



Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church

4900 Kaplan Drive

Raleigh, NC 27606

919-851-4713

www.wbpresbyterian.org

January 3, 2021

10:30 AM

2nd Sunday of Christmas

GATHERING

Prelude

On This Day Earth Shall Ring

PERSONENT HODIE
arr. Elizabeth Davis

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship (Bold = All)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,

just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love.

He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ,
according to the good pleasure of his will,

to the praise of our Lord's glorious grace that he freely bestowed on
us in the Beloved.

Prayer of the Day

Opening Hymn

As With Gladness Men of Old

DIX

As with gladness men of old
Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious Lord, may we
Evermore be led to thee.

As they offered gifts most rare
At thy manger, rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy,
Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee, our heavenly king.

Holy Jesus, every day
Keep us in the narrow way;
And when earthly things are past,
Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds thy glory hide.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live in the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.

Kyrie

Lord, have mercy upon us;
Christ, have mercy upon us;
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon and New Life

The wilderness will rejoice; the dry land will blossom. The people of God will return with joy and singing. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

Passing of Christ's Peace

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen.

THE WORD

New Revised Standard Version

Prayer for Illumination

Hebrew Scripture

Wisdom of Solomon 10:15-21

10:15 A holy people and blameless race wisdom delivered from a nation of oppressors,

10:16 She entered the soul of a servant of the Lord, and withstood dread kings with wonders and signs.

10:17 She gave to holy people the reward of their labors; she guided them along a marvelous way, and became a shelter to them by day, and a starry flame through the night.

10:18 She brought them over the Red Sea, and led them through deep waters;

10:19 but she drowned their enemies, and cast them up from the depth of the sea.

10:20 Therefore the righteous plundered the ungodly; they sang hymns, O Lord, to your holy name, and praised with one accord your defending hand;

20:21 for wisdom opened the mouths of those who were mute, and made the tongues of infants speak clearly.

Gospel

John 1:(1-9), 10-18

1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

1:2 He was in the beginning with God.

1:3 All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being

1:4 in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

1:5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

1:6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

1:7 He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.

1:8 He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

1:9 The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

1:10 He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him.

1:11 He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him.

1:12 But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God,

1:13 who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

1:14 And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

1:15 (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'")

1:16 From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

1:17 The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

1:18 No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Sermon

In the Beginning

Rev. Dr. Jonathan C. Barker

Ascription of Praise

Invitation to Discipleship

Affirmation of Faith

Nicene Creed

Let us confess our faith. We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,

begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Eucharist

Offering

(See options for giving at the end of the bulletin)

Offertory Response

What Child Is This?

Mike Reese, Joe Sturdivant, Beth and Lewis Ware

Prayer of Dedication

Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Great and wonderful are your works, Lord God almighty.
Your ways are just and true. Therefore we lift our hearts in joyful praise, joining our voices with choirs of angels, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Now we join our voices in the prayer Jesus taught His disciples:

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen**

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People (communion by intinction)

Communion Hymn *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent* arr. Elizabeth Davis

Prayer After Communion

SENDING

Parting Hymn *What Star Is This, With Beams So Bright*

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

What star is this, with beams so bright,
More lovely than the noonday light?
'Tis sent to announce a newborn king,
Glad tidings of our God to bring.

While outward signs the star displays,

An inward light the Lord conveys
And urges them, with tender might,
To seek the giver of the light.

O Jesus, while the star of grace
Impels us on to seek your face,
Let not our slothful hearts refuse
The guidance of your light to use.

Parting Prayer

Charge and Blessing

Postlude

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

arr. Elizabeth Davis

OFFERING OPTIONS

By Check:

Mail to: Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church 4900 Kaplan
Drive Raleigh, NC 27606

Give On-line:

Go to <https://wbpresbyterian.com/>
Open the pull down menu on the top left and click "GIVE".
From here you can register and enter your gift amount, the
designated fund and frequency of giving.

By Text:

To give via text, send WBPC to the phone number 73256. You'll
receive a text message in response with your next steps. After you
give one time, your payment method is saved, so you can quickly
give again from your phone.

Announcements

- 2021 GIVING ENVELOPES – Please email Amy (amy@wbpresbyterian.org) if you would like a box of 2021 giving envelopes. They will be available at the end of the year in the education building outside of Jonathan's office, but will only be prepared for those that convey what they would like and plan to use them. Thank you for helping out with your communication on this!
- 2021 BUDGET CAMPAIGN UPDATE – For 2021 our pledge budget goal is \$419,506.00. As of this past Sunday (12-27-20) we have received 72 pledges in the amount of \$323,849.00 representing 77.20% of the proposed budget. We are sending out pledge confirmations as pledges are received. Please check this confirmation and let the office know of any discrepancies. If you have pledged and do not/have not received a confirmation letter, please contact the church office. Also, if you have not received a pledge card, contact the church office as well.

Joys and Concerns

Prayer Requests

If you wish to make a prayer request, call or email your request to Amy by Tuesday. amy@wbpresbyterian.org – Type "Prayer Request" in the subject line. Please be specific and concise.

Pastoral Concerns

- For Peggy Stevens, who is recovering at home after a hospitalization.
 - For Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church, members and friends, the session, teachers and church leaders. Pray for our nation and all nations.
 - For Ella McNeill, who is now in hospice care in heart and kidney failure.
 - For the Family of Eleanor Sykes, who passed away at the age of 97. Eleanor was a long-time member of Western Boulevard.
 - Sympathy extended to friends and family of Dottie DuBose-Blum who passed away December 4.
-

Worship Leaders:

Jonathan Barker, Interim Pastor;
Elizabeth Davis, Director of Music, videography and production;
Robert Owens, Worship leader

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We live to share God's love for ALL.