



WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DECEMBER 1ST, 2024
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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.



Friendship Pew Pads can be found in each row.

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.



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-4:30pm
- Thursday, 10:00am-1:00pm

MINISTER 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

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

This Week

CHURCH OPENER: Bud Fury

LITURGIST: Ver Picher

USHERS: Jenny Montague
Kristine Mulhorn

COFFEE HOUR: Stewardship

Next Week

CHURCH OPENER: Dave Rudd

LITURGIST: Mimi Haggerty

USHERS: Nancy Oettinger
Gwyn Vernon
COFFEE HOUR: Care/Outreach

*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

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

Awake! Rejoice! Christ is coming, open the door, sweep the path, prepare the way!

Christ came at Christmas to live as one of us.

Christ comes today to love us and lead us.

Christ will come tomorrow. Wherever we may be.

Awake! Rejoice!

Let us worship God!

*OPENING HYMN #107 Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn (v. 1 & 4) REJOICE, REJOICE

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

READING FROM THE PROPHETS

Jeremiah 33:14-16

NRSV OT 738

RESPONSIVE HYMN #95

Prepare the Way of the Lord

PREPARE THE WAY

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION

PROFESSION OF FAITH

*APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he arose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

BAPTISM

WELCOME

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Come, Thou Dear Redeemer
Corinna Brueckner

C. Franck

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.

ANTHEM

Soul, Adorn Thyself with Gladness Johann Grueger, arr. Wolff

Soul, adorn thyself with gladness, Leave behind all gloom and sadness; There with joy thy praises render Unto Him whose grace unbounded Hath this wondrous Supper founded. High o'er all the heav'ns He reigneth, Yet to dwell with thee He deigneth. Jesus, Sun of Life, my Splendor, Jesus, Thou my Friend most tender, Jesus, Joy of my desiring, Fount of life, my soul inspiring: At Thy feet I cry, my Maker, Let me be a fit partaker Of this blessed food from heaven, For our good, Thy glory, given. From this supper let me measure, Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure. Through the gifts thou here dost give me as thy guest in heaven receive me. 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

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.**

How can we thank you, O God? For sun and moon and stars, for breath and life and all things good, for your steadfast promise and your faithful love, for the day that is surely coming when all things will be made new. With saints, with angels, and with the whole creation, we join the ancient and eternal hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

With thanks and praise we offer ourselves to you, sharing this holy meal, remembering Christ's dying and rising, and praying: Come Lord Jesus!
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

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

MISSION AND MINISTRY

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

To a Wild Rose

E. MacDowell



Scan the QR code to give via credit card on 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.***

PASTORAL PRAYER AND INTERCESSIONS

*RESPONSE #582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

(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.

WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 21:25-36

NRSV NT 85

ADVENT MUSING

SENDING

*RESPONSIVE HYMN #95

Prepare the Way of the Lord

PREPARE THE WAY

*CHARGE, BENEDICTION AND PEACE

*Thank you to Ver Picher, and everyone who assisted with worship this morning.
This week's flowers were given to the Glory of God by Nancy Oetinger,
in celebration of Chloe's first birthday.*

107 Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for an - gels
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em - man - u -
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when all the
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night. Though dark the



her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for soon he is
el comes a - sing - ing; his hum - ble song is qui - et and
world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so qui - et and
win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall crown you with



born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing. Come as a ba - by
near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing; mu - sic to heal the
free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing. Then shall the mute break
light; be strong and lov - ing and fear - less. Love be our song and



weak and poor, to bring all hearts to - geth - er, he o - pens
bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing - kind - ness. The thun - der
forth in song, the lame shall leap in won - der, the weak be
love our prayer and love our end - less sto - ry; may God fill



wide the heaven - ly door and lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
of his an - thems rolls to shat - ter all ha - tred and vio - lence.
raised a - bove the strong, and weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
ev - ery day we share and bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

After attending a carol concert, the author and composer of this hymn was moved to create a contemporary, accessible carol that drew on the familiar images in a new way. There are echoes here of passages such as Isaiah 9:6, Isaiah 7:14/Matthew 1:23, Isaiah 35:5-6, Isaiah 2:4.

Prepare the Way of the Lord 95

Capo 1: (D) (G) (D)
 * E^b A^b E^b * (chords continue)

Pre- pare the way of the Lord. Pre- pare the way of the Lord,
 and all peo- ple will see the sal - va - tion of our God.

**May be sung as a canon.*

All three synoptic gospels identify John the Baptist as the forerunner of the Messiah (Matthew 3:3/Mark 1:2-3/Luke 3:4) in accord with Isaiah's prophecy (Isaiah 40:3b). Because the latter part of the text (Isaiah 52:10b) has yet to be accomplished, this is still our mission today.

TEXT: Taizé Community, 1984
 MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1984
 Text and Music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

PREPARE THE WAY
 7.7.6.7

Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Luke 21:25-36

²⁵"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." ²⁹Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³⁴"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."



2024 Giving Tree and Angel Tree

Giving Tree

gift cards and toys for families of
Chester Eastside, City Team, and within the
Wallingford Swarthmore School District

Angel Tree (through Prison Fellowship)

children of incarcerated parents receive a gift
with a note from the parent expressing their love,
helping to build a bond and learn about
the love God has for them

Chester Eastside, City Team and WSSD families
\$25 Walmart and Target cards or toys

Angel Tree – specific gift suggestions for each child

Look for the Giving Trees in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall

Tags available Sundays before and after worship

Nov. 17, Nov. 24 and Dec. 1

Return unwrapped gifts and gift cards on or by Dec. 8

**The Deacons thank you for
your continued generosity and support**

Sally Clyde Sheila Elmhurst Carol Freidinger Chris Jacobsen
Don Killian Cathy Kilpatrick June Tolomeo

ChristMarket 2024

WPC supports several charitable groups throughout the year, missions near and far, such as **Chester Eastside** ceichester.org, **The America Team for Displaced Eritreans** eritreanrefugees.org, and **New Life Center** newlifecenterfoundation.org.

You may choose specific groups or choose to give a lump sum to be distributed among several 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.

NEW! You can use checks, cash, credit cards, and such apps as Venmo and Apple Pay.

We are sorting other groups as International, National, and Local. We have included website URLs so you can learn more and we will speak about these organizations leading up to Advent so we can be better informed.

INTERNATIONAL:

Malala Fund malala.org

Supporting Girls' Education Worldwide

Heifer International heifer.org

Providing livestock for food and farming

NATIONAL:

4 Paws for Ability 4pawsforability.org

Training service dogs for people with disabilities

Arbor Day Foundation arborday.org

Over 50 years of planting trees to improve the climate.

LOCAL:

Spring Garden Soup Society springgardensoupsociety.org

Supporting ten organizations in Philadelphia that offer food, housing, counseling, and other services.

City Team - Chester cityteam.org

Assistance with homelessness, hunger, poverty, and addiction. Supportive programs for youth who have aged out of foster care.

Crum Creek Watershed Association crcwatersheds.org

Restoring and conserving the natural resources of Chester Creek, Ridley Creek, and Crum Creek.





ANNUAL GIVING Through the tenth week, we have received 77 pledges totaling \$355,394. Pledges represent approximately two-thirds of our annual budget and provide the confidence that we will continue to be the exciting, growing church we have become thanks to everyone's helping hand.

Register your pledge using the pledge card or the Church Center app.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT PRACTICE Kids: practice songs and have costume fittings, **11:15am today.**

ADVENT OPEN HOUSE An all-family kick-off to the season with crafts, carols and a cup of (age-appropriate) cheer, **4:30-6pm today, Sunday, December 1.**

- Kids – make Advent/Christmas decorations, listen to a holiday story and munch on snacks.
- Adults – chat with friends while enjoying a glass of wine, beer or non-alcoholic beverage and tasty bites; sports fans can watch the Eagles/Ravens game on the big screen TV.
- Everyone – end the evening with crowd caroling.

ADVENT OPEN HOUSE APPS Have a family favorite appetizer, snack or beverage of choice you'd like to share? Bring it for the nosh table.

CHRISTMARKET ChristMarket offers meaningful alternatives to traditional gifts that raise awareness of the needs of others and funds to support those needs. Choose among local, national and international organizations or give a lump sum to be distributed among all the groups. Mission and Service will match all gifts to a total of \$5,000. Shop in person after worship or by mail. **Continues Sundays through December 22.**



SCRIP GIFT CARDS Giving gift cards this holiday season? Purchase them through the Co-op Scrip Gift Card Fundraiser. Use the QR code for details.

FALL CLEAN-UP Help tidy up our grounds **9am, Saturday, December 7.** The main task will be raking leaves and we welcome all hands. Please bring your own tools.

PRIME TIME Delaware County historian Keith Lockhart will present a pictorial "then and now" comparison of Swarthmore and surrounding communities (including early pics of WPC), **Tuesday, December 10. Lunch begins at noon; the talk, 12:30pm.**

WOW CHRISTMAS FEAST Eat, Drink and Be Merry! Please plan to come join the annual WOW Christmas feast on **Wednesday, December 11 starting at 6pm** in the Reception Room. We will have a main dish and everyone will bring a dish to pass or dessert. After our time together breaking bread, we will follow the path to Cyndi's house and enjoy fellowship and a hot cocoa bar and have our Christmas story and carols. The house will be all decked with boughs of holly and sparkle. Please, Come all you faithful and share Cyndi's last Christmas with all the amazing women of Wallingford.

MONTHLY CONVERSATIONS Pastor François will share some of his photos with the theme “Post Tenebras Lux” (“From Darkness to Light”), **11:30am, Sunday, December 15.**

CHRISTMAS CABARET Join Tyler, Nathan, Billy and François for a festive afternoon of song, **3pm, Sunday, December 15.** Dress in merry attire, get in the holiday spirit and listen to the beautiful and diverse musical offerings! Part of Concerts for a Cause, the suggested donation of \$15 will benefit Keep Music Alive, a non-profit that believes every child deserves the opportunity to play music and every adult needs to be reminded it's never too late to start!

CONTROLLING THE END OF LIFE Thank you to all who attended Cyndi’s talk. Copies of the handout are available in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall. **If you requested the “Five Wishes” packet, please contact Church Administrator Nathan Gibson.**

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

- Cereal (kids' and whole grain adult)
- Soups:
 - Condensed (any kind)
 - Chunky
 - Beef (any combo with potatoes and veggies)
 - Chicken (any with noodles)
 - Sausage (any type)
 - Chowder (New England, corn)
 - Italian Wedding, Minestrone, Lentil
- Crackers (Ritz, Triscuits, Wheat Thins, Nut Thins, graham)
- Canned vegetables, tomato paste
- Spaghetti sauce
- Condiments (ketchup, mayo, BBQ sauce)
- Salad dressing (all varieties)
- Paper goods (tissues, toilet paper, paper towels)
- Household cleaning products (multi-purpose spray/disinfectant, laundry detergent, dish soap, sponges/wipes)
- Skin care products (body lotion, hand cream, wet wipes)
- Feminine hygiene products (tampons, mini-pads, maxi-pads, overnight)
- Bladder control products (medium, heavy-long pads)

| WPC Week at a Glance | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Sunday, December 01 | Wednesday, December 04 (cont.) |
| 09.30am- Chancel Choir | 03.30pm- Brass Lessons |
| 10.00am- Worship | 06.00pm- BSA First Aid |
| 11.00am- Coffee Hour | Thursday, December 05 |
| 11.00am- Christmas Pageant Rehearsal | 04.30pm- Ballet Academy |
| 04.30pm- Advent Open House | 06.30pm- Bell Choir |
| Monday, December 02 | 07.30pm- Chancel Choir |
| 10.00am- Adult Bible Class | 07.30pm- BSA 227/2019 |
| 10.00am- Staff Meeting | Friday, December 06 |
| Tuesday, December 03 | Saturday, December 07 |
| 04.00pm- Flute Lessons | 09.00am- Fall Clean-Up |
| 07.00pm- Ballroom Dancing | 11.00am- Ballet Academy |
| Wednesday, December 04 | Sunday, December 08 |
| 09.00am- Breakfast Group - Court Diner | 09.30am- Chancel Choir |
| 10.00am- Fellowship of Friends | 10.00am- Worship |
| 03.00pm- Flute Lessons | 11.00am- Coffee Hour |
| | 11.00am- Christmas Pageant Rehearsal |

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