## Welcome to Worship on this Christmas Eve 2023

If you are new to the Carter-Westminster United Presbyterian Church community of faith, please accept our warmest welcome - especially on this most holy night. We invite you to come and worship here again - Sunday mornings at 10:45 a.m.

Special Thanks to all of those assisting in worship this evening, including our greeters, and ushers; to our Advent Wreath lighters: Shirley, Judy, Don, and Bob Rustemeyer; to our readers: Peter Ellyin, Gail Reichlin, Charlotte Tyre, Helen Robles, Mac McLendon, Pastor Stuart, and Jim Nadder; to our musicians: Elizabeth Brown, organ; Angela De Venuto, soprano; Tessa Newman, soprano; Lisa Dagher, alto, tenor; Leo Radosavljevic, bass, Daniella Folker, violin and George Radosavljevic, piano; and to Pastor Stuart Barnes Jamieson

You are invited to worship with the Carter-Westminster United Presbyterian Church community every Sunday at 10:45 a.m.

## Carter - Westminster United Presbyterian Church

# Christmas Eve 2023

Sunday, December 24, 2023

5:00 PM

**Welcome to Worship** on this Christmas Eve, and if you are a first-time visitor, please fill out a Visitors' Card, located on the table in the Narthex. Thank you.

Please be careful, later in this service, to dip the unlit candle into the flame of the lit candle. Please be mindful of those around you with your lit candle.

## The Gathering

Prelude Duet Fantasy on Carol of the Bells arr. Robert Vandall Leo and George Radosavljevic, piano

Greeting, Welcome and Announcements

\* Call to Worship

One: Good news! Great joy! All: Jesus Christ is born! One: Good news! Great joy!

All: O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Lighting of the Advent Wreath and Christ Candle Rustemeyer Family

# Special Thanks to those who have donated poinsettias to beautify our Sanctuary for Christmas

- Flizabeth Brown
- In memory of **Anita Nourai**, from Helen Robles
- In memory of Zenaida A. Sidan, Martha and Wally Merza, Mary and Sam Mirza, George Sargis, and all our friends who went to meet our Lord, from the Sidan Family

You are welcome to take a Poinsettia home even if you did not order one. We have extras.

Merry Christmas!

#### Charge and Benediction

Postlude

O Come All Ye Faithful

John Francis Wade

CW Handbell choir Elizabeth Brown, George Radosavljevic, Angela De Venuto Leo Radosavljevic, piano

\*Going Forth to a very Merry Christmas, and a New Year of Peace!

\*Please rise in body and/or in spirit!

### 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

One: As we light the Christ candle,

All: we watch for the Christmas story around us.

One: Emmanuel has come and is coming. All: Come, all ye faithful, and worship God.

\* Hymn # 249 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (all verses)

**ADESTE FIDELES** 

#### The Lessons and Carols

First Lesson: Genesis 1:1-5 The Creation Peter Ellvin

Solo: "Comfort Ye..." from Messiah Handel

Stuart Barnes Jamieson, tenor

**Second Lesson**: Isaiah 11:1-9 A Shoot from Jesse Gail Reichlin

Solo: "Savior of the Nations, Come" J.S. Bach

Elizabeth Brown, Organ

Third Lesson: Micah 5:2-4 The Prophet Micah foretells

the glory of Bethlehem

Charlotte Tyre

\* Hymn # 250 "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (verses 1 and 3)

ST. LOUIS

Fourth Lesson: Luke 1:26-35, 38

The angel Gabriel visits Mary

Helen Robles

Offering of Music: Love's Pure Light Michael John Trotta

The Chancel Choir

Daniella Folker, violin

Fifth Lesson: Luke 2:1-7

Luke Tells of the Birth of Jesus

Mac McLendon

All is Well Lloyd Larson Anthem:

> The Chancel Choir Daniella Folker, violin

Sixth Lesson: Luke 2:8-20

The Shepherds go to the manger

Jim Nadder

\* Hymn # 277 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" (all verses)

MENDELSSOHN

## Call to Offering

Offering

\* Doxology # 815

"Praise God"

OLD HUNDREDTH

\* Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: Rejoicing in the birth of Christ our Savior, we give to God what we first received from God, the gifts of our lives. AMEN

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

## Sharing the Light

Seventh Lesson: John 1:1-5

The Darkness to the Light

Pastor Stuart Barnes Jamieson

### Distribution of the Light

<u>Please remember to dip the unlit candle</u> into the flame of the lit candle. <u>Please be careful</u> of those around you with your lit candle.

\*Hymn # 253 "Silent Night, Holy Night"

STILLE NACHT

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright. Round yon virgin mother and child! Holy Infant, so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight. Glories stream from heaven a-far. Heaven-ly hosts sing: "Alleluia; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light; With the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

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 Christmas Gospel Reading: John 1:14

Pastor Stuart

\*Hymn # 270

"Joy to the World!"

ANTIOCH

Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth receive her King; Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing, And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns: Let us our songs employ; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground; He comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, Far as, for as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.