

MORNING WORSHIP
Words for the New Year

GATHERING: PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

In Preparation for Worship

Living in faith has to do with actively engaging people, the community, and creation in spite of our fear. —Eric Law

Sharing the Life of Westminster

Rev. Jen Porter

Opening Voluntary "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come"

Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau (1663-1712)

++Call to Worship

Elder Marian Vanderwall

One: The voice of God resounds upon the water.

All: **The Spirit of the Lord hovers over the stream.**

One: The Son of God is named "Beloved."

All: **And all who worship shout out, "Glory!"**

One: Ascribe to the Lord majesty and strength.

All: **Let us worship God in holy splendor.**

++Hymn 463

"How Firm a Foundation"

Foundation

Prayer of Confession

In the waters of baptism, O God, you have cleansed us and claimed us. Forgive us for refusing your grace and rejecting your name. We have followed our own paths, and they have led us far from you. Help us to live into our baptisms, to trust that all we need is in you—for you have marked us as your own, loving us without limit. Wash us with your love again, that with clean hearts we may go in the way of Jesus. Lord, hear our prayer...

Silent Confession

Kyrie - Unison

"Lord, Have Mercy"

Lee J. Afdahl



Assurance of God's Grace

One: Friends, believe the Good News.

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

++Response Hymn 673

"Jesus, Light of Joy"

Lauda Anima

stanza 1

Jesus, light of joy, surround us;
let your splendid glory shine:
source of every earthly blessing, heaven's everlasting sign.
Alleluia, alleluia, we adore you, light divine.

++Passing the Peace of Christ

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Ministry of Music (11:00) "I Would See Jesus" arr. Martha Shaffer (b. 1946)

I would see Jesus when the flow'rs of joy adorn my way.
When sunshine and when hope surrounds my path from day to day.
When friends I cherish most are near, and hearts encircle mine,
Then, Father, would I turn from all to lean alone on thine.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give
The living water, thirsty one, stoop down and drink and live!"
I came to Jesus and I drank of that life-giving stream,
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in Him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light.
Look unto me, thy morn shall rise, and all thy day be bright!"
I looked to Jesus and I found in Him my star, my sun;
And in that light of life I'll walk till trav'ling days are done.
Sanctuary Choir

Blessings with Younger Disciples (11:00)

Nancy Greidanus

(Children three years through second grade may finish their time of worship in the worship centers. Children's worship leaders or parents will shepherd them from the sanctuary to their rooms. Parents may pick them up in their worship rooms following the service.)

Congregation: **As you worship together, may God be with you.**

Children: And also with you.

Congregation: **Go in peace!**

THE WORD

Scripture

Isaiah 43:1-7

Old Testament p. 672

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"Words for the New Year"

Rev. Lynette Sparks

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Hymn 352 (8:30)

"My Lord! What a Morning" My Lord, What a Morning

++Affirmation of Faith from "A Brief Statement of Faith (Presbyterian Church USA)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Offering Our Lives

Offertory:

8:30 "How Brightly Shines the Morning Star" Johann Christoph Bach
Helen Hofmeister, Organ (1642-1703)

11:00 "Lead Me, Lord" Samuel Sebastian Wesley
(1810-1876)

Lead me, Lord, Lead me in Thy righteousness, make Thy way plain before my face.
For it is Thou, Lord, Thou, Lord, only that makest me dwell in safety.
Sanctuary Choir

++Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!**

++Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

We praise and thank you, Lord God, for the majesty of your work, the wisdom of your word, and the generosity of your grace. Let the gifts of our lives bear witness to your goodness and mercy, your faithfulness and justice, and your steadfast love for all. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

++Closing Hymn 547 "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

Ar Hyd Y Nos

++Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary "From Heaven Above Came the Angelic Hosts"

Johann Heinrich Buttstedt (1666-1727)

CONGREGATIONAL CHARGE

Go into the world: sing, laugh, create
with the assurance of God's blessings.
Go into the world: risk, discover, love
with the assurance of God's grace.
Go into the world: believe, hope, remember
with the assurance of God's love.

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AHEAD IN WORSHIP

Two Services at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

January 16 – Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Gifted and Called

Rev. Lynette Sparks

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Music: 11:00 Sanctuary Choir

January 23 – Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Jesus' Mission Statement

Rev. Lynette Sparks

Luke 4:14-21

Music: 11:00 Sanctuary Choir

Ahead in Adult Faith Formation

9:45-10:40 a.m., Chapel

Stories of Mission Engagement and Transformation

January 9: Hannah Nelson, PC(USA) Young Adult Volunteer, Colombia

January 16: Jeanne DeWaard, Community Organizing

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher Rev. Lynette Sparks, Senior Pastor
 Liturgists Rev. Jen Porter, Associate Pastor
 Nancy Greidanus, Minister for Children and Their Families
 Marian Vanderwall, Elder for Family Ministries

Musicians Helen Hofmeister, Minister of Music
 Sanctuary Choir
 Janlee Richter, Accompanist

Acolytes Gabe and Mallory Larson

Worship Center 1 Coreen and Will Hausig
 Worship Center 2 Leslie and Lily Fiore
 Nurturing Center Sarah Schantz and Sylvie DeVries

Welcome to Westminster

WELCOME

If you have questions about the life of the church or becoming a member, please email Susan Jennings at susanj@wpcgr.org. More information about worship and updates from the church can be found at westminstergr.org. You are welcome and celebrated here!

ASSISTANCE

If you'd like a large-print bulletin or a hearing device, please ask one of the ushers at a sanctuary entrance. For T-loop hearing assistance, set your hearing aid to T.

CHILDREN

Parents of three-year-olds to fifth graders, come to the children's check-in tables in the Gathering Place before the service to sign in. Children are welcome throughout the service! Ask an usher if you'd like special worship bags, folders, or children's bulletins to help your kids engage in worship. The nursery (babies through two-year-olds) is available during the service. Children (ages 3 through 2nd grade) will begin worship in the sanctuary and be invited to continue worship in the interactive settings of our worship centers. Leaders will shepherd them to their centers, but parents are welcome to lead them as well. Children will wait for you at the end of the service in the Children's Ministry hallway off the Gathering Place.

MASKING UPDATE

Per CDC guidelines, we ask that you wear a mask for all indoor gatherings at church. This includes worship and meetings. The Way Forward Committee and staff continue to monitor CDC recommendations and infection levels in our community. We will have masks available at church if you need one.



The Holy Spirit and Fire with Baptismal Font – Church in Mexicali, Mexico

Words for the New Year

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 9, 2022
8:30 & 11:00 A.M.