

Celebration of Worship

Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 24, 2023

9:30 A.M.

*We are followers of Jesus Christ, living and sharing
the love of God through faith and action, welcoming all.*

Prelude

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Ringling of the Bell

Song *Surely the Presence of the Lord Is in This Place*

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.
I can hear the brush of angel's wings; I see glory on each face.
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

Lighting the Fourth Advent Candle

The Hewlett Family

Song *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* # 9 - Verse 1

O come, O come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Prayer of Invocation

Leader: God of timeless grace, you fill us with joyful expectation.
Make us ready for the message that prepares the way, that
with uprightness of heart and holy joy we may eagerly await
the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ, who reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Carol *O Come, All Ye Faithful* # 41 – Verses 1 & 3

Lesson 1 *Isaiah 11:1-9* Ethan Fargo *“A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse”*

Carol *It Came upon a Midnight Clear* # 38 – Verses 1 & 4

Lesson 2 *“Let the Stable Still Astonish”* Kathy Barbehenn by Leslie Leyland Fields

Carol *The First Nowell* # 56 – Verses 1 & 2

Lesson 3 *Isaiah 7:10-15* John Kubinieć *“And shall name him Immanuel”*

Special Music

A Time for Advent

Stuart Harris

Chancel Choir

We gather now to worship. We join our hearts to pray.
Our souls are filled with wonder as we celebrate our faith.
For soon we will behold Him; our eyes will see the Son.
By faith we claim the promise. Come, Lord Jesus, come.
We light the Advent candles. They warm us with their glow.
We see their shining glory and the promise that they hold.
For now the dawn is breaking; a new day has begun.
We turn our hearts to heaven. Come, Lord Jesus, come.
This is a time to prepare for Jesus. This is a season of worship and praise.
This is a moment to seek His glory. This is the dawning of grace.
Let every land proclaim it; let every voice be raised.
Let valleys be exalted every mountain be made plain.
Let deserts bloom like gardens; let every heart be one.
We lift our songs together. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Children's Message

Lesson 4 *“A Christmas Carol”* Carina Phillips by G.K. Chesterton

Carol *Angels We Have Heard on High* # 23 – Verses 1 & 3

Lesson 5 *Luke 1:26-38* Barbara Hach *“For nothing will be impossible with God”*

Carol *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* # 31 – Verses 1 & 3

Sharing Joys and Concerns and Lighting of Prayer Candles

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to the Offering

Please place your offering in the plates at the exit doors,
mail your gifts to the church, or click the WPC website “Give” button. Thank you!

Carol *O Little Town of Bethlehem* # 44 – Verses 1 & 4

Lesson 6 *John 1:1-14* Pastor Nadia Mullin *“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us”*

Carol *Joy to the World* # 40 – All verses

Benediction

Congregational Response (sung)

And heaven and nature sing! And heaven and nature sing!
And heaven and heaven and nature sing!

Postlude

Christmas Flowers have been given by:

Brad & Kathy Adams in memory of loved ones;
Beth & Michael Algase in memory of their parents,
Albert & Edna Barie;
Bob & Jackie Anderson in honor of Tina McNeary's
80th birthday;
Bob & Sandi Blakey in memory of loved ones;
Joyce Bradstreet to the Glory of God and in celebration of the
birthday of her great-grandson, Jack Emanuel Maida;
Jerri Breschard in loving memory of her husband Paul, sister Patti,
and good friend Mark Siebert;
Anita & John Bocker to the Glory of God;
The Chippero Family in memory of loved ones;
Jody Clark, Lori Singleton and their families in loving
memory of Bob & Joyce Clark and Hunter Dunlap;
Stu & Carol Cooper in memory of their parents, Marge & Stan Wells
and Miriam & Abe Cooper;
Chuck Durand in memory of his parents;
Barbara Hach to the Glory of God;
Scott & Heather Hewlett in memory of their loved ones;
George & Andrea Hock in memory of their mothers, Annette and Joel;
Tony & Georgia Hubbard in celebration of Jesus' birth;
Dick & Tina McNeary to all followers of Jesus;
The Oliver Family in memory of Fran Oliver and Dennis Ritz;
Gary & Robin Partridge in memory of their parents, Bill & Wanda
Partridge and Wayne & Clara VanThof;
Connie Rice & Mark Pipal in thanks for Webster Presbyterian Church;
Arlene Sahmel in memory of her husband, Will;
Phyllis Smeltzer in loving memory of those we can no longer touch,
but live in our hearts;
Duane Woodworth in memory of his Dad;
Sue Wrobleski in memory of loved ones.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. WELCOME to Webster Presbyterian Church! We are pleased that you are worshipping with us, whether in person or by live-streaming. You can live-stream at 9:30 or later at your leisure using:
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Websterpres/> or
YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzM5thYxua2HQSPF6P71wA>
THIS SERVICE IS LIVESTREAMED on YouTube and Facebook. Participation in and/or observation of the service implies acknowledgement that your image may be seen on the stream at the time of the service and in the future.
2. JOIN US THIS AFTERNOON at 4:00 for the traditional Communion/ Candlelighting service celebrating the birth of Jesus.
3. CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING - Donations to benefit students of color in Presbyterian Church sponsored colleges and Presbyterian pastors with urgent financial needs can be made through next Sunday by using the designated envelopes in the chair racks, or mailing your gift to the church.
4. ANNUAL REPORTS from Committee Chairpersons and Treasurers are due in the church office by Sunday, January 7th. You can submit your information by email to g Hubbard@websterpres.org as a Word or Excel file, or bring a paper copy to the church office.

THE CHURCH OFFICE will be open this week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9 am to Noon. Regular hours resume after New Years.
5. OFFERING ENVELOPES are located on the table in the hallway outside the Sanctuary for those who have indicated they would like them. If you would like envelopes and do not see a set for you, please speak with Georgia in the church office and they will be provided.

Lectionary Passages

	<u>Today, December 24th</u>	<u>December 31st</u>
Old Testament	<i>II Samuel 7:1-11, 16</i>	<i>Isaiah 61:10 – 62:3</i>
Psalm	<i>Psalms 89:1-4, 19-26</i>	<i>Psalms 148</i>
New Testament	<i>Romans 16:25-27</i>	<i>Galatians 4:4-7</i>
Gospel	<i>Luke 1:26-38</i>	<i>Luke 2:22-40</i>

Memory Verse

*“But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid.
I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.
Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you;
He is the Messiah, the Lord.’”*
Luke 2:10-11

Pastor Nadia Mullin

Webster Presbyterian Church

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Pastor Nadia Mullin

O Come, All Ye Faithful # 41

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold Him, born the King of angels!
Refrain: O come let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all Glory in the highest! Refrain:

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear # 38

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold.
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophet bards foretold,
When with the ever-circling years comes round the age of gold
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.

The First Noel # 56

The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay a-keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell; Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell; Born is the King of Israel.

Angels We Have Heard on High # 23

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing.
Come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing # 31

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King.
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

O Little Town of Bethlehem # 44

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell.
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Joy to the World # 40

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, far 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.