



* **Tonight** we celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. All are welcome at the table.

* **The church office** will be closed Thursday, December 24, 2021 – Monday, January 3. Cheryl Brinkley, church secretary, will be on vacation December 24 – January 3. Philip Gladden will be on vacation December 26 – January 1.

* **Schedule for Sunday, December 26:**
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship

* **Wayne Casteen, Church Treasurer**, will make the final 2021 deposit on Thursday, December 30. If you would like for your final contributions to be credited to 2021 for tax purposes, please submit them before December 30. Thank you for your faithful generosity!

* **We will celebrate** the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper during worship on Sunday, January 2. All are welcome at the table.



JOY
NOEL
ANGEL
JESUS
PEACE HOPE
WISEMEN
CHRISTMAS
BELIEVE FAITH
PRINCE OF PEACE
THANK YOU



But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. Galatians 4:4-5

"She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:21

WALLACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service

December 24, 2021

7:00 O'clock P.M.

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude "The Wexford Carol" *arranged by Mark Hayes*
*Good people all, this Christmas time, consider well and bear in mind
What our good God for us has done in sending his beloved son.
With Mary holy we should pray to God with love this Christmas Day.
In Bethlehem upon that morn there was a blessed Messiah born.*

Lighting of the Christ Candle Adlyn and Wayne Casteen

Christmas Call to Worship Elder Wayne Casteen
Leader: We gather in the darkness of evening to celebrate the newborn Light.

All: With family and friends we worship and adore the Christ-child.

Leader: With Mary we will ponder these things in our hearts.

All: With Joseph we will give thanks to the Lord for God's steadfast love.

Leader: Lift up your hearts in thanksgiving, for a child, the Child, has been born!

All: We gather to worship him and welcome his peaceful kingdom.

Leader: His name will be blessed among all the earth;

All: His reign shall have no end!

Leader: Come, our wait is finished!

All: Let us worship the newborn King!

*Hymn #133 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" ADESTE FIDELES

*Unison Prayer of Confession
Gracious God, when Mary and Joseph arrived in Bethlehem, they found there was not a place for them. We confess that in the midst of all our anxieties, we have not made a place in our hearts for others. We confess that, paralyzed by fear, prejudice, or apathy, we have not made a place for the stranger among us. We confess that, forgetting the welcome we have been shown, we have not made a place for those who are different from us. We confess that in the busyness of Christmas and in the confusion and strains of the pandemic, we have not made a place in our lives for you. Gracious God, forgive us and renew us. Use this Christmas to break open our hearts, throw open the doors, open our eyes to your presence, and open our arms wide to welcome you, who comes to us in the birth of a baby, Jesus. Amen.

“To you is born
this day in the
city of David a
Savior, who is
the Messiah,
the Lord.”
Luke 2:111

*Responsive Assurance of Pardon
Leader: God is good! God is faithful! God is merciful!
All: And God comes to us, in vulnerability, again and again, to show us how much we are loved.
Leader: We are forgiven. We are freed.
All: We are beloved. We are blessed. Thanks be to God!

*Gloria Patri
*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and
to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, amen.*

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

Prayer for Illumination
God of light, you have revealed your very self to us in your Son Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh, who lived among us, full of grace and truth. Open your Word to us once again, that in the words of your holy scripture we might know your presence and follow in your light always. Amen.

All this took place
to fulfill what had
been spoken by
the Lord through
the prophet: “Look,
the virgin shall
conceive and bear
a son, and they
shall name
him Emmanuel,”
which means,
“God is with us.”
Matthew 1:22-23

Old Testament Lesson: *Isaiah 9:2-7* Elder Wayne Casteen

Special Music **“On Christmas Night”** *arranged by* Molly Ijames
*On Christmas night all Christians sing to hear the news the angels bring,
News of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful King’s birth.
All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night:
“Glory to God and peace to men, now and forevermore. Amen.”*

Epistle Lesson: *Titus 2:11-14*

Gospel Lesson: *Luke 2:1-20*

Sermon **“Look! It’s the Baby Jesus!”** Dr. Philip K. Gladden

Special Music **“Still, Still, Still”** *arranged by* Mark Hayes
*Still, still, still one can hear the falling snow.
For all is hushed, the world is sleeping.
Holy star, its vigil keeping.
Still, still, still one can hear the falling snow*



*In the beginning
was the Word,
and the Word
was with God,
and the Word
was God. And
the Word
became flesh
and lived
among us.
John 1:1, 14*

*The light shines
in the darkness,
and the
darkness did not
overcome it. The
true light, which
enlightens
everyone, was
coming into the
world.
John 1:5, 9*

*“Glory to God in
the highest
heaven, and on
earth peace
among those
whom he
favors!”
Luke 2:14*

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

*The Affirmation of Faith [from “A Declaration of Faith” of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)]
God sent the promised Deliverer to his people. Jesus, the long expected Savior, came into the world as a child, descended from David, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of Mary, a virgin. He lived as a Jew among Jews. He announced to his people the coming of God's kingdom of justice and peace on earth. We affirm that Jesus was born of woman as is every child, yet born of God's power as was no other child. In the person and work of Jesus, God himself and a human life are united but not confused, distinguished but not separated. The coming of Jesus was itself the coming of God's promised rule. Through his birth, life, death, and resurrection, he brings about the relationship between God and humanity that God always intended.

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper
The Invitation to the Table
The Words of Institution
The Great Thanksgiving with the Lord’s Prayer

Communion Music **“Silent Night”** *arranged by* Molly Ijames
*Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love’s pure light.
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus Lord, at Thy birth.*

The Eating of the Bread and the Drinking of the Cup
A Christmas Prayer

Lighting the Candles

*Hymn #122 **“Silent Night, Holy Night!”** STILLE NACHT

*Benediction

*Postlude

*All who are able may stand. +Page number in Pew Bible



*Christmas Eve
Communion*