

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2021 | 4:00 pm

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE *Still, Still, Still* | arr. Patrick Lee

INTROIT *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* | arr. Victor C. Johnson

WELCOME

*LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

"Good news of great joy,"
the angel said,
"for to you a savior is born."
"Peace on earth,"
the choir sang,
"for God reigns in the highest."
"Follow me,"
the star beckoned,
"for Hope was born in Bethlehem."

As we light the Christ candle,
we watch for the Christmas story around us.
Emmanuel has come and is coming.
Come, all ye faithful, and worship God.

*CAROL *O Come All Ye Faithful* | arr. Patrick Lee

HEARING THE WORD

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

O God most joyful, we praise and worship you, for you came in silence, while all lay sleeping, to enter our world. On this night of expectant wonder, we tread again the path to Bethlehem and to the child whose birth was heralded by prophets, proclaimed by angels, and welcomed by shepherds. Open our eyes to see in that infant your loving purposes, and stir up within us the spirit of adoring praise. Embracing God, in the quietness of this hour, touch our understanding with your Holy Spirit, that we may know again in true reality the wonder of your love in Jesus Christ; and though there was no room in Bethlehem's inn, help us to make room in the busy-ness of the world, in our daily life, that our lives may show Christ's love, and our hearts receive Christ's peace. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 9:2-7

ANTHEM *Our Messiah's Birth* | arr. Megan Morgan

MARY'S TREASURE— THE STORY IN WORD AND SONG

TIME WITH CHILDREN

CAROL *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* | IN DULCI JUBILO

LESSONS OF HUMILITY AND LOVE Luke 2:1-7

ANTHEM *Away in a Manger* | arr. Mark Patterson

LESSON OF KINDNESS Luke 2:8-12

CAROL *The First Noel* | THE FIRST NOEL

LESSON OF JOY Luke 2:13-20

ANTHEM *Angels' Gloria* | Laura Farnell

LESSON OF THE MAGI

CAROL *We Three Kings* | KINGS OF ORIENT

MORE LESSONS OF THE MAGI

CAROL *Joy to the World* | arr. Patrick Lee

LIVING THE WORD

*LITANY OF THE INCARNATION

Leader: When the time was right, God sent the Son;
sent him and nourished him, reared him and risked him,

**ALL: filled him with laughter and tears and compassion,
filled him with anger and love and devotion.**

Leader: Unwelcomed child, refugee and runaway,

ALL: Christ is God's own son.

Leader: Feeder and teacher, healer and antagonist,

ALL: Christ is God's own son.

Leader: Lover of the unlovable, toucher of the untouchable,
forgiver of the unforgivable,

ALL: Christ is God's own son.

Leader: Loved by women, feared by men, befriended by the
weak, despised by the strong, deserted by his listeners,
betrayed by his friends, bone of our bone, flesh of our
flesh, writing heaven's pardon over earth's mistakes,

ALL: Christ is God's own son.

Leader: The Word became flesh:

ALL: He came among us. He was one of us.

CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYER 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, forever. Amen.

CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Light of the World* | Lauren Daigle

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Give Online



PASSING OF THE LIGHT

*SCRIPTURE READING John 1:1-5

Pass the light from one to another, keeping the burning candle upright. Following the Blessing, please extinguish your candle and leave it in a marked receptacle at one of the exits as you depart the Sanctuary.

*CAROL *Peace, Peace/Silent Night* | arr. Rick and Sylvia Powell

*BLESSING

*POSTLUDE *Silent Night* | arr. Olivia Belli

Leading Worship Today

The Rev. Katie Robb Davis, Associate Pastor

The Rev. Dr. John H. Bell, Jr., Pastor

Cindy Moorman, Interim Children's Ministry Coordinator

Kiersten Hill, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Tegan Palmer, Assistant Director of Music

The Bishop Family, Advent Candle Lighters

Patrick Lee, Pianist

Wellshire Youth and Children's Choirs, Tegan Palmer, Daniel Rosen,

Rachel Rosen and Brendan Schuster, directors

Confluence: John Ruby, William Perkins, Paul Day-Lucore,

Sara Michael, Norika Zehnder, Lindsey Kinney, Martha Cearley,

Brendan Schuster, Adam Kinney, Karl Allen and Scott Campbell, vocalists

Steve Cearley, Bill Davis, Jeff Rutherford & Don Harlacher, Production

* The Congregation is invited to stand. **Bold Print** indicates congregational participation

Welcome visitors! Thank you for coming to Wellshire for Christmas Eve. We are glad you're here.

Hearing assistance devices are available at the usher's table.

We'd Love to be in Touch!

If this is your first visit or you need to update your contact information, please fill in this form. Tear off this panel and place it in the offering plate.

Name(s) _____
Email _____
Phone _____
Comment _____

Please add my email address to the weekly eNewsletter list.

OR, point your smartphone camera at the QR code to the right and fill out the short Visitor Information Form. We would love to stay in touch with you!



Carol Sing

This Sunday, December 26, Wellshire offers one carol singing service at **10:00 am** in the Sanctuary. We hope to see you there, and have a Merry Christmas!

CONTACT

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| Rev. Dr. John H. Bell, Jr. Pastor jbell@wpcdenver.org 303-758-2233 ex. 215 | Rev. Katie Robb Davis Associate Pastor krobbdavis@wpcdenver.org 303-758-2233 ex. 217 | Rev. Julia Fenn Parish Associate jfenn@wpcdenver.org 303-758-2233 ex. 224 |
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Wellshire Presbyterian Church
2999 S. Colorado Blvd. Denver, CO 80222
www.wpcdenver.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Membership Exploration Class

Membership at Wellshire is open to ALL who affirm faith in Jesus Christ! Join the pastors for coffee and an informal information session and get-to-know-you. Sunday, January 23 at 9:45. Those interested in this commitment to faith in community would join in worship on Sunday, January 30. Contact: Rev. Katie Robb Davis at krobbdavis@wpcdenver.org.

Watch Our Livestream

Wellshire livestreams services and events to our Facebook and YouTube pages. Follow us on Facebook to participate Sunday mornings from anywhere; facebook.com/wpcdenver.

Music Opportunities

All are invited to participate in Wellshire's many musical opportunities including children's choir, youth choir, Celebration Ringers (handbells), contemporary musical groups: Celebration Singers and Confluence, and the Sanctuary Choir (traditional). Contact Christine Gaudreau at cgaudreau@wpcdenver.org.

Many Ways To Serve

Service is a vital part of our Christian faith, and there are many ways for you to serve actively in the community and world. Join the Hunger Task Force; support churches, schools, and clinics from Haiti to Zimbabwe, serve a meal at Urban Peak; or contribute items to our food drives for Metro Caring.

Families & Children

No matter the ages of your children, there is a place for your family at Wellshire: Parents Day Out, Bible studies, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, and fellowship groups. Contact Cindy Moorman at cmoorman@wpcdenver.org.

Youth

All 6th through 12th grade students are invited to participate in our youth ministries. Contact Kiersten Hill at khill@wpcdenver.org to learn about opportunities for youth students to grow, serve, and learn together.

CALENDAR

- DEC 26** Carol Sing, **ONE worship service, 10:00 am**
No Sunday School
- JAN 23** Membership Exploration Class
- JAN 30** Used Book Sale

Cover art: James He Qi "Nativity". www.heqiart.com



DECEMBER 24, 2021
CHRISTMAS EVE



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