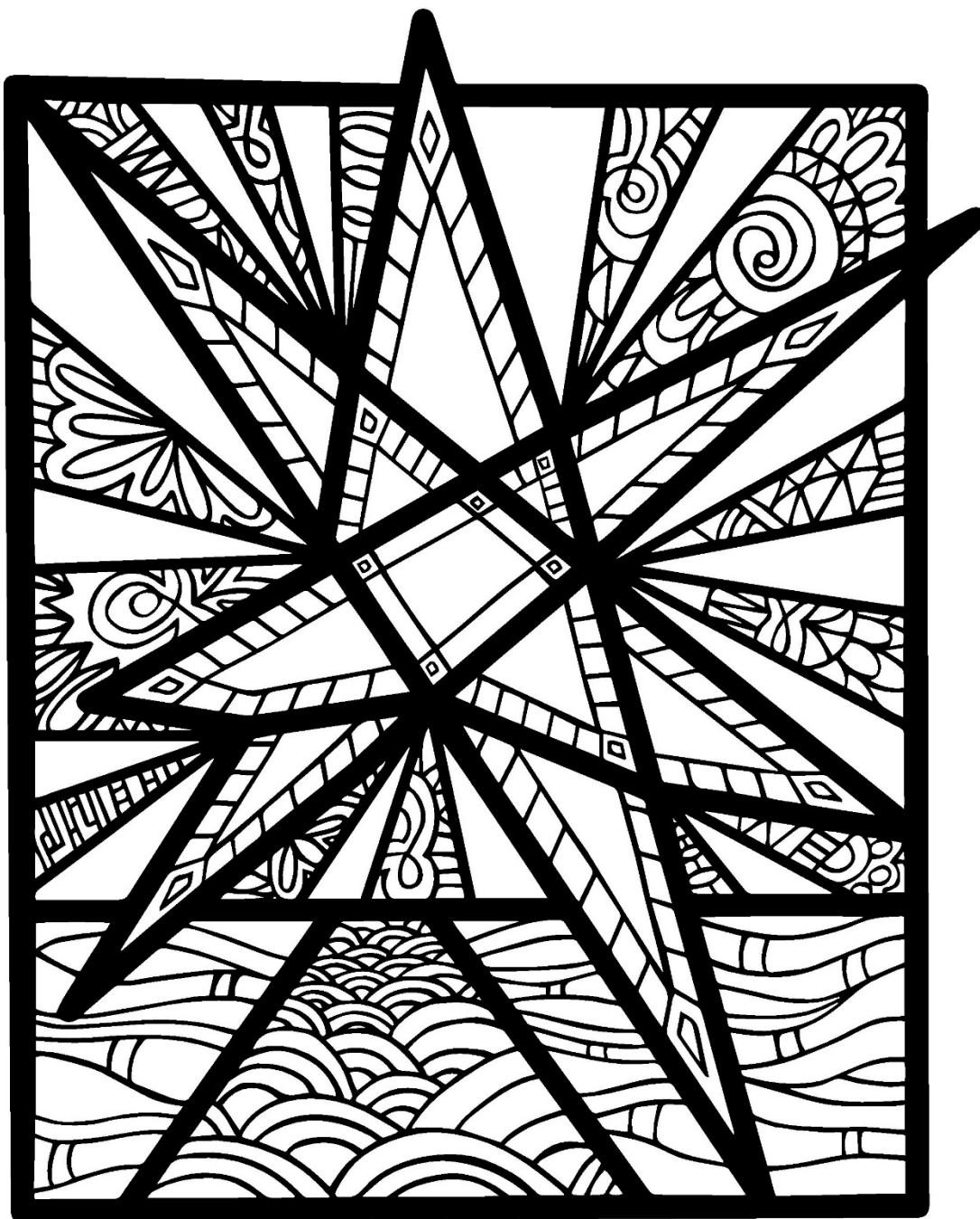



**Service of Worship  
Christmas Day  
December 25, 2016  
10:00 a.m.**



 *Sanctified Art* Illustration by: Lauren Wright Pittman | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)

**1502 West 13<sup>th</sup> Street ♦ Wilmington, DE 19806 ♦ 302-654-5214 ♦ [www.wpc.org](http://www.wpc.org)  
An Earth Care Congregation of the PC (USA)**

# CHRISTMAS DAY ORDER OF WORSHIP

MUSIC OF THE TOWER BELLS

Craig Checkel

THE BIRTH FORETOLD

Isaiah 9:2-7

Jill Getty

ORGAN PRELUDE

Gloria

Alice Jordan

CALL TO WORSHIP

With the angels, whose chorus announced Christ's birth,  
**we come to proclaim the good news.**

With the shepherds, who stood in awe before his manger bed,  
**we come in wonder to worship him.**

With the Wise Ones, who welcomed the newborn king with precious gifts,  
**we come with gifts of love and praise.**

Come, let us adore him!

**Let us worship the Lord!**

\*CAROL #132

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

*IN DULCI JUBILO*

PRAYER OF ADORATION

**God-with-us, our Emmanuel –  
on this joy-filled day,  
we come to adore you  
and to receive your gift of love.**

**With the faithful far and near,  
who kneel before the manger,  
we are deeply grateful that you have come into this world –  
the infinite One in mortal form.**

**In quiet celebration,  
we join Mary in pondering the mystery in our hearts.  
In resounding praise,  
we raise our voices with the heavenly host:  
Glory to God in the Highest Heaven!  
And on earth, peace to all!**

**Draw near to us this day,  
as you drew near to us on that morning long ago.  
As we listen again to your story,  
enter our searching hearts,  
and illumine our wondering minds  
that we might know your hope, peace, joy, and love,  
and share these gifts with others. Amen.**

THE JOURNEY AND THE BIRTH	Luke 2:1-7	Bob Moore
CAROL #121	“O Little Town of Bethlehem”	ST. LOUIS
ANGELS PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS	Luke 2:8-14	Sue Linderman
CAROL #113	“Angels We Have Heard on High”	GLORIA
SHEPHERDS GO TO BETHLEHEM	Luke 2:15-20	Paul Fleckenstein
CAROL #147	“The First Nowell” Verses 1, 2 and 6	THE FIRST NOWELL
KINGS FOLLOW THE STAR	Matthew 2:1-12	Jill Getty
CAROL #151	“We Three Kings of Orient Are” Verses 1 thru 5 Refrain after 1 <sup>st</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> Verses	KINGS OF ORIENT

OFFERING

*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. – Matthew 2:11*

ORGAN OFFERTORY	“Bring A Torch, Jeanette, Isabella”	arr. Denis Bédard
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE		Sudie Niesen Thompson
LORD’S PRAYER (page 35 in our <i>Glory to God</i> hymnal, using “debts” and “debtors.”)		

*CAROL #134	“Joy to the World”	ANTIOCH
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*SENDING	John 1:1-5	
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...The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.  
**Let us bear Christ’s light to the world!**

*CAROL #136	“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”	GO TELL IT
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\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Following the service, please join in a time of fellowship and refreshments in Rodney Chapel.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**We welcome everyone** to Westminster Church for the Christmas day service. We extend a special welcome to visitors and those who return for the holiday. If you live in the Wilmington area and do not have a church home, we hope you will consider uniting with our church family. To learn more about our community of faith, please contact the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson at [sniesenthompson@wpc.org](mailto:sniesenthompson@wpc.org).

**Our Christmas decorations** are labors of love by: Linda Watson, Jill Getty, Sue Weissinger, Carol Mosher, Lois Underhill, Mary Field, Nancy McFadden, Lola Miller, Clark and Donna Collins, Kevin and Chelsea Collins and their children. Our deep thanks to all who helped decorate our church for Christmas.

**The trees** in the Sanctuary, Rodney Chapel, and Pavilion have been decorated with 125 beautifully handmade ornaments called Chrismons (Christ + Monogram). We hope these Christian symbols will prompt you to contemplate Christ and the meaning of Christmas. Handouts with a description of the Christian ornaments are located on the literature table, near the reception desk.

**The Chancel flowers** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Charles M. Krick, Jr. and Ann E. Linderman by Sue and Bob Linderman.

**Please remember in your prayers** Westminster's homebound who can no longer attend worship with us, by sending a card, saying a prayer, or visiting. This week we ask you to remember Frieda Tice in Stroudsburg, PA.

**Church Office Holiday Hours:** The Church office will be closed Monday, December 26, and open December 27, 28, 29 and 30<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. if you wish to pick up a poinsettia and/or drop off a year end donation. All donations postmarked by December 31, 2016 will be considered received and credited on your 2016 contribution statement. If you have questions concerning the status of your 2016 pledge, please contact Colleen Falasco ([cfalasco@wpc.org](mailto:cfalasco@wpc.org) 302-654-5214, ext. 131) or Jerry Hunter ([jerryhunter@wpc.org](mailto:jerryhunter@wpc.org) or 302-654-5214, ext. 128).



Westminster is certified as an "Earth Care Congregation" by the Presbyterian Church (USA). This honor means that we have exhibited exceptional leadership in protecting God's creation and being good stewards of earth's resources through our worship, education, outreach and advocacy. Only 2% of the 10,000 Presbyterian congregations in this country have earned this honored distinction.

### **Sunday, January 1: One morning service at 10:00 a.m.**

Join us as we celebrate the New Year with communion. Nursery care provided.  
Enjoy coffee and fellowship in Rodney Chapel following the service.

**PASTORAL STAFF:**

Gregory Knox Jones, Head of Staff  
Sudie Niesen Thompson, Associate Pastor  
Jill Getty, Pastoral Care Assistant

**CHURCH EDUCATOR:**

Susan Moseley

**MUSIC STAFF:**

Paul Fleckenstein, Organist/Director of Music  
Merideth Hite Estevez, Director of Music for Children and Youth  
Section Leaders/Soloists: Diana Milburn, Sharon Babcock,  
David Price, Travis Lucas

**DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL OPERATIONS**

Colleen Falasco

**DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES AND SECURITY**

Paul Crothamel