

### GATHERING FOR THE WORD

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

\* Please stand if able Plain text = Leader **Bold text = People**

PRELUDE *Bring a Torch* Christopher Uehlein

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Elder

\* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand) Elder

I will recount the Lord's faithful acts; Isaiah 63:7

**I will sing the Lord's praises,**

Because of all the Lord did for us,

**For God's great favor toward the house of Israel.**

God treated them compassionately and with deep affection.

Let us worship God.

\* HYMN *Great God, We Sing That Mighty Hand* No. 265

CALL TO PRAYER & PRAYER FOR RENEWAL (Be seated) Psalm 107

*"Let those who hunger and thirst cry out to the Lord.*

*God will hear and deliver them from desperate circumstances,  
heal them and bring them out of darkness and gloom."*

Trusting in God's grace, let us pray...

**Redeemer God, do not let us hurt ourselves or others by our sin**

**forgetting our covenant to serve you;**

**pretending we are strong and self-sufficient**

**and have no need for community; passing by our neighbors in need;**

**and judging others as if we are the ones who judge, sentence and redeem.**

**Forgive us, O Lord. Remind us of your majesty**

**and faithful love that pursues us throughout our life.**

**Heal us, transform us so that all we say and do proclaims your faithful love.**

*(A time for silent prayer)*

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE The Rev. Dr. Terry A. Purvis-Smith

Amen. God turns desert into watery pools, unproductive dirt into fruitful land,  
and the rebellious into the beloved. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

\*GLORIA No. 23 v. 3

**Come to Bethlehem and see: Him whose birth the angels sing;**

**Come adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.**

**Glo—ria in excelsis Deo; glo—ria in excelsis Deo.**

### HEARING THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 66:5-7 Pg. 536

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** Deacon Reader

SPECIAL MUSIC *O Come, All Ye Faithful* John F. Wade

GOSPEL READING Matthew 2:13-23 Pg. 2

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** Terry Purvis-Smith

TIME FOR CHILDREN *(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.***

SERMON *Moral Imagination* Terry A. Purvis-Smith

### RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Please Stand) Elder

**We believe that God is the one**

**who wishes to bring about justice**

**and true peace among people.**

**We believe that God,**

**in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way**

**the God of the destitute, the poor, and the wronged.**

*--Adapted from the Confession of Belhar*

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER Front of Hymnal Pg. 16

*(Pray, "Forgive us our sins...")*

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING Terry Purvis-Smith

God healed them; Psalm 107:19-22

he rescued them from their pit.

Let them thank the Lord for his faithful love

and his wondrous works for all people.

Let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices

and declare what God has done in songs of joy! Amen.

OFFERTORY *Two French Carols* Arr. Bryant Adams

\* PRESENTATION OF OFFERING No. 53 v.3.

***So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;***

***Come one and all to own Him.***

***The King of Kings salvation brings;***

***let loving hearts enthrone Him.***

***This, this Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;***

***Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the babe, the Son of Mary!***

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION Terry Purvis-Smith

Mary said, "With all my heart I glorify the Lord!

in the depths of who I am I rejoice in God my savior."

With these gifts we shout joyfully to God. Sing praises to the glory of God's name.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION  
INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE  
PRAYER OF CONSECRATION  
SERVING COMMUNION

*Bread is taken individually. Juice/wine is taken together; wine is in outer ring of tray.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION Terry Purvis-Smith

\* HYMN *The First Nowell* No. 56

\* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

\* SUNG CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* (sing twice)

***Go, tell it on the mountain Over the hills and everywhere;***

***Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!***

POSTLUDE *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* Wilbur Held

*Many thanks to our guest preacher, The Rev. Dr. Terry A. Purvis-Smith  
and guest music leader, Kenny Orr for their roles in the worship service today!*

*Please come through to Fellowship Hall for refreshments and conversation.*

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Pulpit Elder: Caroline Clovesko      Deacon Reader: Betty Piperato  
Greeter: Jeff Stimson      Usher: Chuck Miller  
Sound Engineer: Jim Niquette      Children's Time: Roxanne Foster  
Communion Servers: Lori Golightly, Sonia Hills, Ron Johnston

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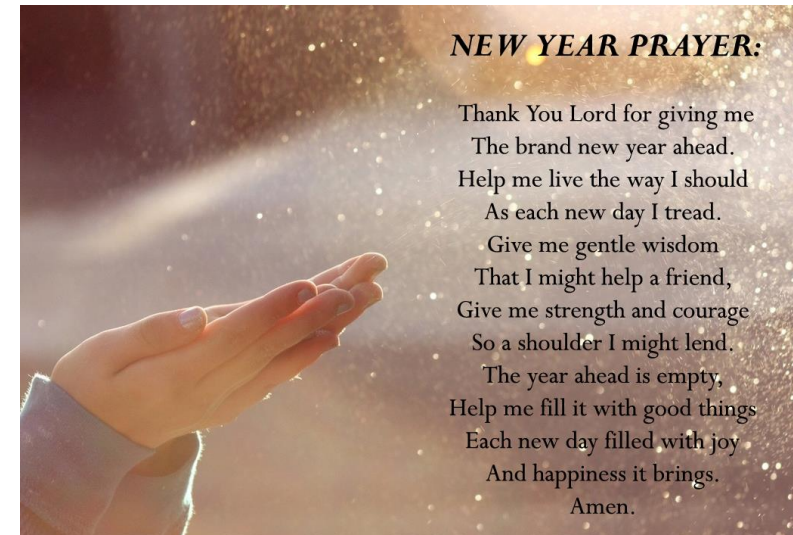
### **Wheat Ridge Presbyterian Church**

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**Laura at Church: 303-422-2355 • Cell: 720-471-0751**

**Director of Christian Education, Children & Youth: Linda Valo**  
**Organist, Hand Bell Choir Director: Julie Pulliam, M.A.**  
**Choir Director: Kevin Crowe, M.M.**

**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.*

***Happy New Year!***  
***January 1, 2017***