

Becoming the Beloved Community

Carter - Westminster United Presbyterian Church

Gathered for Worship

Sunday Morning Worship - 10:45 AM



December 19, 2021

Gathering in God's Name

Prelude "The Christmas Tree" Franz Liszt
George Radosavljevic, piano

Greeting, Welcome, and Announcements
(All congregational responses and unison readings to be whispered)

One: The Lord be with you. **All: And also with you.**

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle

Isaiah spoke to a people called chosen,
to a tribe called Israel, with a light of hope.

Gabriel came to a town called Nazareth,
to a girl called Mary, with a light of joy.

Mary went to a place called Bethlehem,
to a stable called a nursery,
with a light of love.

One: As we light our fourth Advent candle,
All: we rejoice with Mary, for Love has flesh.
One: Come now, O Child of Mary.
All : Come now, O Prince of Love.

* Hymn # 245 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" *(all four verses)*

VENI EMMANUEL

Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God,
we confess that, in the midst of your glorious creation, we have
neglected our role in its care.
We ignore the cries of the hurting and the lonely, those on the margins
and those who are oppressed.
We focus on our own desires, while forgetting the needs of our
neighbors.
We have not prepared a way for the Lord, through either our words or
our deeds,
neither through our actions nor our thoughts.
Grant us your mercy in forgiveness;
and lead us to act with compassion and justice,
guided by your glorious light. *(Time of silence for individual prayer)***

Words of Forgiveness

One: ...Believe the good news
All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Response: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!" *(see insert)*

* Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.
(Without leaving your seat, share the peace with those around you)

Word Proclaimed

Prayer for Illumination

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

One: The Word of the Lord. **All:** Thanks be to God.

Time With Young Disciples

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

One: The Word of the Lord. **All:** Thanks be to God.

Message "Love: The Goal of Advent"

* Affirmation of Faith - The Apostles' Creed *(Please whisper)*

Sharing of Joys and Concerns - Prayers of the People - The Lord's Prayer

Thanksgiving

Time for Generosity

Offertory "In the Bleak Midwinter" arr. Bruce Edstrom
Emily Crisp, soprano

* Doxology # 815 "Praise God" OLD HUNDRETH

* Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication of Our Commitments *(Please whisper)*

God, take these gifts and with us create a new world: One where we allow "them" and "those" to become the "us," and we become the one body we are and always must be. Amen.

Sending

* Hymn # 250 "O Little Town of Bethlehem" ST. LOUIS

Charge and Benediction

Postlude "He is Born!" Arr. John Carter
Pat and George Radosavljevic, piano
(You are asked to remain seated for the Postlude)

*Going Forth

**Please rise in body and/or in Spirit*

Welcome to Worship at Carter-Westminster United Presbyterian Church, located at 4950 W. Pratt Avenue in Skokie, Illinois.

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 - talk with our Pastor, and learn more by visiting us at www.cwupc.org and on Facebook: Carter-Westminster United Presbyterian Church.

Assisting us in worship today are James Nadder, Phyllis Boba, Irene Ellyin, Hilda Karam, Rodney (Sonny) Esmael, Emily Crisp, George Radosavljevic, Pat Radosavljevic - Music Director, and Pastor Stuart Barnes Jamieson.

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

Session Ruling Elders: Thomas Akompong, Sam Mirza, Carolyn Kapteyn, Lisa Novel, Georgette Joseph, Najeba Badal, Ken Jacobs, Doris Nadder.

Deacons: Neena Ishu, Helen Oshona, Phyllis Boba, Irene Ellyin, Rita Witzgall, Hilda Karam, Stacey Ross.

Trustees: Donald Rustemeyer; Hugh McBride, Mac McClendon, Robert Rustemeyer.

Staff and Church Leaders:

The Rev. Stuart Barnes Jamieson, Pastor

Clerk of Session - Doris Nadder

Music Director and Organist - Pat Radosavljevic

Church Secretary - Karen Daughtry

Church Treasurer - John Yonan

Financial Secretary - Doris Nadder

Worship Technician - Elliott Nott