

**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](http://www.cwupc.org) and on Facebook: Carter-Westminster United Presbyterian Church.

**Assisting us in worship today** are Peter Ellyin; Angela De Venuto, soprano; AJ Wester, alto; Leo Radosavljevic, bass; Elizabeth Brown, soloist; 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 17, 2023**

Third Sunday of Advent

**Gathering in God's Name**

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Prelude

Andante Spianato  
Leo Radosavljevic, pianist

Frederic Chopin

Greeting, Welcome, and Announcements

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

\* Call to Worship

One: John the Baptist calls to us,

**All: "Prepare the way of the Lord!"**

One: This Advent, may we turn to the light of Christ.

**All: The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it!**

One: In faith and hope, let us turn and worship God!

Advent Candle Lighting

Marie Scott and Kayleigh Gordon

\* Hymn *(see insert)*

Creator of the Stars of Night

CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM

\* Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, long ago you sent Christ to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, and to proclaim liberty to the captives. You then asked us to go and do the same for we are the church of Jesus Christ. Forgive us, we pray, for we have not continued to share the good news. We have focused on ourselves and neglected to help others. Help us to continue to share the healing and loving words of Christ to all the world and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We ask this in Jesus' name.**

Time of Silence for Personal Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

One: ...Believe the good news.

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

Response: Glory to God

\* 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 126 (p. 572-573)

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

Time with Young Disciples

Second Lesson: John 1:1-9 (p. 91)

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

Meditation "Christmas Characters: Angels, Light and Proclamation "

Affirmation of Faith *(see insert)*

\* Hymn #277

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

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

## Thanksgiving

Time for Generosity

Offertory

Creator of the Stars of Night  
The Chancel Choir

Joe Cox

\* Doxology # 815 "Praise God"

\* Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

**Thank you, God, for all that we have and all that we are. We take these gifts given today and dedicate them ever and only to you.  
Amen.**

## Sending

\* Hymn #278

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

Charge and Benediction

Postlude:

Sleigh Ride

LeRoy Anderson

Pat and George Radosavljevic, piano

Angela De Venuto and Leo Radosavljevic, percussion

*(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. Dr. Tara Bulger 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".