

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

Let us take this time to quiet our hearts and minds and prepare for worship.

* Please stand in body or spirit Plain text = Leader **Bold text = People**

Prelude: "He Is King of Kings" Organist, Julie Pulliam
Arr. Anthony Giamanco

Welcome The Rev. Dr. Whitney Dempsey

* **Call to Worship** (Please stand) Elder, Mick Domenick

To all searching for grace and truth,

Come and see!

To all searching for meaning and purpose,

Come and see!

To all searching for abundant life,

Come and see!

Let us worship God together.

* **Hymn** "Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain" No. 115

Call to Prayer and Prayer for Renewal (Be seated) Elder

God, who knit us in the womb, knows us completely.

God inclines towards us and hears our cry.

Assured of God's grace and steadfast love, let us confess our sin together.

**Merciful God, We confess that we have been timid
and unreliable witnesses of Jesus Christ.**

Forgive us

...for the times we have stayed silent

in the face of injustice and hate,

...for the times our actions have not matched our beliefs,

...for the times we have hoarded our abundance,

...for the times we have turned away from your children in need.

For the many ways we fail to follow Jesus, forgive us.

Invite us again to come and see, and to abide in your presence

so that we may be transformed and renewed.

Empower us to witness, with our words and lives,

to the love and grace we've experienced in Jesus Christ.

(A time for silent prayer)

Assurance of Pardon Whit Dempsey

Amen. Hear the good news of the gospel: God will not withhold mercy from us. The steadfast love and faithfulness of the Lord is with us, now and forever. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.

* **Sung Response** (Stand as desired.) 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 of Illumination and Scripture Readings

Isaiah 9:1-4 (pg. 651)

Deacon Reader, Jeanne Miller

Matthew 4:12-23 (NT pgs.3-4)

The Rev. Dr. Whitney Dempsey

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Time with all Ages: C.E. director of Children & Youth, Linda Valo
(As the children come forward, please join in singing.)

This, this is where children belong, part of our family, part of our song.

Be with us, pray with us, help us grow strong, this is where children belong.

Anthem "Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore" Cesáreo Gabaráin
WRPC Choir

Sermon "What Is Your Calling in Life?" Rev. Whit Dempsey

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* **Affirmation of Faith** (From *A Brief Statement of Faith*) Elder

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.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ

in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives,

even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,

praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

With believers in every time and place,

we rejoice that nothing in life or in death

can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

* Hymn "I've Got Peace Like a River" No. 386

Announcements The Rev. Dr. Whitney Dempsey

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer Front of Hymnal, Pg. 16
(Pray, "Forgive us our sins...")

Offertory "Adagio" Organist, Julie Pulliam
Alex Guilment

* Presentation of Offering (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 "Song of Hope" No. 432

Charge and Benediction

Postlude "Gigue" Organist, Julie Pulliam
Arr. Daniel E. Gawthrop

Please come through to Fellowship Hall for refreshments and conversation.

Pulpit Elder: Mick Domenick Deacon Reader: Jeanne Miller
Time with All Ages: Linda Valo Greeter: Jeff Stimson
Ushers: Brenda Cavanaugh and Ashley Cress

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.*

***January 22, 2023
Third Sunday after Epiphany***