

Christmas Eve

FROM GENERATION
TO GENERATION...

We tell this story



Art by Shari LeMonnier

Westminster

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Saturday, December 24, 2022

Pastor: Rev. Angela Ryo

Music Director & Organist: Verdeen Strain

Contemporary Worship Music Leader: Chris Gloff

Lay Leader: Ken Schoon

3955 COLUMBIA AVENUE, MUNSTER, IN • 219.838.3131 • WPCMUNSTER.ORG

Saturday, December 24, 2022 - 10 p.m. Service

**Please stand in body or spirit.* - BOLD text is sung or spoken in unison.

PRELUDE

Music performed by Steve Strains and John Magrou

CALL TO WORSHIP

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

You have increased the joy of the nation as with joy at the harvest—

For the yoke of their burden, and the rod of their oppressor, you have broken.

For to us a child has been born; to us a son has been given. Authority shall rest upon his shoulders, and he shall be called

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Yes, the zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this!

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE - Doug & Ann Williams

Reader One: We light again the Candle of Hope for the Christmas story shines hope on our lives and we bring all our stories to this circle.

Reader Two: We light again the Candle of Peace to honor all the places where we have found peace in our lives and all the places for which we pray that peace may come.

Reader One: We light again the Candle of Joy to reflect on our celebrations in this season and to pray for those who experience feelings of loss and loneliness.

Reader Two: We light again this Candle of Love because Jesus Christ was born into our world, and we are born again into the love of God.

Reader One: The birth of Jesus in Bethlehem shows us how to hope, where to find and make peace, reasons to be filled with joy, and what it truly means to love. For on this night, we meet Emmanuel, God with us, who lifts us up and lets us shine.

Reader Two: We light the Christ candle. It shines on all our joys and sorrows. It shines on the young and the old.

Reader One: It shines, and we hear angels. It shines, and we see a manger. It shines, and we remember the story.

Reader Two: It shines on our world, like Bethlehem long ago. It can never be extinguished because darkness can never overcome God's love for us. Amen.

*HYMN #133

O Come, All Ye Faithful

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God—in the darkest time of the year we gather to hear again an ancient story— to listen for tidings of comfort and joy in the night air, to make our way through the cold to a place of birth.

In a time of anxiety and anguish, we gather in this beloved Light to be healed of fear and anger, to practice believing your promise of peace and goodwill on earth.

In the quiet splendor of this night, whisper to us between all the familiar words and cadences. And when we have received these treasures of song and story, send us home by a different way—

Continued on the next page.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION - *Continued*

To plant hope even in the chill earth, to kindle light even in the darkest time, to create peace even where we can scarcely imagine it— for we pray in the name of the One whose birth brings us back to life. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:1-7

MUSIC

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Parker-Shaw

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:8-14

*HYMN #113

Angels We Have Heard on High

THIRD SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:15-20

MUSIC

All My Heart This Night Rejoices

Z. Randall Stroope

LITANY FOR CHRISTMAS

God of unimaginable love, on the first Christmas You became one of us.

We celebrate Your love for every person in every place and time.

God of all humanity, You offered Your peace to anyone who would be satisfied with Your presence.

We celebrate Your peace in Your Church and accept Your commission to share it in all the world.

God of the shepherds, You announced Your arrival among us to the poorest, the most humble.

We celebrate Your good news to each of us and to everyone, right here where we are.

God of the manger, You came to us through Your Son in a small and simple place.

We celebrate Your presence with us this day in this small place made glorious by Your being in it.

God of deliverance, You came to be one of us in order to deliver all of us.

We celebrate Your healing touch and mercy toward all who are sick or in trouble.

(Take a moment to pray silently)

Emmanuel, God with us, when You became as we are, You opened Yourself to each of us, no matter who or what we are.

We celebrate this day when you came to us an infant so that we may come to you in all our weaknesses and frailties.

God of Christmas, bless us as we celebrate Your coming into Your creation.

And in one voice we pray,

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.

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

May the gifts we share be from the heart, just as yours was that day, God of Bethlehem. May they serve those who look for welcome, those who struggle with loss and grief, those who need to be blessed by hope. This we pray in the name of your Child, Jesus. Amen.

Tonight's offering will be donated to SAFY (Specialized Alternatives for Families and Youth). SAFY provides therapeutic foster care, behavioral health services, and family preservation and adoption services with the underlying mission that children, teens, and society thrive when they are kept in a family.

Offertory

The Blessed Son of God
Ralph Vaughn Williams

FOURTH SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:1-14

MEDITATION

MUSIC

Jesu, Light of Lights
Rob Mathes and Phil Naish

CONGREGATIONAL LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Hymn #122

Silent Night
(The choir will sing the first verse in German followed by the congregation singing the rest of the verses in English.)

***BENEDICTION**

**Please extinguish your candle after the benediction and before leaving your pew. Carry the light of the Christ Child in your hearts and know the blessing of Emmanuel, God with us.*



Contemporary Service

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2022 • 7:00 PM

Go Tell It On the Mountain
Tenth Avenue North

Carol of the Bells
Phil Wickham

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Tiffany & Taylor Perez

It's Christmas
Chris Tomlin

Breath of Heaven
Amy Grant

Do You Hear What I Hear
For King and Country

SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:1-14

MESSAGE

CANDLELIGHT MEDLEY

Joy to the World
Phil Wickham

O Come All Ye Faithful
NCC

The First Noel
David Crowder Band

O Come, O Come Emmanuel
Jason Waller

Silent Night

Upcoming Events



Christmas Morning Service at 10 a.m.

Come celebrate Christmas with us! You can even come in your pajamas to sing carols and share the joy of this special Sunday!

2023

New Years Day 10 a.m. Worship Service

Start out your 2023 with worship and let's ring in the new year together! Join us for a special Sunday service on Jan. 1!



American Red Cross

WPC Blood Drive - Jan. 6 from 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Visit our app or website under upcoming events to schedule an appointment.



New Member Meet & Greet - Jan. 22 at Noon

Are you interested in becoming a part of our church family? Come meet the pastor and other members and find out more about our church!

There are a few ways you can sign up

1. Sign up at the visitors table
2. Call the church at 219-838-3131
3. Email gnida@wpcmunster.org
4. Or, visit the app/website under upcoming events to register!

WORSHIP WITH US EACH SUNDAY

Traditional Service at 9:00 a.m.

Contemporary Service at 10:45 a.m.



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HOW CAN WE HELP?

A PASTOR A DEACON NEW MEMBER
 STEPHEN MINISTER PRAYER REQUEST OTHER
 PHONE CALL HOME COMMUNION

CONTACT INFORMATION

NAME: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

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