



WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 17TH, 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

"Christmas, my child, is love in action. Every time we love, every time we give, it's Christmas."

- Dale Evans

"For it is good to be children sometimes, and never better than at Christmas, when its Mighty Founder was a child himself." - Charles Dickens, A Christmas Carol

"My idea of Christmas, whether old-fashioned or modern, is very simple: loving others."

—Bob Hope

"I want to live again." - George Bailey, It's a Wonderful Life

### GATHERING

#### WELCOME, RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

With this candle, we celebrate the third Sunday of Advent

**We approach the time when our Savior is born!**

All creation holds its breath.

**The time is almost here!**

The heavenly choir of angels waits for it's cue to sing...

**Excitement is all around us!**

We gather to make ready our hearts for the coming of Christ, our hope!

**Let us worship God!**

\*OPENING CAROL HYMN #133 O Come, All Ye Faithful, verse 1 and 3

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!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;

Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God, all glory in the highest!

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

#### OPENING PRAYER 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.**

\*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.***

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1:46b-55

NRSV NT 57

<sup>46</sup>My soul magnifies the Lord, <sup>47</sup>and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, <sup>48</sup>for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; <sup>49</sup>for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. <sup>50</sup>His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. <sup>51</sup>He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. <sup>52</sup>He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; <sup>53</sup>he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. <sup>54</sup>He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, <sup>55</sup>according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.

**CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**

*As the children tell the story, you are encouraged to join in their songs.  
Lift your voice and make a joyful noise unto the Lord!*

This Little Light of Mine

**This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine! (3x)  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!**

**Ev'rywhere I go, I'm going to let it shine! (3x)  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!**

Here I Am, Lord

**I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin, my hand will save.  
I have made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?**

**Here I am Lord, it is I, Lord. I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.**

O Little Town of Bethlehem

**O Little town of Bethlehem, how sweetly you do sleep  
While all the stars shine from afar, their watch over us to keep  
Yet in this dark night shines bright our hope from God above  
Who sent his son, the Holy One, to save us with His love.**

**O Little inn, so crowded, there wasn't any space  
So to the stable they were able to find a resting place  
Poor Mary was so tired, and Joseph held her tight  
To help her bring our God and King into this silent night.**

Away in a Manger

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

Angels We Have Heard on High

**Angels we heard in the sky  
Sweetly singing ev'rywhere  
'Til the whole earth will reply  
And their song will fill the air  
Gloria! In excelsis deo!**

**When the shepherds saw, they feared  
But the angels helped them know  
This was good news, rise and cheer!  
Bring your sheep, come on, let's go!  
Gloria! In excelsis deo!**

Go Tell It On the Mountain

**Go, tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere  
Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!**

**Down in a lowly manger Our humble Christ was born  
And brought us all salvation That blessed Christmas morn!**

**Go, tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere  
Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!**

## CALL TO OFFERING

**OFFERTORY**                      Bells Ringing So Sweetly                      Mozart, arr. W. Ehret  
Bells ringing so sweetly, so pleasant, so fair. O hear their gay chiming on the brisk winter air. A message they bring us of joy and of cheer, they sound out the tidings that Christmas is here.  
Their music enchanting, delightful to all. O listen, ye people, ye great and ye small. A message they bring us of joy and of cheer, they sound out the tidings that Christmas is here.



\*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.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

## SENDING

*CLOSING HYMN #134	Joy to the World	ANTIOCH
Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King; Let ev'ry heart prepare him room, And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.		

Joy to the earth, the savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,  
While field and floods, rocks, hills and plains Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness And wonders of his love,  
And wonders of his love, And wonders, wonders of his love.

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION  
(Please exchange with one another, by words and gestures, signs of peace and reconciliation.)

***\*Those who are able, please stand.***  
***Words and music printed for the hymns, Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A71731***

*Thank you to our children, and all who assisted with the worship service this morning.*

# 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](http://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](http://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.















## Christmas Poinsettias



Given By	Dedication
 Jon Bauer	In Memory of Belle and Pete Bauer
 Sally Clyde	In Memory of Bill Clyde and Family Members
 Mary Lou Day	In Memory of Loved Ones
 Chris Dearnaley and Joe Benvenuto	In Honor of Family and Friends
 Jeff Draine and Deb Dunbar	In Honor of Susan Eberle, Ed Reed, and Alan Barman
 Walter M. Dunham	In Memory of Parents Ernest & Elizabeth Dunham
 Roger and Carol Freidinger	In Honor of Our Family
 Helene Furlong	In Honor of My Parents, John R and Helene Furlong
 Bud and Edna Fury	In Memory of Our Parents
 Fred and Mary Ann German	In Memory of Loved Ones
 Alva Hayes	In Memory of Donald Hayes and Family



 Chris Jacobsen	In Memory of Her Parents, Frank & Lynn Deming
 Reg Jones	In Memory of William and Rhoda Jones
 Don Killian	In Memory of Parents Allan & Pauline Killian
 Cathy Kilpatrick	In Memory of Harry
 Russ Kinder	In Memory of Loved Ones
 Henry and Leslie Krowchenko	In Memory of Sam and Caroline Keys
 Mary L. Payne	In Memory of Bob Foley And Walter & Elizabeth Payne
 Dave and Shirley Rudd	In Memory of Our Parents George & Lorna Lemberger And Vincent & Vera Rudd
 John, Teresa and Shane Sawyer	In Memory of Loved Ones
 Scott Sawyer	In Memory of Loved Ones
 Harry and Carol Schultz	In Memory of Our Mom, Connie Kraus and Our Son, Brian Andrew Schultz
 Earl Varney	In Memory of Mina Hale Varney

### **PLEASE NOTE**

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

**HAM DONATION** Have a ham you won't be cooking? Donate it to the Deacons. Put it in the church refrigerator 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](http://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** 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 Coffee Hour. Cost – one for \$10 or three for \$20.

**CHANCEL FLOWERS 2024** The sign-up board for sponsoring Chancel Flowers in 2024 is live and posted in the Fellowship Hall. Sign your name and the dedication you would like printed in the bulletin. Suggested donation price is \$50. Payments will be collected at the beginning of each month. The church office will reach out with a reminder when your month is coming up.

**VASES** Have any small vases you could give to the Deacons? They need them to deliver the Chancel flowers each Sunday to members and friends. Please leave them in the kitchen.

**GIVING TREE/ANGEL TREE THANK YOU** The WPC family has been given generous, kind hearts. You ensured that the Giving Tree/Angel Tree mission supplied many gifts and gift cards to brighten many children's Christmases. The nursery school was likewise very generous. We gave 70 gift cards from Target and Walmart and wonderful toys to Chester Eastside, City Team, Wallingford Swarthmore School District, Angel Tree and a deacon family. A huge thank you from the Giving Tree/Angel Tree team. Carol, Cathy, Don, Kai, Roger, Sally and Tracy.

# Year-End Giving

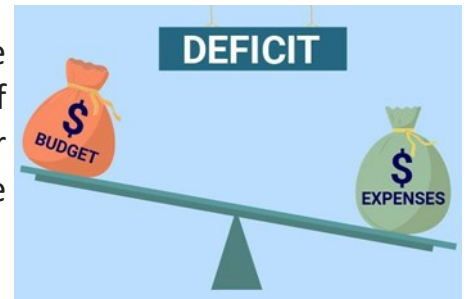


As we approach the end of the year, the Stewardship Council wants to thank the members and friends whose financial contributions sustain the mission and ministry of WPC.



The church was fully open this year, post-pandemic, and your monetary contributions have allowed us to provide an array of activities and programs for all ages and complete interior and exterior maintenance of the building and grounds.

The projected income for 2023 is \$490,000 to support the increased programming, but contributions have fallen short of our estimate. As of the second Sunday in December, our revenue is approximately \$405,000, \$85,000 less than the anticipated amount.



We appeal to you all to remember the church as you make year-end gifts. We understand everyone is facing higher costs right now, but if you can share some of your resources to support our church, our community, our faith, we would greatly appreciate it.

Donations may be made by cash, check or using the QR code.



Many thanks,  
The Stewardship Council

<b>WPC Week at a Glance</b>	
<b>Sunday, December 17</b>	<b>Thursday, December 21</b>
09:00 am- Chapel Choir	06:30 pm- Bell Choir
09:30 am- Chancel Choir	07:00 pm- Chancel Choir
10:00 am- Christmas Pageant	07:30 pm- Wallingford Winds
10:00 am- Worship	07:30 pm- BSA 227/2019
11:00 am- Coffee Hour	08:00 pm- Musician Party
11:00 am- Wallingford Winds	<b>Friday, December 22</b>
<b>Monday, December 18</b>	<b>Saturday, December 23</b>
10:00 am- Adult Bible Class	<b>Sunday, December 24</b>
<b>Tuesday, December 19</b>	10:00 am- Worship
04:00 pm- Private Flute Lessons	11:00 am- Wallingford Winds
07:30 pm- Deacons	07:30 pm- Service of Lessons and Carols
<b>Wednesday, December 20</b>	09:00 pm- Wallingford Winds
09:00 am- Breakfast Group - Court Diner	09:15 pm- Bells
10:00 am- Fellowship of Friends	09:30 pm- Chancel Choir
03:00 pm- Private Brass Lessons	10:00 pm- Candlelight Service
03:00 pm- Private Flute Lessons	

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