



WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DECEMBER 21ST, 2025
4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

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

CHURCH OFFICE

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

ASSOCIATE PASTOR, ACTING HEAD OF STAFF: Rev. Taylor Cornelius

- pastortaylor@wallingfordpres.org

MINISTER OF MUSIC: Lee Hagon

- music@wallingfordpres.org

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: Nathan Gibson

- office@wallingfordpres.org

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR: Leslie Krowchenko

CLERK OF SESSION: Christine Darr

TREASURER: Todd Darr

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Michelle Hall

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

This Week

USHERS: Dottie & Jeff Celebre

Nancy & Jim Oetinger

LITURGIST: Joanne Callahan

COFFEE HOUR: Connections

Next Week

USHERS: Polly Sacco Ezzell

LITURGIST: Don Holloway

COFFEE HOUR: Ed 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

WORDS FOR MEDITATION

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'" —Matthew 25: 37-40

"Our hearts grow tender with childhood memories and love of kindred, and we are better throughout the year for having, in spirit, become a child again at Christmastime." — Laura Ingalls Wilder

"Every time we love, every time we give, it's Christmas." — Dale Evans

"The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together.... and a **little child will lead them.**" — Isaiah 11:6

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT LITANY OF LIGHT: ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

*OPENING HYMN #123

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

CAROL

WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 25:31-45

NRSV NT 29

³¹"When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.' ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?' ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.'

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

*HYMN

To the tune of "We Three Kings"

***We four kings of Orient are, Bearing gifts we traverse afar
We'll keep going, never slowing, Following yonder star***

***CHORUS: O, star of wonder, star of night, Star of royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light***

***Artaban kept falling behind, Stopped to do things selfless and kind
Three kept going, never slowing, Artaban paid no mind***

CHORUS

***Who found Christ that first Christmas day? Three who went or one that would stay
Helping others, sisters, brothers, Until he lost his way?***

CHORUS

SCENE 1

Artaban and the Hurt Man

SONG 1

To the tune of "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

***When Artaban met with a man who needed help and care
He felt within to turn to him and do what's right and fair
He felt the Lord move through him, his sweet heart to inspire
And so he stayed and then he gave this poor man his sapphire.***

SCENE 2

The Nativity

SONG 2

"Away in a Manger"

***Away in a manger, three wise men had come
To welcome the Christ child to his earthly home
The fourth was still wand'ring, still searching and lost
He wanted to help out, no matter the cost.***

SCENE 3

The Protection of the Family

SONG 3

To the tune of "The Coventry Carol"

***Herod the king, in his raging, Sent out his troops this day
The fourth wise man, despite his plan, his ruby gave to pay.
Lully lullay thou tiny child, by by lully lullay
Lullay thou little tiny child, by by lully lullay***

SCENE 4

The Cross and the Beggar Girl

SONG 4

To the tune of "The First Noel"

***The fourth wiseman had traveled afar
To search for the Christ child by foll'wing the star
But when he saw God's child needing care
He gave up his pearl and stayed with her there
Noel Noel Noel Noel love interrupts us, this wiseman could tell.***

SCENE 5

The Voice of Jesus and Finale

CHILDREN'S ANTHEM

Jazz Gloria

N. Sleeth

MISSION AND MINISTRY

OFFERTORY

One King

Borders & Alexander



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 DEDICATION

God of lovingkindness, we offer these gifts today just as the wise men did, as we seek to honor the birth of our beautiful Savior! Accept these offerings, our prayers, and worship, and equip us to go from this place filled with your Spirit, to be your hands and feet in the world! In Jesus' name we pray, the prayer He taught us to pray, saying: 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 glory forever. Amen.

SENDING

*CLOSING HYMN #133


O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES



*CHARGE, BENEDICTION AND THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Thank you to everyone who assisted with worship this morning.



123 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear




1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, that glo-rious song of old,
 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come, with peace-ful wings un - furled,
 3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suf-fered long;
 4 And you, be-neath life's crush-ing load, whose forms are bend-ing low,
 5 For lo, the days are has-tening on, by proph-ets seen of old,

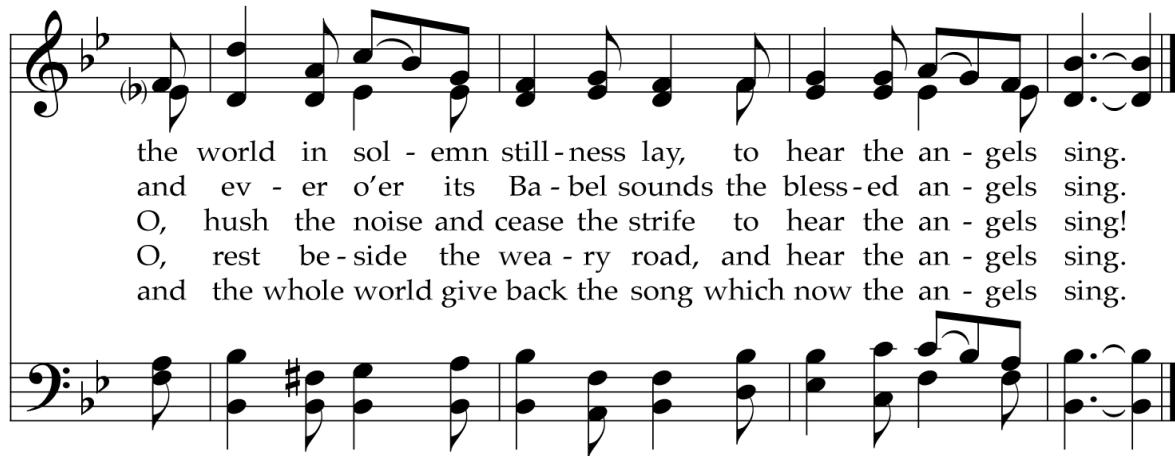
from an - gels bend - ing near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:
 and still their heaven-ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world:
 be - neath the heaven-ly hymn have rolled two thou-sand years of wrong;
 who toil a - long the climb-ing way with pain - ful steps and slow,
 when with the ev - er - cir-cling years shall come the time fore - told,

"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all-gra-cious King":
 a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov-ering wing,
 and we at war on earth hear not the tid - ings that they bring;
 look now, for glad and gold-en hours come swift-ly on the wing:
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen-dors fling,



The "it" of the first line of this text by a Unitarian minister does not refer to the birth of Jesus, but to "that glorious song of old," the angelic tidings of peace on earth. The restored third stanza laments how often the noise of human strife has obscured that message.



GIVING AND SERVICE

HAM DONATIONS Have a ham you won't be cooking? Donate it to the Deacons. Mark it "Deacons" and place in the church refrigerator. Continues through Sunday, December 21.

LAST CHANCE FOR CHRISTMARKET Cash, checks or cards may be used to purchase those last-minute meaningful alternatives to traditional gifts, **11:15am, TODAY**.

LEAST COIN Look for the water jug in the Narthex (before church) and Fellowship Hall (during coffee hour) to deposit your least coins (loose change) for the WPC Day of Service. Continues through mid-January.

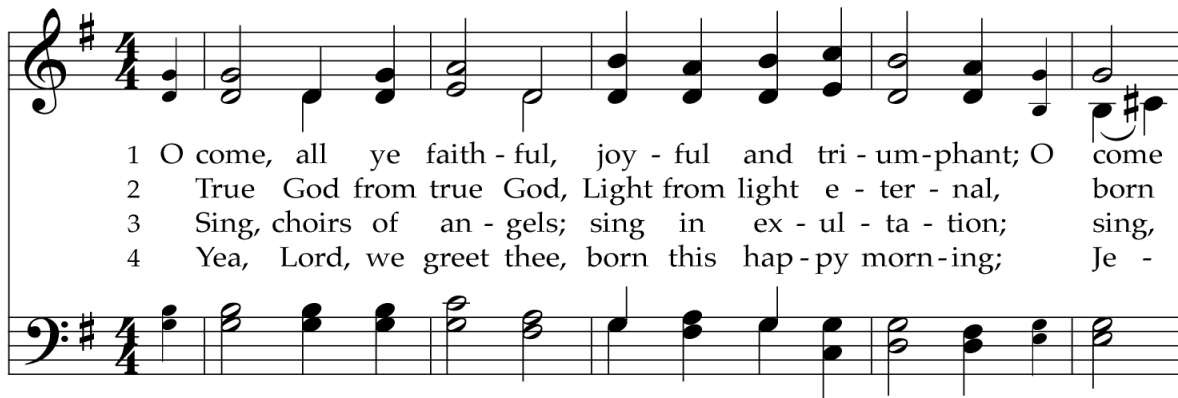
WPC DAY OF SERVICE DONATIONS For December, we are asking for full-size bottles of shampoo. Place in large bin outside the church office.

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

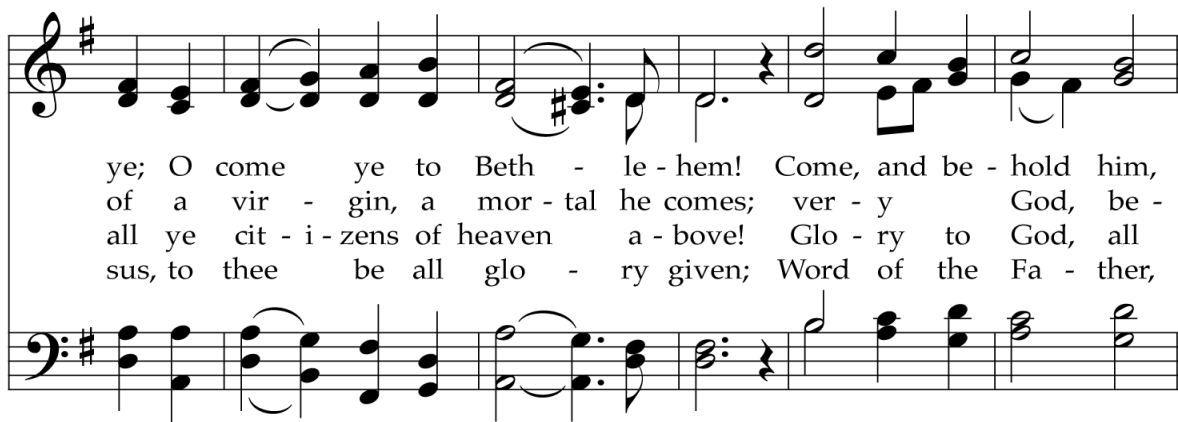
- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| -Cereal/oatmeal/Cream of Wheat | -Peanut butter/jelly |
| -Canned fruit (all varieties) | -Canned soup |
| -Canned fish (tuna, salmon, mackerel) | -Canned chicken |
| -Canned Vegetables (corn, carrots, peas, green beans) | -Rice (white and flavored) |
| -Knorr side dishes (all varieties) | -Stuffing/boxed mac & cheese |
| -Pasta and sauce (all varieties) | -Salad dressing (all varieties) |
| -Ramen noodles (family packs of six) | -Packaged cookies/snacks |
| -Personal hygiene products | |

O Come, All Ye Faithful

133



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; O come
 2 True God from true God, Light from light e - ter - nal, born
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; sing,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je -



ye; O come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come, and be - hold him,
 of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; ver - y God, be -
 all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all
 sus, to thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther,

Refrain



born the King of an - gels!
 got - ten, not cre - at - ed! O come, let us a - dore him; O come, let
 glo - ry in the high - est!
 now in flesh ap - pear - ing!



us a - dore him; O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

From its Roman Catholic origins, this 18th-century hymn has spread to worldwide use by many denominations in both Latin and vernacular versions. Once popular with a wide range of hymn texts, this tune is now firmly associated with this Christmas text from which it is named.

THIS WEEK AT WPC

OFFERING ENVELOPES If you requested offering envelopes for 2026, pick them up in Fellowship Hall.

NO CHILDCARE We will not provide childcare (Nursery or Sunday School), **today, Sunday, December 21**, so children can enjoy the family-friendly service.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES We will offer two services – **Wednesday, December 24.**

4pm – Service of Lessons and Carols A casual, family-friendly service of lessons and carols, children's message/interactive activity and lighting the Advent wreath. Featuring the Wallingford Winds, Bell Choir and Chapel Ringers.

8pm – Candlelight Service A traditional service of Bible readings, sermon, carols and anthems by our soloists and Chancel Choir, ending with "Silent Night" sung by candlelight. Pastor Taylor will preach on "The View from the Manger: The Christ Child's Perspective."

SNOW PROTOCOL As winter approaches, we want you to be prepared with information regarding possible church closings. Should inclement weather be predicted and the decision made to cancel the Sunday morning service, you will be advised by 8am via email and posts on the church Facebook and Instagram pages.

LOOKING AHEAD

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS Enjoy a casual service including a carol sing, **10am, Sunday, December 28.**

CHILD CARE The Nursery (12 months – Pre-K) will be open, **10am, Sunday, December 28.** There will not be any Sunday School.

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



SPROUTS MURAL MAKING NIGHT Help create our very own children's mural on large canvases to hang in the Sanctuary, **5pm, Friday, January 9.** Play games, eat dinner and end with a devotional Bible Story and song. Open to children grades K-5. Use the QR code to register (and send the link to friends to register, too).













SPROUTS PIZZA VOLUNTEERS Offer dinner for the Sprouts by providing four large plain cheese pizzas **the second Friday of the month beginning Friday, January 9.** Have them delivered/drop them off in the WPC kitchen around 4:45pm. Use the QR for details and to register.



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



Given By	Dedication
 The Allan Family	In Memory of George Liepa & Tanya Allan
 Karen Barnes	In Memory of Robert P. Barnes
 Jon Bauer	In Memory of Belle & Pete Bauer
 Joanne Callahan	In Memory of Jean Daniels & Bernard Callahan
 The Clyde Family	In Memory of Bill Clyde
 Chris Dearnaley	In Honor of Family & Friends
 Roger & Barb Demos	In Memory of Loved Ones Gone Too Soon
 Michelle, Natalie, Elaina & Sharon and their Families	In Memory of Our Beloved Dad and Pop Pop, George Denney
 Rosanna Denney	In Memory of George Denney
 Deb Dunbar	In Memory of Jeff Draine



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



Given By	Dedication
 Carol & Roger Freidinger	In Honor of Our Family
 Fred & Mary Ann German	In Memory of Loved Ones
 Lindsay & Mark Gursky	In Memory of Our Grandparents who have passed on, Louise & Kay Visage, Ann & Glenn Phillips, Donna & Walt Gursky, Shirley & Victor Rangeloff
 Alva Hayes	In Memory of Donald Hayes & Loved Ones
 Cathy Kilpatrick	In Memory of Harry Kilpatrick
 Henry & Leslie Krowchenko	In Memory of Sam & Caroline Keys
 Nancy Oetinger	In Memory of Our Parents
 Helen & Ver Picher	In Memory of Helen's Mom, Olie Davis
 The Sawyer Family	In Memory of The Ahern Family & The Sawyer Family
 Earl Varney	In Memory of Mina Hale Varney

WPC Week at a Glance

Sunday, December 21	Wednesday, December 24 - Christmas Eve
09.00am- Pageant Call/Run-Through	04.00pm- Service of Lessons and Carols
10.00am- Worship	08.00pm- Candlelight Service
10.00am- Christmas Pageant	Thursday, December 25 - Christmas Day
11.00am- Coffee Hour	Friday, December 26
11.00am- Wallingford Winds	Saturday, December 27
Monday, December 22	Sunday, December 28
Tuesday, December 23	10.00am- Worship
	11.00am- Coffee Hour

110 E. BROOKHAVEN RD, WALLINGFORD, PENNSYLVANIA 19086

WEBSITE: wallingfordpres.org PHONE: 610-566-1644 EMAIL: OFFICE@WALLINGFORDPRES.ORG