

GATHERING

Voluntary

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly.....arr. Keith Chapman
Improvisation on “God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen” Myron Roberts
In dulci jubilo.....settings by Dieterich Buxtehude and J. S. Bach
Noel Étranger.....Louis Daquin
Prelude on “Greensleeves”Vaughan Williams, arr. Roper
Prelude on “Es ist ein Ros’ entsprungen” Johannes Brahms
Variations on “Adeste Fideles”Raynor Taylor
Rhapsody on Christmas Carols Eugene Gigout

Welcome.....Carol Cavin-Dillon

Introit: Torches, Torches John Joubert

† Processional Hymn No. 234: O Come, All Ye Faithful.....Adeste Fideles

† Greeting.....Nancy Parker

Liturgist: *The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;*

People: **those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shined.**

Liturgist: *For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;*

People: **and the government will be upon his shoulder,
and his name will be called
“Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”**

Liturgist: *Of the increase of his government
and of peace there will be no end.*

People: **Glory to God in the highest!**

† Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)

**O God, you show us your love
through the gift of your life among us.
We hear the familiar story of Christmas,
but we often fail to allow
its mercy and grace to change our lives.**

**Forgive us, we pray, and fill our hearts with your love.
This we ask in Christ’s name.**

† Silent Confession

† Words of Assurance

Liturgist: *Hear the joyous news of Christmas: God has come to us in
Christ Jesus, who gave himself for us while we were yet
sinners. In the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven!*

People: **In the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven!**
All: **Glory to God. Amen.**

† Passing of the Peace

Liturgist: *As a forgiven and reconciled people,
let us exchange signs of reconciliation and love.
The peace of Christ be with you.*

People: **And also with you.**

† An Act of Praise

Antiphon (Choir and Congregation)



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to all peo-ple on earth.

Choir: *Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship
you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.*

All: **(Antiphon)**

Choir: *Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.*

All: **(Antiphon)**

Choir: *You are seated at the right hand of the Father, receive our prayer.*

All: **(Antiphon)**

Choir: *For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord.
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ.*

All: **(Antiphon)**

Choir: *With the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

All: **(Antiphon)**

Anthem: In Silent Night..... Mitchell Southall

In silent night, when all is calm and all is bright, in silent night, O holy
night, the Baby from heaven is born on this night. The child, innocent
child is born. In silent night, as darkness flies and all is light, in silent
night, O holy night, the Baby in radiance lay sleep on this night. The
child, the holy Child is born. In silent night, this Son of God and son of
man, shall one day cry and later die upon a cross for you and me. The
child, the Prince of Peace is born.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination (*in unison*)

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that as the Scriptures are read and the Word proclaimed,
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

† Lesson from the Gospel: Luke 2:1-20.....(pew Bible, page 832)

† Response to the Scripture:

Liturgist: *Great is the mystery of the incarnation.*

People: **Thanks be to God.**

† Hymn No. 218: It Came upon the Midnight Clear.....Carol

Communion Meditation: Ready or Not..... Carol Cavin-Dillon

† Affirmation of Faith: The Nicene Creed.....No. 880

The Offering.....Erin Racine

Offertory: Nativity CarolJohn Rutter

Born in a stable so bare, born so long ago; born 'neath light of star He
who loved us so. Far away silent lay, born today, your homage pay, for
Christ is born for aye. Born on Christmas Day.

Cradled by mother so fair, tender her lullaby; over her son so dear
Angel hosts fill the sky. Far away silent lay, born today, your homage
pay, for Christ is born for aye. Born on Christmas Day.

Wise men from distant far land, Shepherds from starry hills worship
this babe so rare, hears with warmth he fills. Far away silent lay, born
today, your homage pay, for Christ is born for aye. Born on Christmas
Day.

Love in that stable was born into our hearts to flow; innocent dreaming
babe, make me my love to know. Far away silent lay, born today, your
homage pay, for Christ is born for aye. Born on Christmas Day.

† Doxology.....No. 94

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

† Thanksgiving

Celebrant: *The Lord be with you.*

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: *Lift up your hearts.*

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

Celebrant: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

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

† Prayer of Praise and Thanksgiving

† Sanctus and Benedictus (*Choir and Congregation*)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav - en and earth are



ful__ of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who



comes__ in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Prayer of Remembrance

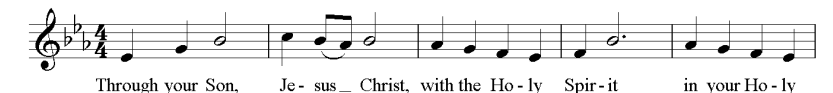
People:



Christ has died, Christ is__ ris - en, Christ will come a - gain.

Prayer of Consecration

People:



Through your Son, Je - sus__ Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in your Ho - ly



Church, all glo - ry and hon - or is yours, Fa - ther. A - men.

The Lord's Prayer (*in unison*)

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

The Breaking of Bread and Taking of the Cup

After "O Holy Night," the congregation is invited to sing the following hymns: 217, 230, 216, and 239.

† Prayer after Receiving

Celebrant: *You have given yourself to us, Lord.*
People: **Now we give ourselves for others.**
Celebrant: *Your love has made us a new people;*
People: **as a people of love we will serve you with joy.**
Celebrant: *Your glory has filled our hearts;*
People: **help us to glorify you in all things. Amen.**

† Changing of the Chancel Paraments and Lighting of the Christ Candle

We symbolize the transition from Advent expectation to Christmas celebration by changing the parament colors from blue to white.

SENDING FORTH

† Recessional Hymn No. 246: Joy to the World.....Antioch

† Dismissal with Blessing

Celebrant: *Go forth in peace.
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*
People: **Amen.**

† Choral Response: Seven-Fold Amen.....Peter Lutkin

Voluntary: Bring A Torch, Jeanette, Isabella.....arr. Keith Chapman

*The postlude is the final Alleluia of our worship.
All are invited to remain for a time of joyful prayer.*

† *The congregation is invited to rise in body or in spirit.*

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The Altar Flowers are given this Christmas to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Josephine Doubleday
by Mark A. O'Bryan and W. Montgomery Smith.

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Music Participants: Members of the Chancel and Sanctuary Choir. Matthew Phelps is organist-director. Andrew Risinger is organist/accompanist. Ben Troxler and Hollie Dueker are soloists for "O Holy Night."



Everyone is welcome at West End! We seek to be the loving light of Christ in Nashville and beyond. We gather as the people of God with a wide range of religious backgrounds, education levels, political and theological perspectives, and we value that diversity. We welcome and celebrate the gifts God has given to all without regard to gender identity, race, sexual orientation, economic or family status, ethnicity, or mental or physical ability. We believe God loves everyone unconditionally!

2022 Year-End Contributions

There are several ways you can give. Log on to westendumc.org/give to make a contribution online, and of course, you can always drop a check in the offering plate or in the mail. If it is delivered by hand or postmarked by December 31, you can include that as a contribution on your tax return for 2022. *The church office will be open until 4:30 p.m. on Friday, December 30* if you wish to bring your gift by in person. Some people choose to give the church appreciated securities as a means of avoiding personal capital gains tax, and making a contribution to their church at the same time. To make a contribution of stock, contact Cindy Siemer at csiemer@westendumc.org or 615.321.8500.

WEST END

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2022
at Ten thirty in the evening

2200 West End Avenue
615.321.8500

Nashville, Tennessee 37203
www.westendumc.org