

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 Anna Maria Virga; Angela De Venuto, soprano; AJ Wester, alto; Leo Radosavljevic, bass; and George Radosavljevic, piano; 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: Georgette Joseph, Carolyn Kapteyn, Najeba Badal, John Yonan, Elizabeth Brown, David Americus, Peter Ellyin, and Doris Nadder.

Deacons: Phyllis Boba, Irene Ellyin, Neena Ishu, Helen Oshona, Hilda Karam, and Shirley Rustemeyer.

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

Staff and Church Leaders:

The Rev. Stuart Barnes Jamieson, Pastor
Clerk of Session - Georgette Joseph
Music Director and Organist - Pat Radosavljevic
Church Administrator - Anna Torgerson
Church Treasurer - John Yonan
Financial Secretary - Doris Nadder

Becoming the Beloved Community

**Carter - Westminster United
Presbyterian Church**

Gathered for Worship

Sunday Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m.



December 3, 2023

First Sunday of Advent

Communion Sunday

Gathering in God's Name

Prelude

Sheep May Safely Graze

J.S. Bach

Pat Radosavljevic, organ

George Radosavljevic, piano

Greeting, Welcome, and Announcements

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

* Call to Worship

One: Christ is coming!

All: **We will keep awake!**

One: Christ is coming!

All: **We will be ready!**

One: Christ is coming! He will gather his people from the ends of the earth.

All: **Praise be to God! We will worship and prepare.**

Advent Candle Lighting

Irene & Peter Ellyin

* Hymn *(see insert)*

Creator of the Stars of Night

Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession

Prince of Peace, the wars and rumors of wars betray our addiction to violence, our destructive and dehumanizing ways. We deserve your judgement and condemnation. Yet, you remain faithful, a steadfast source of peace during our warring madness. Holy God, turn us from evil. Return us to Christ and his path of peace. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Amen.

Time of Silence for Personal Reflection

Words of Forgiveness

One: ...Believe the good news.

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

Response: **Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines On Me**

* Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

(Without leaving your seat, share the peace with those around you)

Word Proclaimed

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 (p. 540-541)

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

Time with Young Disciples

Second Lesson: Mark 13:24-31 (p. 50-51)

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

Message: “Christmas Characters: Prophets and Hope-Filled Living”

Affirmation of Faith *(The Apostle’s Creed - See insert)*

* Hymn #244

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

Sharing of Joys and Concerns - Prayers of the People

Thanksgiving

Time for Generosity

Offertory

Come to Us, Lord Jesus

Hal Hopson

The Chancel Choir

Elizabeth Brown and Pat Radosavljevic, handbells

Doxology # 815

Praise God

OLD HUNDREDTH

Sacrament of The Lord's Supper *(See insert)*

Prayer after Communion *(See insert)*

Sending

* Hymn #270

Joy to The World

ANTIOCH

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Angels We Have Heard on High

arr. John Carter

Pat Radosavljevic, organ

(You are asked to remain seated for the Postlude)

* Going Forth

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: Portions of this service come from Rev. Teri McDowell Ott as published by “Presbyterian Outlook” and from “Call to Worship” published by the Presbyterian Association of Musicians.

The Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy was written by Rev. Carol Holbrook Prickett as part of her 2023 Advent Candle Liturgy for the “Presbyterian Outlook”.