

John wrote: "That which was from the beginning, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life... we proclaim to you: God is light! If we walk in the light, as God is in the light, we have communion with one another... Friends, let us love one another, for love is of God!"

(Lighting of the candles)

***Carol:** "Joy to the World!"No. 40

We hold our candles high on the fourth verse of "Joy to the World," so that the light that we have received may be seen from afar. As our candles are a sea of light lit from the one Light of Christ, so may we reflect Christ's light and love in the world.

***Benediction**

**Congregation standing. All hymns will be sung out of the Glory to God Hymnal We will sing the first verse of all carols except Joy to the World. Please remain seated during all of the carols except Joy to the World, in order to reflect on the music and power of these ancient words.*

So That All May Believe, Rejoice and Give Thanks

PASTOR: The Rev. Audrey Hartness Reese

ORGANIST: Nita McMillan

PIANIST: Ann Merritt

MUSICIANS: Trish McCoy, Ellen Stancil, Steve Moore, Laura Ann Moore, Jim McMillan



Westminster Presbyterian Church

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Westminster Presbyterian Church

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2021

7:00 P.M.

Service of Lessons and Carols

Prelude

Call to Worship (Responsive):

The People who walked in darkness have seen a great light!

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not over come it.

Those who dwelt in the land of the deep darkness, on them has the light shined.

We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

In Him was life and this life was the light of all.

Lighting of the Christ CandleRev. Audrey H. Reese

Carol: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"No. 82

First ReadingLuke 2:1-5

Carol: "Prepare the Way"No. 106

Second ReadingLuke 2: 6-7

Carol: "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"No. 128

Third ReadingLuke 2:8-12

Carol: "Away in a Manger"No. 115

Fourth ReadingLuke 2:13-15

Carol: "Angels We Have Heard on High"No. 113

Fifth ReadingLuke 2:16-18

Carol: "Silent Night, Holy Night"No. 122

Sixth ReadingLuke 2:19-20

Choral Response

Seventh ReadingJohn 1: 1-14

Message: "Profess like Elizabeth, Sing like Mary"Rev. Audrey H. Reese

Instrumental Response

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving 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, for ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

Service of Candle Lighting

The God who said, "Let there be light," has caused a light to shine in our hearts. The prophet Isaiah proclaimed, "Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. " That light is the glory of God reflected in the fact of Jesus Christ. As our candles are a sea of light lit from the one light of Christ, so may the church reflect Christ's light and love in the world.

We extend a warm welcome to all who have come to worship today. If you are a visitor, we extend a special welcome to you and ask that you sign our guest register. If you do not have a church home, we invite you to join our church family in the life and work of this church.