

Welcome to Worship on this 4th Sunday of Advent. Advent is the first season of the Christian liturgical year - a time of hopeful waiting and expectation. We mark time in Advent for four weeks, preparing for God to come among us, to be born in us afresh in Christmastide. May you and yours be blessed this day through this time of worship together.

If you are here today for the first or second time, we hope you feel welcome as a guest of this community of faith. Faith in Jesus Christ is the mark of a Christian and a disciple of Christ, and is therefore the only requirement for membership in this church. Please prayerfully consider joining this family of faith! Please talk with our pastor, and learn more by visiting us at www.cwupc.org and www.pcusa.org and on Facebook: Carter-Westminster United Presbyterian Church.

Assisting us in worship today are Emily Crisp, Lindsay Mecher, Thomas Yang, violin; Pat and George Radosavljevic, Anita and Sam Bakou, Isaac, Noah and Jonah Bakou; the Chancel Choir, and Ken Hockenberry.

Tomorrow evening is Christmas Eve. We invite you to join the family here for our Christmas Eve Vespers Service at 5:00 PM on Monday, December 24th. Come early, at 4:00, and enjoy some festive Christmas refreshments before the service.

Next Sunday is the First Sunday after Christmas Day, and the scripture lessons are I Samuel 2:18-20, 26 and Luke 2:41-52. **You and yours** are most welcome.

**The Session, Deacons, Trustees, and Staff of
Carter - Westminster United Presbyterian Church**

Session Ruling Elders: (2018) Kenneth Jacobs, Carolyn Kapteyn, Doris Nadder, John Serritella, Sam Bakou; (2019) Lisa Novel; (2020) Barbara Boba, Georgette Joseph

Deacons: (2018) Phyllis Boba, Irene Ellyin, Rita Witzgall; (2019) Neena Ishu, Helen Oshona.

Trustees: (2018) Julia Dooman, Rodney Esmael; (2019) Donald Rustemeyer; (2020) Hugh McBride, Mac McClendon, Robert Rustemeyer.

Staff and Church Leaders:

Pastor - Ken Hockenberry
Music Director and Organist - Pat Radosavljevic
Church Secretary - Karen Daughtry
Clerk of Session - Doris Nadder
Church Treasurer - John Yonan
Financial Secretary - Doris Nadder
Worship Technician - Elliott Nott
Nursery Attendants - Michelle Nano & Melinda Nano

CE

LD

JESU

The Community of

**Carter - Westminster United
Presbyterian Church**

Gathered for Worship

During the Season of Advent - 2018

Sunday Morning Worship - 10:45 AM

December 23, 2018

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Gathering in God's Name

Gathering of the People

Prelude Thomas Yang, violin

Greeting, Welcome, and Announcements

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

*Call to Worship

Our souls magnify the Lord,
and our spirits rejoice in God our savior.

God has done great things. Holy is God's name!
God's mercy is for all who fear the Lord,
God's love is from generation to generation!

*Hymn # 258 "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" GO TELL IT

Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession

Living God, you beckon us to wake from our sleep:
to open our eyes to the goodness of your reign,
the injustice of our world, and the gap in between.
You call us to follow in the path of your love.

Forgive us, O God, when we choose the easy way.
Forgive us, O God, when we choose the selfish way,
the fast way, the successful way,
the nice way, the friendly way, the comfortable way.

Convict us, awaken us, empower us, and enliven us
to follow the Way of justice and love. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

One: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
All: Thanks be to God.

*Act of Praise *(On Screen)* "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" IN DULCI JUBILO

Good Christian friends, rejoice - with heart, and soul, and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss - Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

*The Peace

One: ... The peace of Christ be with you. All: And also with you.

*(Please share the peace of Christ with one another, then join in our
Advent Gathering Again Song, "Wait for the Lord" - on the screen.)*

Word Proclaimed

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candles

Response # 245 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" VENI EMMANUEL
O Come, thou Wisdom, from on high, and order all things far and wide;
To us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her way to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

First Lesson: Micah 5:2-5a (p. 865)

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word - Thanks be to God

Offering of Music "Our Lord, Emmanuel" Hal Hopson
Emily Crisp and Lindsay Mecher soloists

Second Lesson: Luke 1:39-55 (p. 57)

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word - Thanks be to God

Time with Young Disciples
(Children are invited to come to the chancel steps, and then go to child care.)

*Hymn # 262 "Away in a Manger" AWAY IN A MANGER

Sermon "A Visit and a Song"

Affirmation of Faith - The Apostles' Creed *(On screen)*

Sharing of Joys and Concerns - Prayers of the People

Thanksgiving

Offering

Offertory "Pavane for a Silent Night" Maurice Ravel, arr. Patrick Liebergen

*Doxology # 815 "Praise God" OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer *(On Screen)*

Sending

*Hymn # 281 "What Child Is This?" GREENSLEEVES

*Invitation to Discipleship

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude "Sleigh Ride" Leroy Anderson
(You are invited to remain seated for the Postlude.)

*Going Forth
(Please join one another for coffee hour downstairs - follow the crowd)

**Please rise in body and/or in spirit!*