

## Evening Worship

6:00 P.M.

- The Prelude** *Medley of Carols*
- The Welcome and the Call to Worship** Psalm 34:8-14
- † **The Hymn of Praise** *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* #200
- † **The Invocation**
- Encouraging One Another in Song & Prayer**
- The Offertory** *Thou Who Was Rich*  
(arr. E. Butler)
- The Ministry of the Word** Mr. David Hammond  
“The Grace of Peacemaking”  
Matthew 5:9  
(Church Bible, pg. 809)
- † **The Hymn of Preparation** *Thou Who Wast Rich* #230, vv. 1-2
- The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper**  
*The inner circles of cups contain wine and the outer circle contains grape juice. The bread is gluten free. Please hold each element until all have been served so that we may partake together.*
- The Deacons’ Offering** *Thou Art Coming, O My Savior*  
(Trinity Hymnal #326)  
*It is our custom to receive an offering for those in financial need, both in the congregation and the wider community, as our response of thanksgiving for the grace received in the Supper.*
- † **The Hymn of Response** *Thou Who Wast Rich* #230, vv. 3
- † **The Benediction**
- † **The Doxology** #731
- † **The Postlude** *Angels We Have Heard on High* Miss Bertha Dykstra  
(arr. DeCou)

We welcome the Rev. David Hammond to our pulpit again tonight as he concludes his series in the Beatitudes. David is an old friend of this congregation and a much-loved teacher of the Scriptures at WCA, and we look forward to his continued ministry to us on Sunday nights in the new year!

### Aids to Worship

To use the church’s wifi, select WPC Guest and enter ‘matthew633’ when asked.

Hearing assistance devices are available at the sound booth in the back of the sanctuary.

Binders with today’s hymns and readings in large print are available at the round table in the lobby. Please return them there after the service.

To hear an audio of today’s sermons again, go [www.wpc-hsv.org](http://www.wpc-hsv.org) and click on the link at the bottom right corner of the home page.

If providentially hindered from attending worship on the Lord’s Day, you can still join us for the morning service via video-streaming. Simply go to [www.wpc-hsv.org](http://www.wpc-hsv.org) and select “Watch Live” on the menu bar at the top of the page.

## This Week at Westminster

**Welcome guests!** We’re delighted that you’ve come to worship with us here at Westminster this morning. We pray that God will bless you richly through the service and the welcome of our congregation and that you’ll worship with us again soon.

**There will be no Sunday School today** so that we can enjoy an unhurried time of fellowship and refreshments together in the lobby after the service. Parents, be sure to pick up your children from the nursery so that they and our volunteers can enjoy the fellowship time with us. Thanks!

**Youth Parent Meeting Today at 4:30:** All parents of teenagers are encouraged to join us this afternoon at 4:30 pm in the church parlor to discuss upcoming activities and events in 2018. We look forward to seeing you here at this important meeting!

### Holiday Schedule

- **Christmas Eve Morning:** Morning Worship at 9:30 am, no Sunday School
- **Candlelight Christmas Eve Service,** 4 pm in the sanctuary, no childcare provided
- **Holiday Office Hours:** The office will be closed December 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, and January 1<sup>st</sup>
- **New Year’s Eve Day:** Morning Worship at 9:30 am, no Sunday School or Evening Worship

**Please note:** we will resume our regular worship and Sunday School schedule on Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>.

### Upcoming Events

**The registration deadline for ROOTS, our Presbytery Winter Youth Retreat is TODAY:** Providence Presbytery’s winter retreat (called ROOTS) will be Friday-Sunday, January 19-21, at Camp Toknowhim near Arab. The base price for the retreat is **\$100**, but goes up to **\$110** if you add a t-shirt, and **\$122** for a t-shirt plus a spot on the extreme hike. Students can register at the link below and make the checks payable to Westminster, please designate "ROOTS" on the memo line. Go to [www.wpc-hsv.org](http://www.wpc-hsv.org) & click on “Events” on the homepage to register.

### Sunday’s Servants

SERVING	TODAY: Dec 17, 2017	NEXT WEEK: Dec 24, 2017
NURSERY – Morning Worship	Scooter & Angie Johnson, April Stegman	Rebecca Harness, Emily Vechinski
	Garret Grady	
	Micah & Charissa Matson	Alex Covert
NURSERY – Sunday School	----	----
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NURSERY – Evening Worship	Eion Grady, Anna Bosma	----
HEAD USHER	Lee Talmadge	Steve Stegman
SEXTON COUNTER	John Kirkwood, Paul Galloway	Paul Galloway, Matt Harness
SOUND	Clif Barnes	Clif Barnes, Eric Fulcher
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP	Stacy Murphree	Stacy Murphree
COMMUNION SET UP	Crowhursts	----



**WESTMINSTER**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 17, 2017

# A BEACON OF HOPE

OFFERING LIFE AND LIGHT  
IN CHRIST TO THOSE IN  
DARKNESS, HERE AND  
AROUND THE WORLD



*“In Him was life, and this life  
was the light of men.”*

*John 1:4*



5744 Oakwood Road NW, Huntsville, Alabama 35806

256.830.5754

[www.wpc-hsv.org](http://www.wpc-hsv.org)  
[office@wpc-hsv.org](mailto:office@wpc-hsv.org)

# Morning Worship

## A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

9:30 A.M.

The first Service of Nine Lessons and Carols was presented on Christmas Eve 1918 at King's College Chapel in Cambridge, England. It was created by the Rev. Eric Milner-White, whose experience with British soldiers as a chaplain in the First World War led him to believe that the Church of England needed "more imaginative worship." The service from King's College has been broadcast by the BBC every Christmas Eve since 1928, and can be heard in the United States on public radio and on the internet. Today's service is an adaptation of the original service by composer and arranger John Leavitt. We thank our adult choir, orchestra, accompanists, and children's choir for their months of hard work under the leadership of director Tom Adams in preparing to assist us in our worship today.

**The Prelude**      *The Birthday of a King and Away in a Manger*  
(Neidlinger/Murray, arr. Fettke)

*Gesu Bambino*  
(Yon, arr. Rouse)

**The Welcome, Announcements and Explanation of the Service**

**The Preparation for Worship**    *Tell Me the Story of Jesus*

**The Processional Hymn**

*Once in Royal David's City*  
Alexander/Gauntlett/arr. Leavitt

**Verse 1: Children's Choir**

**Verse 2 & 3: Choir**

† **Verse 4: Choir & Congregation**

Not in that poor lowly stable with the oxen standing by  
Shall we see Him, but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high.  
Then like stars his children, crowned, all in white, His praise will sound!

† **The Bidding Prayer and 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 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.

**The First Lesson**      **To Us a Child is Born**      **Isaiah 9:2, 6-7**  
Bob Brunson

**The Carol**      *Break Forth, O Beauteous, Heaven Light*      Choir  
Bach/arr. Leavitt

**The Second Lesson**      **The Branch from Jesse**      **Isaiah 11:1-4, 6-9**  
Scott Nicol

† **Congregation Standing**

**The Carol**      *Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming*      Choir  
Praetorious/arr. Leavitt

**The Third Lesson**      **A Promised Ruler from Bethlehem**      **Micah 5:2-5a**  
Curry Knight

**The Carol**      *O Little Town of Bethlehem*      Children & Choir  
Brooks/Redner/arr. Leavitt

**The Fourth Lesson**      **The Birth of Jesus Foretold**      **Luke 1:26-35, 38**  
Bill Emrich

**The Carol**      *O How Joyfully*      Choir  
Traditional German Carol/arr. Leavitt

**The Fifth Lesson**      **The Birth of Jesus**      **Luke 2:1-7**  
Brian McFadden

**The Carol**      *Away in a Manger*      Choir  
Kirkpatrick/arr. Leavitt

**Verse 1: Choir**

**Verse 2: Children, with the Choir**

† **Verse 3: Choir & Congregation**

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay  
Close by me forever; and love me, I pray,  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,  
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

*(The children may be seated with their parents.)*

**The Sixth Lesson**      **The Shepherds and the Angels**      **Luke 2:8-16**  
Fred Diaz

**The Carol**      *Ding Dong! Merrily on High*      Choir  
Traditional French Carol/arr. Leavitt

**The Seventh Lesson**      **The Visit of the Magi**      **Matthew 2:1-11**  
Stephen Hooks

**The Morning Prayer & Offering**

**The Offertory Carol**      *As with Gladness Men of Old*  
Dix/Kocher/arr. Leavitt

**Verse 1: Choir & Congregation (remains seated)**

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 by the thee.

**Verse 2: Choir Only**

**Verse 3: Choir & Congregation (seated)**

In the heav'nly country bright need they no created light;  
Thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;  
There forever may we sing alleluias to our King.

**The Eighth Lesson**      **The Escape to Egypt**      **Matthew 2:13-18**  
Eric Fulcher

**The Carol**      *The Coventry Carol*      Choir  
Croo/English Melody/arr. Leavitt

**The Ninth Lesson**      **The Word Became Flesh**      **John 1:1-14**  
Nat Causey

**The Carol**      *Only Begotten, Word of God Eternal*      Choir  
9<sup>th</sup> c. text/Leavitt

**The Ministry of the Word**      Mr. Bob Brunson  
"In the Fullness of Time"  
Galatians 4:4-7

† **The Hymn of Response**    *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*  
Wesley/Mendelssohn/arr. Leavitt

**Verse 1: Choir & Congregation**

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 th'angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

**Verse 2: Choir**

**Verse 3: Choir & Congregation**

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings, ris'n with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays his glory by, born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

† **The Benediction**

† **The Hallelujah Chorus\***

*\*Members of the congregation are invited to join with the choir*

Hallelujah! For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.  
The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord,  
and of His Christ.

And He shall reign forever and ever,  
King of kings and Lord of lords  
And he shall reign forever and ever,  
King of kings and Lord of lords  
Hallelujah!

**The Postlude**      *Christmas Joy*      Miss Bertha Dykstra  
(Handel, arr. Livingston, Jr.)

**Join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments in the lobby immediately following the service today.**