



WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DECEMBER 29TH, 2024
FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

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: Tony Tolomeo

LITURGIST: Noelle Coker

USHERS: Mary Lou Day

Frank Noyes

COFFEE HOUR: Worship Council

Next Week

CHURCH OPENER: Bruce Clark

USHERS: Mary Lou Day

Helen Picher

Judy Leet

John Leet

COFFEE HOUR: Education Council

*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

WORDS FOR MEDITATION

“Christmas (from Christ-mass) is the church’s celebration of the incarnation and nativity of Jesus Christ. At the nativity of the Lord and throughout the season of Christmas we give thanks that, in the fullness of time, God’s Word became flesh to live among us, full of grace and truth. We proclaim this good news of great joy for all people: that God has sent us a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord. We bear witness to the light of Christ that has come into the world, that light that darkness cannot overcome.” (Book of Common Worship, PCUSA)

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Praise the Lord! Praise God in the heavens.

Praise the Lord from the earth!

Young and old alike,

men and women together. Praise the Lord!

OPENING PRAYER

CHRISTMAS CAROL SING

Hymns #108-#158

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of wonder, you surround us with signs of your glory and surprise us with your presence, yet we often miss the marvels you place before us. Forgive our dullness and make us alert to the ways you make yourself known, that we might be witnesses to your good news and proclaim your extravagant love; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

*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.

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.

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

EPISTLE READING	Colossians 3:12-17	NRSV NT 201
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GOSPEL READING	Luke 2:41-52	NRSV NT 59
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SERMON

MISSION AND MINISTRY

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY



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.***

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

SENDING

*CLOSING CAROL #127	Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (Jesus, the Light of the World)	WE'LL WALK IN THE LIGHT
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*CHARGE, BENEDICTION AND PEACE

Thank you to everyone who assisted with worship this morning.

Colossians 3:12-17

¹²As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Luke 2:41-52

⁴¹Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. ⁴⁴Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." ⁴⁹He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

127 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Jesus, the Light of the World

With a gospel feel

1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing.
 2 Joy - ful all you na - tions, rise. Je - sus, the
 3 Christ by high - est heaven a - dored;
 4 Hail, the heaven - born Prince of Peace!

light of the world. Glo - ry to the
 Join the tri - umph
 Christ, the ev - er -
 Hail, the Sun of

new - born King,
 of the skies. Je - sus, the light of the world.
 last - ing Lord;
 righ - teous - ness!

This blues-tinged setting of a familiar Christmas carol participates in a longstanding African American practice of adapting Anglo-European texts, as is done here by incorporating a repeated internal line and by appending a refrain that expands that line's language and imagery.

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

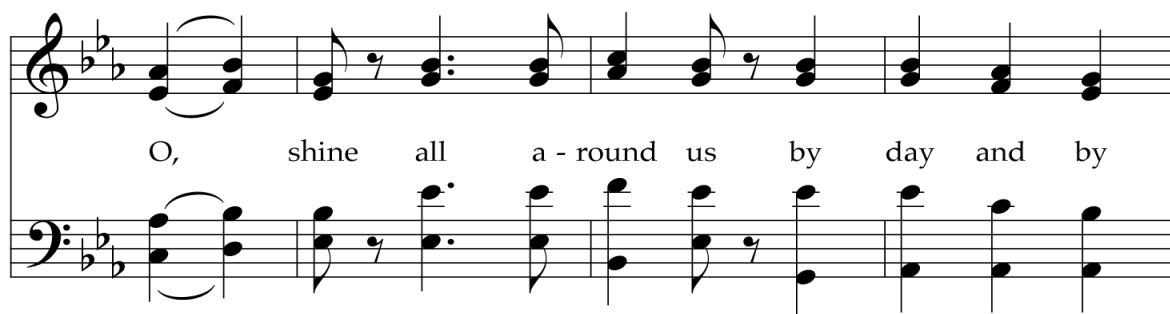
Refrain



We'll walk in the light, beau - ti - ful light.



Come where the dew - drops of mer - cy shine bright.



O, shine all a - round us by day and by

























night. Je - sus, the light of the world.



Christmas Poinsettias



Given By	Dedication
 Arianne Allan	In Memory of George Liepa
 Jon Bauer	In Memory of Belle and Pete Bauer
 Bruce and Gail Clark	In Memory of Our Parents, In Memory of Beanie
 Sally Clyde	In Memory of Bill Clyde and Beloved Family Members and Friends
 Mary Lou Day	In Memory of James Day and Loved Ones
 Chris Dearnaley	In Gratitude for Friends and Family
 Roger and Barb Demos	In Memory of Allen Rock Creedy
 Rosanna Denney	In Memory of George Denney
 Carol and Roger Freidinger	In Honor of Pastor Francois and Cyndi
 Helene Furlong	In Honor of My Parents
 Fred and Mary Ann German	In Memory of Loved Ones

 Allison, Jeremy, Eva And Beckett Guinn	In Memory of Joseph Lukachik, Father and Dido
 Lindsay Gursky	In Memory of Louise and Kay Visage Victor and Shirley Rangeloff
 Alva Hayes	In Memory of Donald Hayes and Family
 Stephanie Jones	In Memory of Elma Jones
 Russ Kinder	In Memory of Loved Ones
 Henry and Leslie Krowchenko	In Memory of Sam and Caroline Keys
 Zach, Brian and Bill Mongon	In Memory of Kathleen Mongon
 Helen and Ver Picher	In Memory of Olie Davis
 Teresa Sawyer and Family	In Memory of Loved Ones
 Earl Varney	In Memory of Mina Hale Varney
 Gwyn Vernon	In Honor of Pastor Francois and Cyndi Pastor Taylor and Doug Lee and Her Family



ANNUAL GIVING We have received 78 pledges totaling \$359,894. 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.

CHURCH OFFICE REOPENS The staff is back from winter break, **Friday, January 3**. Thanks for the opportunity to re-charge for the New Year.

BREAKFAST CLUB Tweens and teens – meet in the youth room, **10am today, Sunday, December 29**, for breakfast, a discussion about the week's video and games. Open to students grades 6-12.

CHILD CARE RESUMES Nursery, Toddler Room and Sunday School will be open **today, Sunday, December 29**.



SPROUTS MOVIE NIGHT Watch "Finding Nemo" and enjoy pizza, popcorn and lemonade, **6 pm, Friday, January 3**. Open to children grades K-5. Use the QR code to register – deadline noon, Thursday, January 2.

YOUNG ADULT PIZZA PARTY Nosh on pizza, enjoy fellowship time and provide feedback to the Mission Study Team on the direction and vision of the church, **11:30am, Sunday, January 5**. Meet in the Youth Room.

KIDS CAFÉ Kids – meet Miss Lee in the choir room, **11 am, Sunday, January 5**, for songs, games and refreshments. Open to kids 4-11.

CONGREGATIONAL LISTENING SESSION Provide feedback on the direction and vision of the church and what we should look for in a new pastor, **11:30am, Sunday, January 5**. Meet in the Reception Room.

W.O.W. Join for refreshments and a lesson, **7pm, January 8**.

PRIME TIME Listen to and sing along with the Legends Band (with Bud Fury on banjo), **Tuesday, January 14**. The 20+ piece ensemble performs traditional Big Band to contemporary favorites. **Lunch begins at noon; the music, 12:30pm**.

BookLook Discuss "The New Jim Crow" by Michelle Alexander, **7:30pm, Wednesday, January 15**. The book "has spawned a whole generation of criminal justice reform activists and organizations and spent nearly 250 weeks on the New York Times bestseller list." (Amazon). Contact Walt Kaminski to order – the cost is approximately \$6.50.

CONGREGATIONAL VISION QUESTIONNAIRE

As part of the process for calling a new pastor to replace François Lacroix after his retirement, the church is undertaking a Mission Study to learn the congregation's perspective on what direction the church might take and what WPC should look for in a new pastor.

We need your input. It doesn't matter if you've been a member for a week, a year, or 40 years (or even if you've never gotten around to joining), your voice is amongst equals at this table. Please take the time to prayerfully consider the questionnaire.



Scan the QR code to launch the online Congregational Vision Questionnaire or find it at www.surveymonkey.com/r/Wallingford2025. Hard copies of the questionnaire are available from the ushers for those who prefer paper. The questionnaire is anonymous. Please submit only one questionnaire per person.

The Mission Study Team will also be holding a series of in-person and online listening sessions as a follow-up to the questionnaire. Stay tuned for more!

The Mission Study Team consists of Ver Picher, Ben Drane, Lin Floyd, Lisé Meloy, Rick Miller, David Rudd, and Erin Vaccone.

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

- Pancake mix/syrup
- Oatmeal
- Canned fruit/applesauce
- Peanut butter/jelly
- Canned meats (chicken)
- Canned fish (tuna, salmon)
- Canned vegetables (corn, green beans, beans)
- Canned soup (condensed, ready to serve)
- Dry pasta/pasta sauce
- Canned pasta/chili
- Boxed mac & cheese/side dishes
- Stuffing/rice/mashed potatoes

CHANCEL FLOWERS 2025 The sign-up board for sponsoring Chancel Flowers in 2025 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.

OFFERING ENVELOPES If you requested offering envelopes for 2025, please pick them up in Fellowship Hall.

WPC Week at a Glance	
Sunday, December 29	Saturday, January 04
10.00am- Breakfast Club	11.00am- BSA Eagle Scout Court of Honor
10.00am- Worship	11.15am- Ballet Academy
11.00am- Coffee Hour	Sunday, January 05
Monday, December 30	10.00am- Breakfast Club
Tuesday, December 31 - New Year's Eve	10.00am- Worship
Wednesday, January 01	11.00am- Coffee Hour
Thursday, January 02	11.00am- Kids Café
Friday, January 03	11.30am- Young Adult Lunch
06.00pm- Sprouts	11.30am- Congregational Listening Session

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