

# Worship for the Lord's Day

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

\* Denotes all may stand if possible

Greetings & Announcements

Refrain: God is good / *All the time* / All the time / *God is good*

Prelude – *Break Forth Into Joy from "The Christmas Oratorio"* by J.S. Bach

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading, 2 Samuel 7:1-11 & 16, pew Bible O.T., p. 293-294

\*Hymn #9 – *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

Advent Candle Lighting

Unison Prayer:

*Thank you God for the love you lavish upon us. We ask that as we wait for all your promises to be fulfilled, and for Christ to come again, that you would remain present with us. Help us to amend our lives so that we more perfectly reflect your great love for us in all that we do. Help us today, and everyday, to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your love with the world. We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. Amen.*

Response – *Come Let Us Worship the King* by Bill George and Billy Smiley

*The Savior has come; let all the nations sing.  
The mountains ring out with angelic praise.  
The heavens rejoice, for the earth receives her King.  
Come, let us worship the King.*

*Come, let us worship the King. Jesus the Savior is born.  
For the Lord will reign over all the earth.  
Come, let us worship the King. Jesus the Savior is born.  
For the Lord is great and greatly to be praised.  
Through all the earth, let us worship the King!*

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\*Passing of the Peace:

Leader: May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**People:** *And also with you.*

## PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Word in Music – *Who But the Lord?* by Boersma/Courtney

Chancel Choir

Who but the Lord can give the shadows light, can break into the dark,  
draw morning from the night?

Who but the Lord will hear our cry and answer, "Here am I"?

Who but the Lord makes blinded eyes to see, brings music to the deaf,  
sets the lonely captive free?

Who but the Lord will by His glory show the paths of peace? Who but the Lord?

O shine on us the brightness of Your face, to earth's remotest end, ev'ry people, ev'ry race.

O shine on us until to each is shown Your saving grace. O shine on us. O shine.

Who but the Lord can give the shadows light? None but the Lord.

Children's Message

Dan Collmus

*The children are invited to Children's Church at this time.*

*They will return after the sermon.*

Second Scripture Reading, *Luke 1:26-38*, pew Bible N.T., p. 1088

Sermon - *O Little Town: Born in Us*

The Rev. Dr. Matthew L. Camlin

*O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel!.*

\*Song of Praise (on insert) – *Prepare The Way* by Darrell Patton Evans and Eric Nuzum

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer ("*Forgive us our sins...*")

Presentation of Offerings (If you haven't already, please pass the Friendship pads.)

Offertory – *Unto Us is Born a Son/Sussex Carol (medley)* arranged by Allan Alexander  
Tawnee Hunter, flute and Mike Leslie, guitar

\**Doxology, Hymn #592*

\*Prayer of Dedication

## SENDING OUT THE WORD

\*Hymn #31 – *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Postlude – *O Come, All Ye Faithful* arranged by Edward Broughton

# Worship Notes

December 24, 2017

Fourth Sunday of Advent

**If you are a guest today** we pray that God will bless you through your presence with us. Please sign the pew pad, including contact information, so we may welcome you.

**Assistance for worship** is available including large print bulletins and hymnals. We also have personal audio receivers that provide sound amplification.

**Childcare:** The Nursery for babies and toddlers (infants-age 2) is located through the side doors of the sanctuary to the left of the pulpit area. Thanks” to **Marilyn Reeher** for staffing our Nursery and to **Sara Arblaster** for assisting today. There is no **Children's Church** this morning.

**Greeting you this morning at the main entrance is the Bair family.** Tom and Meridee have been members for many years. Tom joined in 1950 and Meridee in 1969. Both have served as teachers in Sunday School and Youth Club programs. Meridee has been a deacon, is a volunteer receptionist and a member of the HELP team. The Bairs have 2 children, a son David and a daughter Kristie, who passed away in 2015. Joining the Bairs today are David, his wife Bianca and grandchildren, Nina, Kaya and Nico. David and his family live in Brazil.

We are very pleased to have our middle school students serve as **acolytes** in worship. This morning **Sam Mistretta** and **Noah Postema** are lighting the candles.



**Christmas Joy 2017–Out of Gratitude We Give:** This offering, annually received during Advent, supports the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and racial ethnic schools and colleges of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). If you would like to participate, the offering envelopes are in the pew racks.

**Advent Worship Bags** – for parents worshipping with children 4 to 8 or 9 years of age. The bags, one per family, can be picked up in the Ligo Room on the table opposite the elevator. A laminated note in the bag explains what is within the bag for your child to keep and what should be returned to the bag at the end of worship.

**The 2018 Flower Calendar** is posted on the bulletin board by the southeast door (near the Ligo Room). Please sign up now for dates important to you. Particularly needed are Sundays in January, February and March. The cost remains \$30. Questions? Please contact the church office, 724-946-3541 or office@nwpresby.org.

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724-946-3541 • Office hours: Mon-Fri, 9 am-5 pm  
Worship services on radio WWNW (88.9FM)

Rev. Dr. Matthew L. Camlin (Pastor) ext. 12; [matt@nwpresby.org](mailto:matt@nwpresby.org)  
Anne Bruening (Music Coordinator, Director of Chancel and Handbell Choirs)  
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Kay Taylor (Church Treasurer) ext. 13; [kay@nwpresby.org](mailto:kay@nwpresby.org)

## Today

**Sunday, December 24, 2017 – Christmas Eve Sunday**



10:30am Worship

7:30pm Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols

*(Please note time correction.)*

## This Week

**Monday (25) Merry Christmas!**

**Tuesday (26) Church Offices closed today for Christmas break.**

7pm AA Meeting, balcony Room 309 (at the top of the stairs)

**Wednesday (27)**

**Thursday (28)**

**Friday (29)**

5pm Wedding Rehearsal, Sanctuary

**Saturday (30)**

3:30pm Wedding, Sanctuary

## Next Sunday

**Sunday, December 31, 2017 – News Year's Eve Sunday**

10:30am Worship

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### Reminders:

- **Sunday School classes** will not meet on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Classes *for all ages* resume Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am. *(Class listings can be found in the 3 literature racks and bulletin racks.)*
- Also, there will be **no Church Chums** on December 31<sup>st</sup>.

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**2018 offering envelopes** are in the Ligo Room. Please save postage and pick yours up today. Year end giving must be in the treasurer's office by December 31, 2017 but will not be deposited until January 5, 2018.

**Pledge Cards:** If you haven't done so, **please return your 2018 pledge card.** This enables our treasurer and Finance Committee to more accurately create the budget for the various ministries in the coming year. Misplaced your pledge card? Copies are available in the Ligo Room on the table with the offering envelopes. If more convenient, send your pledge via email directly to Treasurer Kay Taylor (kay@nwpresby.org). Time and Talent commitment cards are also available.

**The United States of America is December's Mission Focus of the NWPC**



**Mission Committee.** We display the smaller U.S. flag from the Ligo Room in the chancel area, drawing our attentions to the many missional outreaches that our Church supports throughout the nation.

The recent hurricanes led us to support not only Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, but we also entered into relationship with the congregation of the **First Presbyterian Church of Dickinson, TX.** Their church building was heavily damaged by the flood waters and in desperate need of building materials and replacement of the contents. Even during the clean up and rebuilding process, the church continues to run their diaper ministry for those in need. We thank Wayne & Peggy Gordon for being our liaisons and bringing us into relationship with this congregation.

The most recent request for assistance came from **Mr. Ken Jewell**, an administrator in our **New Wilmington School District.** During his vacation to the South Dakota Badlands, Mr. Jewell encountered a park ranger who was also a teacher in one of the nation's poorest schools, the **Wolf Creek Elementary School on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.** Comparing teaching notes and districts, Ken became shockingly aware of the poverty and need of the children there. Pulaski Elementary School was closing and had 3,500+ books in its library that were no longer needed. Ken knew just the place for them, but how to get the books into the hands of the Indian children? He would need a truck, gas, and expense money. He would be the driver if he could get the necessary help. He presented his cause to the Board of Education and sought the help of individuals and local churches. Ken was given approval by the School Board to send the books. Churches and individuals granted the funds needed. Ken made the journey to South Dakota to share the books and while there saw a broader picture, a missional picture, to develop a relationship between the students in New Wilmington and the students at Wolf Creek School. Mr. Jewell hopes to foster that relationship with work trips to the reservation involving students and other community members. We are glad NWPC was able to help with this project that has far reaching missional implications.

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**Shenango Presbytery's annual LeaderFest** is Saturday, January 13, 2018, here at NWPC and on WC campus. There will be a special keynote presentation by Dr. Stephen Franklin of Meridian Presbyterian Church in Butler, as well as many workshops surrounding the theme of Discipleship. Please come! Early bird registration, as well as the group discount, ends on January 3<sup>rd</sup>!!! There are brochures with registration form and seminar descriptions in the Ligo Room, or go to the Presbytery website (<http://shenango.org>).