

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

## WINNETKA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
NOVEMBER 27, 2022

### GATHERING

*We joyfully gather together in anticipation during this season of waiting.  
May our greetings and visiting be a sign of Christ's presence with us.*

#### WELCOME

#### QUIET MEDITATION

O Morning Star!

O Morning Star, how fair and bright!  
You shine with God's own truth and light,  
aglow with grace and mercy!  
Of Jacob's line, King David's Son,  
our Lord and Savior, you have won  
our hearts to serve you only!

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather together at the beginning of Advent  
to wait for the coming Messiah.  
We look up to the darkness of the heavens,  
and we see the first faint glimmer of the sunrise creeping over the horizon.  
The day is not yet upon us, but its dawning is announced.

## GATHERING SONG

Comfort, My People

*The ensemble will sing the song first; then the congregation sings together*

Com-fort, my peo-ple calm all your fear; the day of sal-  
va-tion is quick-ly draw-ing near. The One you long to—  
see will soon set you free. O— come, Lord  
Je - sus come. O— come, Lord Je - sus come.

The musical score is written on four staves in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first line of music corresponds to the first line of lyrics, and so on. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

## ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

As we light this Advent candle,  
may its flame be a symbol of hope;  
its warmth be a symbol of God's love;  
and may it inspire us to be hope bearers  
and people of compassion and integrity.  
We pray in the name of Jesus,  
the Light of the World.  
Amen.

## OPENING SONG 82 | STANDING

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord,  
we confess that we have often doubted the promise of your coming,  
and failed to notice the ways in which you are already present.  
Give us eyes to see that you are here with us ...  
in the crowds,  
and in the empty places;  
in the temple courts,  
and in the refugee camps;  
in the busyness of our lives,  
and in the emptiness of our hearts.  
Forgive us,  
and help us to walk in your light.

*Silence is kept for personal confession.*

**Amen.**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Though the nights are long, the sun still rises;  
though the mornings are dark, the birds still sing;  
though the world isn't ready, Christ still comes;  
though we don't listen or prepare or deserve,  
God still loves and forgives and renews us.  
Thanks be to God!

## SUNG RESPONSE

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

# WORD

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### SCRIPTURE

Genesis 15:1-6

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM

Psalm 25

To\_\_ you, O Lord, I\_\_ lift my soul, to\_\_  
you I lift my soul.\_\_\_\_\_

Your ways, O Lord, make known to me.

Teach me your paths, guide me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are God my Savior, and for you I wait all the day. (refrain)

Good and upright is the Lord; thus he shows sinners the way.  
He guides the humble to justice, and teaches the humble his way. (refrain)

All the paths of the Lord are kindness and constancy  
toward those who keep his covenant and his decrees.  
The friendship of the Lord is with those who fear him,  
and his covenant, for their instruction. (refrain)

*Children (K-6) are dismissed for Sunday School following the scripture readings.  
They may be picked up from their classrooms at 11:00.*

### SERMON

*Counting Stars*  
Rev. Paul Gilmore

## MUSICAL OFFERING

We Are All the Stars

We are all the stars in one sky.  
Like the waves of one sea, like the leaves of one tree,  
We are all the stars.  
Many flowers in one garden grow,  
And a mountain's made of many stones.  
Each of us can shine in a sky that's yours and mine!

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of the promise...  
**hear our prayer.**

## 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.**

## SHARING THE PEACE | STANDING

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

# TABLE

## SONG | STANDING

What Feast of Love

*(Sung to the tune of "What Child Is This")*

What feast of love is offered here,  
what banquet come from heaven?  
What food of everlasting life,  
what gracious gift is given?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
the bread come down from heaven.  
O taste and see and sing!  
How sweet the manna given!

What wine of love is offered here,  
what crimson drink from heaven?  
What stream of everlasting life,  
what precious drink is given?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
the sweetest wine from heaven.  
O taste and see and sing!  
The Son of God is given!

## INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE | STANDING

## GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING | STANDING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

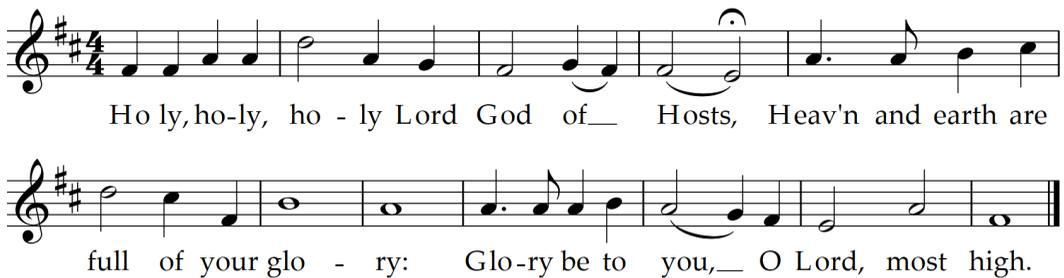
Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is a right, good, and joyful thing  
 always and everywhere to give thanks to you, O God,  
 for sending your prophets to announce your coming reign,  
 your servants to prepare the way of the Lord,  
 and your Son, Jesus, to bring light to our darkness.  
 You draw us to yourself with the promise of salvation,  
 and every promise you make, in your goodness, you fulfill.  
 And so, with angels and archangels,  
 we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:



Ho ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord God of Hosts, Heav'n and earth are  
 full of your glo - ry: Glo-ry be to you, O Lord, most high.

Holy are you, and holy is your child, Jesus Christ,  
 whose coming we await with hope and anticipation,  
 and for whose life, death, and resurrection  
 we give thanks beyond measure.  
 May this meal we share be a sign that our redemption is near.  
 Pour out your Holy Spirit on us,  
 and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
 May they be for us a communion in the body and blood of Christ,  
 that we may be the body of Christ to a world sitting in darkness and gloom.

**Come Lord Jesus,**  
**with your Father and your Spirit, to the church,**  
**and receive our praises, now and forever.**  
**Amen.**

*The congregation is seated.*

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## COMMUNION

*We will serve each other communion gathered around the Table.*

*Small groups will be directed to gather around the table.*

*Please distribute the bread to your neighbor saying, "The bread of life."*

*Distribute the cup to your neighbor saying, "The cup of salvation."*

*When you receive the bread and cup, respond with "Thanks be to God" or "Amen."*

*After your group is served, please return to your pew by the side aisle.*

## COMMUNION SONG

In the Breaking of the Bread



1. In the break - ing of the bread, in the shar - ing of the wine,  
2. In our wor - ship, in the praise, in our ser - vice, in our prayer,



in the gath - 'ring of our hearts, we are filled with love di - vine.  
in the mu - sic that we raise, in the fel - low - ship we share.



At Christ's ta - ble our hearts are fed.  
At Christ's ta - ble we find our place.



There is grace in the break - ing of bread.  
In the break - ing of bread there is grace.



There is grace in the break - ing of bread. \_\_\_\_\_  
In the break - ing of bread there is grace. \_\_\_\_\_

## CHORAL COMMUNION ANTHEM

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Creator of the stars of night, your people's everlasting light,  
O Christ, redeemer of us all, we pray you hear us when we call.

When this old world drew on toward night, you came; but not in splendor bright,  
not as a monarch, but the child of Mary, blessed mother mild.

Come in your holy might, we pray,

*Of the Father's love begotten*

Redeem us for eternal day;

*ere the world began to be,*

all things on earth with one accord,

*he is Alpha and Omega,*

like those in heaven shall call you Lord.

*evermore and evermore.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God our hope,

**we give you thanks for this foretaste  
of the justice, righteousness, and peace  
of your promised new creation.**

**Strengthen us with this heavenly food  
as we await the coming in glory  
of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## SENDING

**CLOSING SONG 94** | STANDING

Now the Heavens Start to Whisper

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** | STANDING

**ORGAN POSTLUDE**

O Come, Divine Messiah!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Information about weekly Bible studies and small groups can be found in your weekly email or at [winnpres.org](http://winnpres.org). Sign up at [winnpres.org](http://winnpres.org) to receive our weekly email.

### OFFERING



You can financially support the ministry of WPC in one of the following ways:

- Scan this QR code.
- Place your offering in the collection box.
- Give online at [winnpres.org/give-online](http://winnpres.org/give-online).

### REV. KATHY MCNAIR MEMORIAL SERVICE

The memorial service for Rev. Kathy McNair will be on Saturday, December 3 at 11:00am here in the sanctuary.

## SERVING TODAY

Worship Leaders: Paul Gilmore, Geoff Duffy  
Greeters: Bob and Liz Crowe  
Lectors: Liz Berwanger  
Prayer Leader; Barbara Scott  
Musicians: Bryan Wlas, Kelsey Goodwin,  
Daniel Rausch, Warren Oja

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## POINSETTIA AND GREENS DONATIONS

Help decorate our worship space for Christmas Eve and the whole Christmas season by making a donation toward the poinsettias and greens. Any donation is appreciated. Please return this form no later than TODAY along with your check made out to Winnetka Presbyterian Church. Indicate in the check memo field that it is for "Christmas flowers."

You can also donate online at [winnpres.org](http://winnpres.org)

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In thanksgiving for: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

## WINNETKA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Rev. Phyllis Beattie, Parish Associate



## THE ADVENT SEASON

The church's liturgical year begins with the First Sunday of Advent (Nov 27). Advent is a time of preparation and joyful waiting for the coming of the Lord. We celebrate Christ's first coming as a child in a manger; we prepare our hearts for Christ's coming into our lives this season; and we look forward with hope to Christ's coming at the end of time. There are many opportunities to prepare, wait, and celebrate this season at WPC!

### THE GIVING TREE IS UP

The Good News Partners (GNP) Giving Tree is up and filled with tags for gifts to be purchased for the GNP Christmas Market which will be held on December 10. **Gifts need to be delivered to WPC and put under the Giving Tree by Monday, December 5.** The Christmas Market offers many opportunities to volunteer. If you are interested, please contact Nancy Holly.

### TODAY: ADVENT FESTIVAL

Our annual WPC Advent Festival will be on the First Sunday of Advent immediately following worship.

### DEC 11: BAKE SALE

Beautiful holiday plates of homemade cookies made by the women of WPC, wrapped in love...make the perfect gifts.

### DEC 18: ADVENT MUSIC SUNDAY

Join us for a wonderful morning of Advent music by our choir, musicians, and Sunday School children.

## POINSETTIA OFFERINGS

If you would like to make a donation for poinsettias and Christmas greens to decorate the CLC for Christmas worship, you may do so online at [winnpres.org](http://winnpres.org). Donations may be made online or with a check.

## ADVENT DEVOTIONALS

You may pick up a copy of this year's devotional, *Lo, How a Rose*, in the atrium following worship this Sunday.

## SING IN THE ADVENT CHOIR!

All singers are invited to join our Advent Choir on Dec 4, 11, and 18.

- Rehearsal @ 8:45am on Dec 4 and 11
- Rehearsal @ 8:30am on Dec 18
- Learn a song each Sunday to sing in worship. The next Sunday, we'll review what we learned the week before, and then learn a new song for that Sunday.
- On December 18, we'll sing our three songs in worship for our Advent Music Sunday!

## CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP: 4PM/8PM