

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

* Please rise in body or spirit

Plain text = Leader

Bold text = People

Prelude

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” Organist, Julie Pulliam
Organ/Piano duet, Betty Niquette , Piano Arr. John Innes

Opening Words (Remain seated.)

Elder, Marny Eulberg
Zephaniah 3:14-20 (pgs. 902-903)

* Sung Response

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” PH # 2 v.1

***Come, Thou long expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us, Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel’s strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.***

Lighting of the Advent Candle (Be seated)

Sung Response (remain seated) “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” PH# 2 v. 2

***Born Thy people to deliver, Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever, Now they gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit Raise us to Thy glorious throne.***

Call to Prayer & Prayer of Confession (remain seated.)

Elder

As we continue to prepare our hearts for the birth of Christ, let us
confess the sins that keep us from glorifying and enjoying our God.

**Gracious God, our doubt and despair lead us to low and longsuffering places.
Our eyes downcast, we find nothing for which to give thanks,
we find no reason to rejoice.
Yet, you call us to resist the overwhelming forces that drag us down.
You call us to rejoice in a babe about to be born.
You call us to lift our eyes in hopeful anticipation of your kingdom to come.
Forgive us. Help us. Save us.**

(time for silent prayer)

Declaration of Forgiveness (responsive)

The Rev. Dr. Whitney Dempsey

Amen. “The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning”
Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

* Sung Response

“Love Has Come ” GTG 110 v. 2 Tune: Bring a Torch

***Love has come: a light in the darkness!
Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.
See all heaven has come to proclaim it; hear how their song of joy arises:
Love! Love! Born unto you a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on High.***

HEARING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination and Scripture Readings:

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 12:2-6

Deacon Reader, Lori Golightly
(pg. 655)

Special Music

“Mary, Did You Know?”
Soloist, Pat Cress

Mark Lowry & Buddy Greene

Gospel Reading

Luke 3:7-18

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Rev. Whit Dempsey
(NT pgs. 56-57)

Sermon

“Share, Be Fair, Don’t Bully!”

The Rev. Dr. Whitney Dempsey

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Announcements

The Rev. Dr. Whitney Dempsey

Minute for Stewardship --Christmas Joy Offering

Communion of the People

Prayers at the table (including prayers of the people)

Words of Institution

Serving Communion “Greensleeves Medley”

Arr. Gail Pollock

*(Bread is taken individually. Please **wait to take juice/wine together.**)*

(White grape juice is in the outer ring of the tray;

red wine in the middle ring, and water in the center.)

Prayer after Communion

Prayers of the People and 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.

Offertory

“What Child Is This?”
Organ/Piano duet, Betty Niquette , Piano

Organist, Julie Pulliam
Arr. James Mansfield

***Presentation of Offering**

(Angels from the Realms of Glory Verse 4, No. 22)

*All creation, join in praising, God the Father, Spirit, Son;
Ever more your voices raising, to th'eternal Three in One:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King!*

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Hymn**

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

PH # 438

***Charge and Benediction**

*** Sung Congregational response:**

Christ, Be Our Light!

GTG 314



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.



Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered to - day.

Postlude

“God Rest You Merry Gentlemen”
Organ/Piano duet, Betty Niquette , Piano

Organist, Julie Pulliam
Arr. Lani Smith

Pulpit Elder: Marny Eulberg

Deacon Reader: Lori Golightly

Greeter: Kevin Myers

Ushers: Betsy Smith and Jeff Stimson

Communion: Charles Cuthill, Jo Ann Flores, Eleanor Fowler, and Marcia Hecox

Wheat Ridge Presbyterian Church

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Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Whitney Dempsey pastor@wrpres.org

Director of Christian Education, Children & Youth: Linda Valo

Organist, Hand Bell Choir Director: Julie Pulliam, M.A.

Choir Director: Taylor Robinson

Treasurer: Eileen Gardner, C.P.A. • Assistant Treasurer: Betsy Smith

Administrative Assistant: Jenny Garner



WPC Mission Statement

*To worship God through faith and action,
To nurture the spirit of Jesus Christ in each of us,
To be an extended family to all,
And to serve the community
through programs, education, and prayer.*

***Third Sunday of Advent: Love
December 11, 2022***