.

BLOOD DRIVE IN NETHER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP Garden City Fire Company #1 Banquet Hall, 412 Moore Road, Wallingford, PA 19086. **Tuesday, December 26, 2023 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.** Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Nether Providence to schedule an appointment.

BREAKFAST CLUB Students grades 6-12 – take a break from normal worship, **10 a.m., Sunday, December 31**, and share fellowship in the Youth Room. Enjoy breakfast, discussion about the week's "Nooma" video and games.

FELLOWSHIP HALL WINDOWS The Trustees are replacing three old windows in Fellowship Hall with double pane windows, which will provide greater energy efficiency and insulating properties. If you would like one of the current windows, contact Walt Kaminski.

REUSABLE SHOPPING BAGS "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing" – Psalm 100

Show the world how proud we are of our music ministry with reusable shopping bags emblazoned with "Make a joyful noise" and Wallingford Presbyterian info. They demonstrate to everyone involved in the program how much we appreciate them with a little extra funds for all those "nice to haves" and "if I could's." Available at ChristMarket, the Messiah Concert and Coffee Hour. Cost – one for \$10 or three for \$20.

RED WAGON WPC supports 3 food pantries – Chester Eastside, LifeWerks & Media Food Bank. Chester Eastside is requesting:

- Pancake mix/syrup
- Oatmeal
- Peanut butter
- Canned fruit/applesauce
- Soup (condensed or ready to serve)
- Tuna/salmon/chicken
- Sides (mac and cheese)
- Canned vegetables (corn, green beans, beans)
- Dry Pasta/Spaghetti Sauce
- Canned pasta/chili

Sunday, December 10

9:30 am- Chancel Choir
10:00 am- Worship
11:00 am- Coffee Hour
11:15 am- Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
12:30 pm- Concert for a Cause Rehearsal
3:00 pm- Concert for a Cause: Messiah

Monday, December 11

10:00 am- Staff Meeting
10:00 am- Adult Bible Class
6:30 pm- BSA 228

Tuesday, December 12

12:00 pm- PrimeTime Luncheon
4:00 pm- Private Flute Lessons

Wednesday, December 13

9:00 am- Breakfast Group - Court Diner
10:00 am- Fellowship of Friends
1:00 pm- Stephen Ministry

Wednesday, December 13 (cont.)

3:00 pm- Private Brass Lessons
3:00 pm- Private Flute Lessons
5:00 pm- WOW

Thursday, December 14

6:30 pm- Bell Choir
7:30 pm- Chancel Choir
7:30 pm- BSA 227/2019

Friday, December 15**Saturday, December 16****Sunday, December 17**

9:00 am- Chapel Choir
9:30 am- Chancel Choir
10:00 am- Christmas Pageant
10:00 am- Worship
11:00 am- Coffee Hour
11:00 am- Wallingford Winds