

## 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 *There's A Song in the Air* Karl Harrington  
Arr. Tedd Smith & Don Hustad

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

\* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand) Elder

We are brought together by the call of God,

**the One who has loved us from the beginning.**

We are bound together by the presence of the Spirit,

**the One who has challenged us to love more deeply.**

We worship together in the name of Christ,

**the One who was Love made flesh.**

\* HYMN *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* No. 29

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

Trusting in the God whose Love is born to us, we pray for renewal.

Let us pray...

**Holy God, we have seen the Christ child in the manger,**

**and we know that you are a light to all people.**

**Forgive us when our lives are not shaped by the Christmas story,**

**when our hearts are not open to the leading of your spirit,**

**when our hands are not open to help a neighbor in need.**

**Speak your good news to us once more,**

**forgive us, and bring us peace.**

*(A time for silent prayer)*

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

Amen. Hear the promise of the Lord:

See, your salvation has come!

You are a holy people, redeemed by God

**In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

\* SUNG RESPONSE 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.***

## HEARING THE WORD

GOSPEL READING Luke 2:41-52 Pg. 56

Heaven and earth will pass away,

but the word of the Lord stands forever.

*Isaiah 40:8, Mark 13:31*

**Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC *Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming* German Carol

Barbara Stimson, Belinda Smiley, Katie Sakanai

EPISTLE READING Colossians 3:12-17 Pg. 193

TIME WITH CHILDREN & YOUTH *(As children & youth come forward, please sing.)*

***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.***

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM Locklyn Elliot Clark  
daughter of Will & Adrienne Clark,  
grandchild of Jeff & Barbara Stimson

SERMON *Growing Up Jesus* Laura Sugg

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Elder

**We believe that in Baptism**

**the Spirit demonstrates and confirms God's promise  
to include us and our children in God's gracious covenant,  
giving us newness of life.**

**Baptism sets us in the visible community of Christ's people  
and joins us to all other believers by a powerful bond.**

**For both children and adults, baptism is a reminder  
that God loves us long before we can love God.**

**For both, God's grace and our response to it  
are not tied to the moment of Baptism,  
but continue and deepen throughout life.**

*—from A Declaration of Faith (1977)*

\* HYMN (seated) *Away in a Manger* No. 25

\* PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER Front of Hymnal Pg. 16  
*(Pray, "Forgive us our sins...")*

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

“From the fullness of God,  
we have all received grace upon grace.  
Let us offer our lives to the Lord.”  
The offering will now be received.

John 1:16

OFFERTORY

*Pat-A-Pan*

Bernard de la Monnoye  
Arr. Hugh S. Livingston, Jr.

\* PRESENTATION OF OFFERING

(Verse 4, #36)

***What can I give Him, Poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a wise one, I would do my part;  
Yet, what can I give him: give him my heart.***

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

**Loving God:**

**We give you thanks for Jesus Christ,  
the Word made flesh.**

**Receive the gifts we offer in union with Christ’s gift for us.**

**Clothe us with compassion, kindness, humility,  
meekness, and patience,  
that we may be Christ for others.**

**In his name we pray. Amen.**

\* HYMN

*The First Nowell*

No. 56 vv. 1-4

\* 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

*Masters In This Hall*

Arr. John Innes

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

**Wheat Ridge Presbyterian Church**

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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 Christmastide  
December 30, 2018***