

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 Elizabeth Brown; AJ Wester, alto; Zach Walz, 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, John Yonan, Elizabeth Brown, David Americus, and Peter Ellyin.

Deacons: Phyllis Boba, Irene Ellyin, 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

Becoming the Beloved Community

**Carter - Westminster United
Presbyterian Church**

Gathered for Worship

Sunday Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m.



**December 15, 2024
Third Sunday in Advent**

Gathering in God's Name

Prelude

Silent Night

arr. John Carter

Pat and George Radosavljevic, piano

Greeting, Welcome, and Announcements

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

* Call to Worship

One: God, you are our salvation and trust.

All: Rejoice in the Lord, for our God is near.

One: You redeem your people; you restore our fortunes.

All: Rejoice in the Lord, for our God is near.

One: You have become for us our strength and salvation.

All: Rejoice in the Lord, for our God is near.

One: Let us sing to the Lord, who has done glorious things.

All: Let us offer joy, thanks, and praise this day. Hallelujah!

Advent Candle Lighting

Melinda Nano & Kate Peng

We begin by singing together “Wait for the Lord” (see insert)

* Hymn #38

“Ye Servants of God”

HANOVER

Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession

Great God, as we prepare to behold the birth of Jesus again, we are mindful of how we have failed to receive the fullness of that gift. The story points us to your glory, yet we struggle to join in the song of praise and thanksgiving. We are distracted and confused, so focused on things of little significance we overlook the good news of great joy that you have prepared. Tell us again that the Savior is born. Tell us again that we are forgiven. Tell us again that our lives can be abundant in faith, hope and love because of what you have given us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

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

VASILE

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: Isaiah 12:2-6 (p. 641-642)

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

Time with Young Disciples

Second Lesson: Matthew 1:18-25 (p. 1)

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

Message: “Fearless Joy: Surely God Is My Salvation”

* Affirmation of Faith (see insert)

* Hymn (see insert) “My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout”:
Canticle of the Turning

STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

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

Thanksgiving

Time for Generosity

Offertory

Tambourine Noel
The Chancel Choir

Gordon Young

* Doxology # 815 “Praise God”

* Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

O God, with faith and hope, we offer these gifts. Use them, even as you use us, to accomplish your purposes in Jesus Christ, our coming Lord.
Amen.

Sending

* Hymn #270

“Joy to the World!”

ANTIOCH

Charge and Benediction

Postlude:

O Come, All Ye Faithful arr. Douglas E. Wagner
Pat Radosavljevic, organ and George Radosavljevic, piano

(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. John Wurster 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 Dr. Montisa Antoinette Watkins, and Rev. Shavon Starling-Louis