



WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
EPIPHANY OF THE LORD 2024



# 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

\*Those who are able, please stand.

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



A STEPHEN SERIES CONGREGATION

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### WORDS FOR MEDITATION

*The word “epiphany” (from the Greek epiphaneia or theophaneia) means “appearance” or “manifestation” of God, and has roots in the word for sunrise or dawn. In ancient times, an epiphany meant either a visible manifestation of a god or the solemn visit of a ruler venerated as a god.*

*For Christians, Christmas marks the coming of God to us; Epiphany celebrates the appearance of the Lord in the midst of humanity. The Christmas stories of the birth of Immanuel declare the divine entry; Epiphany extols the revelation of God to the world in the person of Jesus of Nazareth.*

*In our celebrations of Christmas and Epiphany we rejoice in the dawning and the arising of Light in darkness. ... Epiphany not only discloses the Savior to the world but also calls the world to show forth Christ, to be witnesses to God’s true Light. - Companion to the Book of Common Worship*

*Like the Magi, may we also journey and be attentive, untiring and courageous on the path to find the invisible God who was born among us. – Pope Francis*

*I never made one of my discoveries through the process of rational thinking - Albert Einstein*

### GATHERING

WELCOME, RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP, AND BIRTHDAY WISHES

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

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Arise, shine; for your light has come,

**and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.**

For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;

**but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.**

Nations shall come to your light,

**and kings to the brightness of your dawn.**

Then you shall see and be radiant;

**your heart shall thrill and rejoice!**

**Let us worship God with gladness!**

### \*OPENING HYMN #151

We Three King of Orient Are (verses 1 and 2)

KINGS OF ORIENT

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, Light of the world, we confess that we have not resisted the darkness of sin. You deliver the poor and the helpless, but we have ignored their cry. You take pity on the weak and the destitute, but our hearts are hard in the face of their need. Forgive us, we pray. Awaken in us sincere repentance that we may shine with the light of your saving grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*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.*

## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

### SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

NRSV OT 690

### ANTHEM

Come and Find the Quiet Center

Organ, Murray

Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead, find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed: clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be. Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace, God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, touches base, making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun, raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun. In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain, let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain: there's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care, in the Spirit's Lively Scheming there is always room to spare. Come and find the quiet center, be at peace in God.

### GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

NRSV NT 2

### SERMON

### HYMN #347

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

PICARDY

## MISSION AND MINISTRY

### CALL TO OFFERING

### OFFERTORY



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

**Loving God, receive the gifts we offer this day. May we ever seek to honor you with our very hearts and lives, and help us to live to the honor and glory of your name. Amen.**

### CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*(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. If some of those who come have not yet been baptized, an invitation to baptismal preparation and Baptism is graciously extended. 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)*

### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### 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.**

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD

## COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*Please hold the bread so that we may receive it together to represent our corporate experience of God. You may drink the cup as it comes to you, representing our personal experience of God.*

## CLOSING COMMUNION PRAYER

## SENDING

\*CLOSING HYMN #151      We Three King of Orient Are (verses 3-5)      KINGS OF ORIENT

## \*BENEDICTION AND PEACE OF CHRIST

*Thank you to Cyndi Lacroix, and all who assisted with the worship service this morning.  
This week's flowers were given to the Glory of God by Mary Lou Day  
in loving memory of Jim Day*

## 151 We Three Kings of Orient Are

1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far,  
 2 Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain,  
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a de - i - ty nigh;  
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom;  
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice:

field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
 King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.  
 prayer and prais - ing glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.  
 sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! sounds through the earth and skies.

*Refrain*

O star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright,

west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Although Christians had begun by the 2nd century to speak of these visitors from eastern countries (Matthew 2:1–12) as “kings,” perhaps because of passages like Psalm 72:10 and Isaiah 60:3, it is more accurate to think of them as magi or astrologers, the scholars of their day.

# Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence 347

Capo 3: (Bm) Dm

(G) B $\flat$  (D) F (Bm) Dm (C) E $\flat$

1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and  
 2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on  
 3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard  
 4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim, with

(G) B $\flat$  (F $\sharp$ ) A (G) B $\flat$  (D) F (Em) Gm

trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly  
 earth he stood, Lord of lords, in hu - man  
 on the way, as the Light of light de -  
 sleep - less eye, veil their fac - es to the

(Bm) Dm (C) E $\flat$  (G) B $\flat$  (D) F

mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand  
 ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,  
 scend - eth from the realms of end - less day,  
 pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry,

(B) D (Em) Gm (Bm) Dm (A) C

Christ our God to earth de - scend - eth,  
 he will give to all the faith - ful  
 that the powers of hell may van - ish  
 "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

(Bm) Dm (Em) Gm (F $\sharp$ m) Am (Bm) Dm

our full hom - age to de - mand.  
 his own self for heaven - ly food.  
 as the shad - ows clear a - way.  
 al - le - lu - ia, Lord most high!"

The flowering of English hymnody in the 19th century included the rediscovery, translation, and versification of ancient Christian hymns, such as this text from one of the earliest existing Christian liturgies. It is set here to an adaptation of a 17th-century French melody.



### **Isaiah 60:1-6**

<sup>1</sup>Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

<sup>2</sup>For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. <sup>3</sup>Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

<sup>4</sup>Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

<sup>5</sup>Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

<sup>6</sup>A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

### **Matthew 2:1-12**

<sup>1</sup>In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage."

<sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.

<sup>5</sup>They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup>'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" <sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

<sup>9</sup>When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

**WEATHER ALERT** In the event of a potential storm which could affect worship or other church activities, please check our Facebook page or website for updates.

**KIDS CAFÉ** Kids – meet Pastor Taylor and Miss Lee in the choir room, **11 a.m., TODAY**, for songs, games and refreshments. Open to kids 4-11

**PRIME TIME** Author Beth Anne Keats, a volunteer with the West Chester Railroad Heritage Association, will talk about the "Evolution of the Railroads in the US, with a special focus on Pennsylvania," **Tuesday, January 9**. Copies of her children's and adult books will be available for sale (cash or check). **Lunch begins at noon; the talk, 12:30 p.m.**

**W.O.W.** Join for refreshments, **7 p.m., Wednesday, January 10**, and continue our study of the Gospel of John and Jesus' seven "I AM" statements.

**BOOKLOOK** Discuss "Between the World and Me" by Ta-nehisi Coates, **7:30 p.m., Wednesday, January 17**, a #1 New York Times best seller. Hailed by Toni Morrison as "required reading," a bold and personal literary exploration of America's racial history by "the most important essayist in a generation and a writer who changed the national political conversation about race" (Rolling Stone).

**ANNUAL MEETING** Receive reports, review financial and benevolence statements, receive the 2024 budget and elect members of the Nominating Committee, **10 a.m., Sunday, January 28**. Held at the close of the worship service.

**CHILI COOK-OFF** Bring your best pot of chili, then taste test and vote for your faves with \$, **5p.m., Saturday, February 3**. All money raised will be donated to a charity TBD. Not a chili eater? Enjoy chicken nuggets, mac and cheese and salad. If you are not entering your chili, please bring an appetizer (last names A-H), salad (J-Q) or dessert (R-Z). There will be a bounce house for the kids. Appetizers begin at 5 p.m.; dinner, 5:45 p.m. Questions? Call Walt Kaminski (610-334-2025).

**OFFERING ENVELOPES** If you requested Offering Envelopes for 2024, please pick them up in the Fellowship Hall. If you didn't order offering envelopes but would like some, contact Nathan in the office to be assigned a pack.

**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.

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

- Canned meats (corned beef, Spam, chicken, ham)
- Canned fish (salmon, sardines)
- Dry beans (red kidney, pinto)
- Bagged rice – no packets (white, brown, jasmine)
- Milk (evaporated, condensed, dry powdered, shelf stable (cow, almond, oat)
- Hot cereals – not instant (grits, Cream of Wheat)
- Condiments (ketchup, mayo)
- Cooking oil (vegetable, canola, olive)
- Vinegar (white, apple cider)
- Baking items (flour, sugar, honey)
- Snacks (nuts, dried fruit, crackers, snack bars)
- Personal hygiene (deodorant, shampoo, hand soap, bar soap, toothpaste)
- Feminine hygiene (thin and regular pads, liners, tampons)
- Egg cartons

<b>WPC Week at a Glance</b>	
<b>Sunday, January 07</b>	<b>Wednesday, January 10</b>
09:30 am- Chancel Choir	09:00 am- Breakfast Group - Court Diner
10:00 am- Worship	10:00 am- Fellowship of Friends
11.00 am- Coffee Hour	01:00 pm- Stephen Ministry
11:00 am- Kids Café	03:00 pm- Flute Lessons
01:00 pm- BSA 228	03:00 pm- Brass Lessons
03:00 pm- BSA 277	06:00 pm- BSA 228
<b>Monday, January 08</b>	07:00 pm- WOW
10:00 am- Adult Bible Class	<b>Thursday, January 11</b>
2:30 pm- Staff Meeting	07.30 pm- Chancel Choir
7:00 pm- WPC Connections	07:30 pm- BSA 2019/277
<b>Tuesday, January 09</b>	<b>Friday, January 12</b>
12:00 pm- PrimeTime Luncheon	<b>Saturday, January 13</b>
04:30 pm- Flute Lessons	<b>Sunday, January 14</b>
07:30 pm- Worship Council	09:30 am- Chancel Choir
	10:00 am- Worship
	11.00 am- Coffee Hour
	11:30 am- Session Meeting

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