



Westminster

Presbyterian Church, PCA

The Lord's Day, December 17, 2023 A.M.

WPC exists to develop in ourselves and others a passion for the glory of God and the preeminence of Christ in all of life and in all the world, as revealed in the infallible, inerrant Word of God alone.

The Lord's Day

December 17, 2023 10:15 a.m.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

“Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up; God is our salvation.”
(Psalm 68:19)

*HYMN OF PRAISE #196

“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear Desire of ev'ry nation, Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see thee, Day-spring from on high, appear;
Come, thou promised Rod of Jesse, of thy birth we long to hear!
O'er the hills the angels singing news, glad tidings of a birth:
“Go to him, your praises bringing; Christ the Lord has come to earth.”

Come to earth to taste our sadness, He whose glories knew no end;
By his life he brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.
Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;
This the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born Thy people to deliver, born a Child, and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne

*PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

“But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.”

(Titus 3:4-7)

COVENANT BAPTISMS

Kaylin Leigh Nicodemus

Micah Allen Nicodemus

Nora Jane Nicodemus

Matthew David Nicodemus

Covenant Children of Ben & Meghan Nicodemus

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Matthew 14:1-21

***HYMN #211**

“God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen”

God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas day,
To save us all from Satan’s pow’r when we were gone astray;
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heav’nly Father, a blessed angel came;
and unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same:
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.

“Fear not, then,” said the angel, “let nothing you affright;
This day is born a Savior of a pure virgin bright,
To free all those who trust in him from Satan’s pow’r and might.”
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.

The shepherds at those tidings re-joic-ed much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding, In tempest, storm, and wind:
And went to Bethlehem straight-way, the Son of God to find.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.

***CONFESSION OF FAITH
NICENE CREED**

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who, for us and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried, and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER, MUSIC, & OFFERING

HYMN #215

“While by the Sheep We Watched at Night”

While by the sheep we watched at night,
glad tidings brought an angel bright.

Refrain:

*How great our joy! Great our joy!
Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy!
Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high!
Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high!*

There shall be born, so he did say,
in Bethlehem a child today. *[Refrain]*

There shall the child lie in a stall,
this child who shall redeem us all. *[Refrain]*

This gift of God we'll cherish well,
that ever joy our hearts shall fill. *[Refrain]*

PASTORAL PRAYER

**THE READING OF SCRIPTURE
THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD OF GOD**

**GALATIANS 4:1-7
REV. CHAD WATKINS**

“The Gift of Adoption”

The Trinitarian Nature of Our Adoption

The Blessings of Our Adoption

***Hymn of Response #225**

“Once in Royal David's City”

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall:
with the poor, and mean, and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

And through all his wondrous childhood he would honor and obey,
love and watch the lowly maiden in whose gentle arms he lay:
Christian children all must be mild, obedient, good as he.

And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;
for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above,
and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him, but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;
when like stars his children crowned all in white shall wait around.

***THE BENEDICTION**

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”
(Romans 15:13)

WPC ANNOUNCEMENTS

We will not have Sunday School on Christmas Eve or New Years Eve

Evening Service Tonight

We encourage you to join us for evening worship at 5:30pm. If you cannot attend in person please join us via our livestream. To access the livestream go to our website www.wpc-pca.com and click on livestream.

Change That Sticks Course

Make 2024 the year of real, lasting, and God-honoring change in your life and learn how to help others do so too, all with the Word of God. This on-line course is being offered through the Low Country Biblical Counseling Center. Cost is \$25 per month with a one year commitment. For details and to register, go to: <https://www.lcbcc.org/foundations-course>

In addition, Diane Poff is willing to lead a free monthly study group for the students.

Kick off is January 9th, but you can join anytime. If you have any questions, call Diane Poff.

Volunteers Needed!

Looking for a way to get involved at WPC?

Here are some areas where help is needed:

- **Nursery Volunteer/Tuesday Morning Childcare**
contact Krystina Lyon - klyon0727@gmail.com
- **Morning or Evening Communion Preparation**
contact Keri Sevcik - wpcpcaoffice@gmail.com
- **Children's Sunday School Teachers**
contact Melissa Giddens - amg00470@gmail.com
- **AV Team**
contact Randy Seay - hrr223@gmail.com
- **Kitchen Volunteer - Organization, Cleaning, Stocking**
contact Keri Sevcik - wpcpcaoffice@gmail.com

For Your Calendar:

TONIGHT 5:30 p.m.

Evening Service

Friday, December 22, 9:00 a.m.

Food Ministry

Office Closed

December 22 - Jan 1