

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 *O Come, O Come Emanuel,* Based on Plainsong
Organ/Piano Duet, Betty Niquette, piano Arr. John Innes

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS The Rev. Dr. Laura S. Sugg



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



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

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Ronna Burrows & Caroline Clovesko

The world says, "All is lost." God says, "All is loved."

The darkness says, "The light is dying." The light says, "The fire is catching."

Fear says, "Cover your eyes and your ears." Hope says, "Wait, watch, and listen."

As we light our first Advent candle,

we pray for holy hope of God.

Come now, O Child of Mary.

Come now, O Prince of Hope.

* HYMN *People Look East* No. 12

CALL TO PRAYER & PRAYER FOR RENEWAL (Be seated) Elder

Trusting in God's grace, let us come before God in prayer. Let us pray...

Advent God, come among us.

**Awaken us to your presence,
and fill us with your love.**

**Forgive us when our hunger for justice
gives way to our hunger for power.**

**Forgive us when our hope for peace
is swallowed by our fear of failure.**

**Forgive us when our songs of faith
are drowned out by the shouts of the world.**

**Advent God, come among us,
and make all things new.**

(A time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE Laura Sugg

Amen. Every valley is lifted up; every mountain made low.

Now the glory of the Lord is revealed, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God. Amen.

HEARING THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING Jeremiah 33:14-16 Pgs.757-758

Heaven and earth will pass away,
but the word of the Lord stands forever.

Thanks be to God.

Isaiah 40:8, Mark 13:31

ANTHEM *Prepare the Way* Tune: Bereden väg för Herran

Arr. American Lutheran Hymnal 1930
Text Adaptation Charles P. Price

GOSPEL READING Luke 21:25-36 Pg.81

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 *Signs of Hope: Attention, Please!* Laura Sugg

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Please stand as you are able) Elder

Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus.

**His faith and obedience were the response
of the perfect child of God.**

**He was the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel,
the beginning of the new creation,
and the pioneer of the new humanity.**

**He gave history its meaning and direction
and called the church to be his servant for
the reconciliation of the world.**

--Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.19

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

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

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

OFFERTORY *Bring A Torch, Jeanette Isabella* based on Traditional 17 Century French Tune

Organ/Piano Duet, Betty Niquette, piano Arr. Lani Smith

* PRESENTATION OF OFFERING Tune: No. 23

***Let the nations shout and sing: glory to their Savior bring;
All below and all above sing your praise with joyous love.
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo. Glo—ria in excelsis Deo.***

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION Laura Sugg

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

SERVING COMMUNION *A Christmas Meditation* Roy E. Nolte

Organ/Piano Duet, Betty Niquette, piano

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

Red wine in outer ring of tray; white grape juice, inner ring; water in the middle.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (Unison)

**God our hope, we give you thanks that you have given us
this foretaste of the justice, righteousness, and peace of
your promised new creation.**

**Strengthen us with this heavenly food
as we seek to serve your holy realm.**

**Lead us to live in joyful expectation
of the coming again in glory of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

* HYMN No. 20
Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

* CHARGE & BLESSING

* SUNG CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: *He Came Down* STF 2085

He came down that we may have HOPE (sing this line 3 times)
hallelujah forevermore.

POSTLUDE Arr. Roger C. Wilson
Venite Adoremus, Adeste Fidelis
Organ/Piano Duet, Betty Niquette, piano

Please come through to Fellowship Hall for refreshments and conversation.

Wheat Ridge Presbyterian Church

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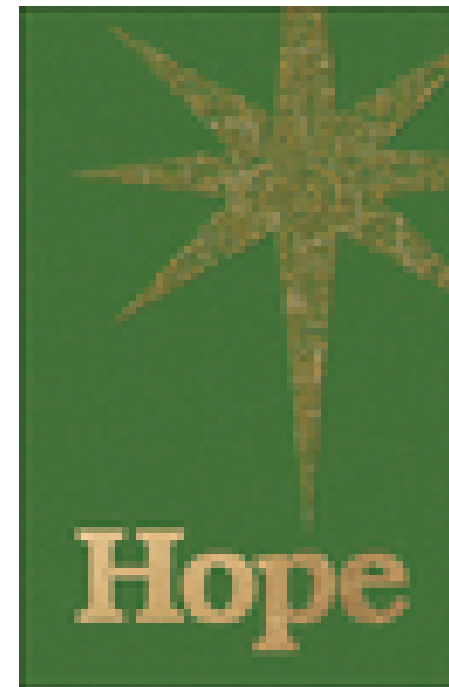
Director of Christian Education, Children & Youth: *Linda Valo*

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

Choir Director: *Katie Sakanai, M.M. Ed.*

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.*

***First Sunday of Advent
December 2, 2018***