

Christmas Eve at Westminster

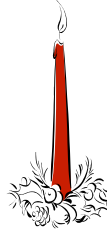
Thursday, December 24

4:00 p.m. - Christmas in the Stable

This service is designed as a family service, but all are invited. The Genesis Singers and Cherub and Calvin Choirs will sing. Children are encouraged to come to the worship service dressed as their favorite character from the Christmas story. Baby dolls are welcome to come as baby Jesus, and stuffed lambs, cows, and other animals are encouraged to come to decorate the stable. Extra costumes will be available in the Narthex before the service. The nursery will be available for our tiniest members. Following worship, parents are welcome to photograph children at the manger, and everyone is invited to go to Fellowship Hall for a birthday party for Jesus.

10:00 p.m. - Christmas in the Cathedral

An extended Prelude begins at 9:20 p.m. Arrival at 9:00 p.m. is suggested. Please do not save seats. Please note that nursery care is *not* available. This service features a darkened Sanctuary, candlelight, the Westminster Choir, and Junior and Senior High Handbell Choirs. Plan to bring a friend to this beautiful Christmas Eve service.



Christmas in the Stable



*If Christmas is not now,
If Christ is not born into the every day present,
Then what is all the noise about?*

- Ann Weems

**December 24, 2009, 4:00 p.m.
Westminster Presbyterian Church
Dayton, Ohio**

Christmas in the Stable

Give us, O God, such love and wonder, that with shepherds, and wise men, and pilgrims unknown, we may come to adore the holy child, the promised King; and with our gifts worship him, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

CARILLON PEAL

CALL TO WORSHIP IN MUSIC

"What Child Is This" (Hymn 53)

English, arr. Richard Purvis

(During the Call to Worship in Music you are requested to enter into a time of silence, actively opening your spirit to God's presence in your midst.)

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

Lisa and Gary Shoup, Betty Elliott, Caroline Shoup, Margaret Ann Shoup

(Please greet your neighbor with a Christian welcome. For example, "Peace be with you" or "The peace of Christ be with you." Respond with "And also with you.")

°*HYMN 41 - "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (stanzas 1 and 3)

Adeste fideles

(Please stand at the first note of the organ.)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

The Reverend Nancy S. Hodgkins

SCRIPTURE - Luke 2:1-7

Pew Bible, p. 58

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM - "Lullaby"

Phyllis Miller

Genesis Singers (pre-k, ages 4 and 5)

*HYMN 44 - "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (stanzas 1 and 3)

St. Louis

ANTHEMS

"Long Ago and Far Away"

Terry Kirkland

Long ago and far away the Holy Child was born.
Jesus, Jesus, God's special gift to me.

"Christ Is Born"

Michael Bedford

*Christ is born! Christ is born! Noel! Noel!
Christ is born! Christ is born! Noel! Sing Noel!*

Lying in a manger small,
Nestled in a cattle stall,
Mary, Joseph standing near,
Nothing, nothing shall he fear.

Angels sing of Jesus' birth,
Bringing news to all the earth;
Shepherds worship and adore,
Praise his name for evermore.

"Just a Baby"

Allison Gilliam

Just a baby in a manger,
Much like any child today,
In the stillness hear him crying,
Cradled in the hay;
But this baby, though so tiny,
Came to be a King;
Tiny baby in a manger
Hear his mother sing.

Cherub Choir (grades k-3)

***HYMN 25 - "Away in a Manger" (stanzas 1 and 2)**

Mueller

ANTHEM - "O, Sleep, My Dear Little Baby"

Hispanic, arr. Michael Hawn

Oh, sleep my dear little baby in your mother's arms of love.
I will protect you and hold you while angels sing from above.
A la ru, A la mé.

(Stanza one is sung in Spanish)

Oh, do not fear the future and the sorrow it may bring.
Rest in the arms of your mother and calmly sleep while I sing.
A la ru, A la mé.

Calvin Choir (grades 4-6)

A PARTICIPATORY CHRISTMAS STORY

The Reverend Dr. George H. McConnel

The Reverend Nancy S. Hodgkins

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

The Reverend Laurie Brubaker Davis

Offertory Anthem - "Welcome the Babe"

Natalie Sleeth

Welcome the babe, welcome the babe,
Infant holy, meek and lowly,
Welcome the babe, welcome the babe,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

Worship the babe, worship the babe,
Bow before him, now adore him,
Worship the babe, worship the babe,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

Pray for the babe, pray for the babe,
Lamb of God, he comes to save us,
Pray for the babe, pray for the babe,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

Follow the babe, follow the babe,
Tell his story, share his glory,
Follow the babe, follow the babe,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

CHRISTMAS PRAYER AND THE 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.

***HYMN 40 - "Joy to the World" (stanzas 1 and 4)**

Antioch

***BENEDICTION**

CONCLUDING VOLUNTARY - "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

English, arr. Richard Purvis

*Stand as you are able.

Music Participants: Genesis Singers (pre-k, ages 4 and 5; Holly Martin, Director) – Cherub Choir (grades k-3; Marcia Wood, Director; Michelle Knorr, Pianist; Tracy Collins, Handbell Assistant) – Calvin Choir (grades 4-6; John Neely, Director) – Jerry Taylor, Music Associate, is organist this afternoon.

Head Usher: Tom Best

CPR/AED: Ande Han, Rob Jacks

A CHRISTMAS GREETING

The officers and staff of Westminster Presbyterian Church wish you a blessed Christmas and a peaceful New Year. If you are visiting with us this afternoon, we hope you will return to worship with us any Sunday at 10:00 a.m. You may learn more about the work and mission of the church and its various programs by visiting our Web site at www.westminsterdayton.org.

During the service the **children will be invited to come forward** to be a part of our manger scene. Many have come dressed as their favorite character from the biblical Christmas story. Extra costumes are available in the Narthex for others who wish to participate. Parents are welcome to photograph children at the manger following the service. We ask that no pictures be taken during the service.

The star in the Chancel is a memorial to Allison Stevens (September 23, 1977 - December 8, 1993).

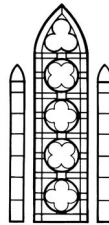
The red poinsettias in the Chancel vases are given by Mrs. H. Franklin (Betty Kohr) Gregory in memory of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Donald A. Kohr, and her brothers, Donald A. Jr., Robert B. and James R. Kohr.

The white poinsettias beneath the Raphael painting, *Madonna of the Chair*, copied by George L. Phillips, are given in loving memory of Merritt Culp by his family.

Each Sunday during Advent an additional candle was lit on the Advent wreath. This afternoon the **Christ candle** will be lit to symbolize God's coming into the world this Christmas. "That which had come to be in him was life, and this life was the light of all." (John 1:4)

Infant care is available in Room 108 during worship. However, please feel free to keep your infant or small child with you in worship. During the service, if your infant or small child becomes uncomfortable and needs care, feel free to leave the Sanctuary and return as you wish. The service is transmitted to Fellowship Hall where you and your child are also welcome.

Following this service a **birthday party for the baby Jesus** will be held downstairs in Fellowship Hall. All are invited to attend for cupcakes, games, and a special rendering of the song "Happy Birthday."



Westminster Presbyterian Church
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Christmas in the Cathedral



*If Jesus were born one thousand
times in Bethlehem and not in
me, then I would still be lost.*

- Corrie ten Boom

December 24, 2009, 10:00 p.m.
Westminster Presbyterian Church
Dayton, Ohio

Christmas in the Cathedral

Dear God, the gift of new life can be a gift truly only if we open ourselves to receive it. Be born among us that we ourselves may be born. Be born within us that we may bear the tidings of your birth to a world that dies for lack of love. We ask it in the child's name. Amen. - *A Christmas Eve Prayer* by Frederick Buechner

CARILLON PEAL

CALL TO WORSHIP IN MUSIC

Variations on a French Noel
"O Come, All Ye Faithful"
"Once in Royal David's City"
Fantasy on *Quem Pastores*
Rhapsodie sur des Noëls
"We Three Kings"
Lullaby Carol
"On Christmas Night"
"Still, Still, Still"

Claude Balbastre
English, arr. Kevin McChesney
English, arr. Douglas Wagner
German, arr. Jerry Davidson
Eugène Gigout
Polish, arr. Cynthia Dobrinski
American, arr. Barbara Kinyon
English, arr. Michael Burkhardt
Austrian, arr. Paul Manz

PROCESSIONAL - "Masters in this Hall"

French Carol

*CALL TO WORSHIP IN WORD

The Reverend Kay A. Davis-Dudding

*CAROL - "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Adeste fideles

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold him, born the King of angels!

REFRAIN

*O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!

REFRAIN

WELCOME

The Reverend Laurie Brubaker Davis

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PROPHECY - Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7

ANTHEMS

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

French Carol, arr. Gustav Holst

"O Magnum Mysterium" (Sung in Latin)

Thomás Luis de Victoria

O great mystery, and wonderful sacrament, that animals should see
the new-born Lord, lying in a manger! Blessed is the virgin whose
womb was worthy to bear Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

BIRTH OF JESUS - Luke 2:1-7

The Reverend Nancy S. Hodgkins

ANTHEMS

Fanfare for Christmas

Martin Shaw

"Ding Dong Merrily on High"

French, arr. David Willcocks

THE ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE SHEPHERDS - Luke 2:8-20

*CAROLS (All sing - please stand with the choir)

THE VISIT OF THE MAGI - Matthew 2:1-12

ANTHEMS

“O Who Will Come and Listen this Night?”

Mack Wilberg

“Out of the Orient Crystal Skies”

Richard Zgovada

CHRISTMAS MEDITATION

The Reverend Dr. George H. McConnel

Comfort Ye My People

Text: “Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God.” Isaiah 40:1

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Offertory Anthem - “Candlelight Carol”

John Rutter

CHRISTMAS PRAYER AND THE 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.

*CAROLS (All sing - please stand with the choir)

INCARNATION AND LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE - John 1:1-5, 10-12, 14, 16

SPREADING THE LIGHT

(The choir will light the candles of those sitting on the outside aisle of each pew. Each person in turn will light the candle of the next worshipper. To prevent hot wax from dripping, tilt only the unlit candle as you receive the flame. Please carefully watch children worshipping with you and assist them as needed.)

HYMN - “Silent Night, Holy Night”

Stille Nacht

(The congregation and choir will sing one stanza and hum one stanza. While humming, please raise your candle. Please extinguish your candle before leaving the pew.)

CONCLUDING VOLUNTARY - “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

German, arr. David Willcocks

*Stand as you are able.

Music Participants: Junior High Bell Choir (grades 7 and 8; Brent Manley, Director) – Senior High Bell Choir (grades 9-12; Jerry Taylor, Director) – Juniors and Seniors of the Senior High Bell Choir ringing “Masters in this Hall”: Meredith Baird, Caroline Ey, Justin Helt, Sara Gladden, Melanie Graeff, Matt Howard, Daniel Vicarel – Westminster Choir – Instrumentalists: Virginia Miller and Marcia Wood, Flute; Laurie Brubaker Davis, Cello – Soloists: Donna Reece (“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”), Beth Hill (“Silent Night” descant) – John Neely is Organist-Director.

The anthem “O Who Will Come and Listen this Night?” has been added to the choral library with memorial gifts given in loving memory of Mark Stevens.

Head Usher: Scott Porter

Acolytes: Nathan Pippenger and Blair Wallace

Head Greeter: Robin Feather

CPR/AED: Stan Shinkle, Fred Dudding

Westminster Presbyterian Church:
Where Loving God and Neighbor Is Transforming Lives

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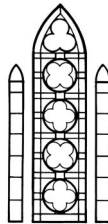
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The Christmas Offering is an opportunity to support the ministry and mission of Westminster Church. Envelopes are also available in the pew racks for designated gifts.



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All members of the Church

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Marvin Fleming Sexton
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