

# **Christmas Eve**

## **Westminster Church**

The United Church of Canada

Organ Recital of Carols  
10:30 pm

Choral Candlelight Service  
11:00 pm

Westminster Church  
The United Church of Canada  
Christmas Eve, 2017

**Minister**

Rev. Sherri McConnell

**Director of Music in Worship**

Nathan Poole

**Organist**

Donald Menzies

The Choir of Westminster Church

Cathryn Harrison, Soprano

Nicki Kirton, Mezzo Soprano

Wes Rambo, Tenor

Fred Simpson, Bass

**Aileen Fred Choral Scholar**

Rebecca McIntosh, Soprano

**Betty Halstead Choral Scholar**

Nicholas Urquhart

**The Luminous String Quartet**

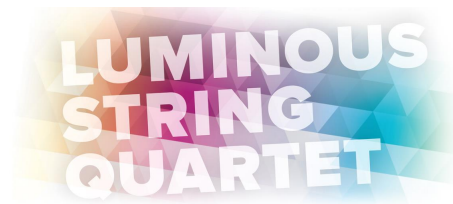
Karen Barg, 1<sup>st</sup> violin, artistic director

Carolyn Scholz, 2<sup>nd</sup> violin

Sarah Carswell, Viola

Jonathan Bauch, Cello

[luminousstringquartet.ca](http://luminousstringquartet.ca)



**A Warm Welcome** to all who are worshipping with us at Westminster this Christmas Eve. If you are a visitor and would like to know more about our congregation or to introduce yourself to us, please fill in one of the Welcome to Westminster cards that are available in the pews or at the visitor's table in the lobby. You may place the card on the offering plate or in the basket at the visitor's table.

*As we prepare for worship, we hear an*

**Organ Recital of Carols**

Donald Menzies, A.R.C.T., L.T.C.L., L.M.M.

# Choral Candlelight Service

## Lighting of the Advent Candles

By Ted Barnett

## Processional Hymn “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”

VU 48

Words: CHARLES WESLEY; Music: F. MENDELSSOHN; vs. 3 Arranged by DAVID WILLCOCKS

*The congregation will rise for the processional hymn.*

**H**ark! 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 the angelic host proclaim:  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem.”

*Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”*

Christ by highest heav’n adored;  
Christ the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold Him come,  
offspring of a Virgin’s womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
hail th’incarnate Deity,  
pleased as man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel,

*Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”*

(Continued)

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!"*

## Greeting and Opening Prayer

By Rev. Sherri McConnell

## Carol

## "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Words: PHILLIP BROOKS; Music: ST. LOUIS(Redner), alt. Arranged by DAN FORREST Len La Rue, percussion

## First Lesson

## Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Read by Carol Latter

## Hymn

## "Joy to the World"

VU 59

Words: Words: ISAAC WATTS; Music: Melody by LOWELL MASON (based on HANDEL)

**J**oy to the World, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
and Heaven and nature sing,  
and Heaven and nature sing,  
and Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
far as the curse is found  
far as the curse is found  
far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the earth with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
the glories of His righteousness,  
and wonders of His love,  
and wonders of His love,  
and wonders, wonders, of His love.

## **Sextet** “Ding Dong Merrily on High”

Words: GEORGE RATCLIFFE WOODWARD; Music: Trad. French Tune, arranged by ROBERT RICE

## **Second Lesson** Micah 5:2-5

Read by Annette Kletke

## **Carol** “I Saw Three Ships”

English Traditional. Arranged by JOHN RUTTER Fred Simpson, Bass

## Third Lesson

Luke 1: 26-35,38

Read by Susie Conrad

## Carol

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

Words by CHRISTINA ROSSET; Music by HAROLD DARKE Rebecca Simpson, Soprano; Wes Rambo, Tenor

## Fourth Lesson

Luke 2:1, 3-7

Read by John Mort

## Lighting of the Christ Candle

## Carol

“Away in a Manger”

Words: 19<sup>th</sup> century American; Music: WILLIAM J. KIRKPATRICK, arranged by DAVID WILLCOCKS

## Fifth Lesson

Luke 2:8-16

Read by Lynn E. Soens

## Offertory Hymn

“The First Nowell”

VU 91

Words: English traditional; Music: English Traditional, Arranged by JOHN STAINER and HEALY WILLAN

*The congregation will remain seated for the offertory hymn.*

**T**he first Nowell the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
in fields where they lay akeeping their sheep  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel.*

They looked up and saw a star,  
shining in the east, beyond them far;  
and to the earth it gave great light,  
and so it continued both day and night.

*Nowell, Nowell...*

And by the light of that same star  
three wise men came from country far;  
to seek for a king was their intent,  
and to follow the star wherever it went.

*Nowell, Nowell...*

This star drew nigh to the northwest;  
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
and there it did both stop and stay,  
right over the place where Jesus lay.

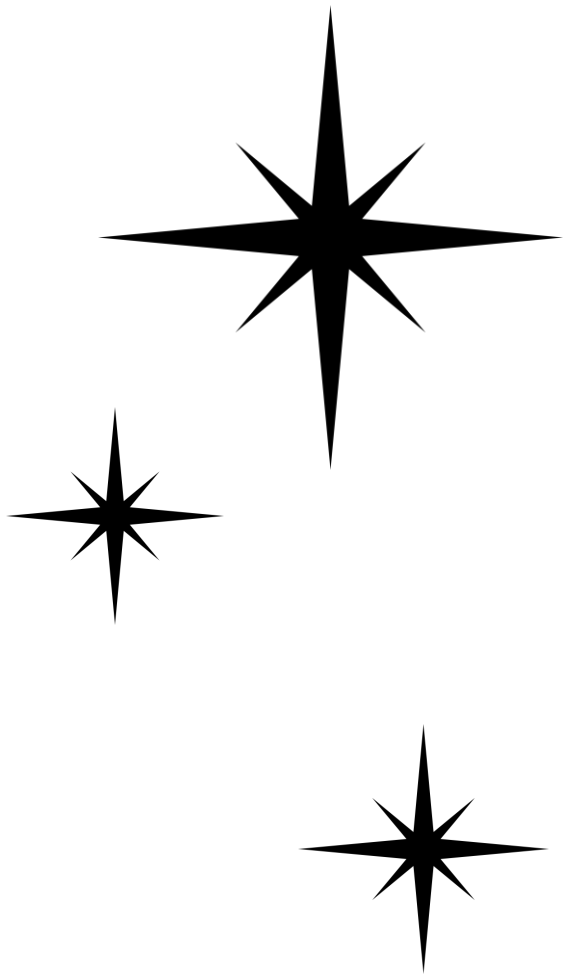
*Nowell, Nowell...*

Then entered in those wise men three,  
full reverently upon their knee,  
and offered there in his presence  
their gold and myrrh and frankincense.

*Nowell, Nowell...*

Then let us all with one accord  
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,  
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,  
and with his blood our life hath bought.

*Nowell, Nowell...*



## **Sixth Lesson**

Matthew 2:1-12

Read by Katherine Abra

# Carol

## “All Bells in Paradise”

Words and Music by JOHN RUTTER

# Seventh Lesson

John 1:1-4, 9-14

Read by Shannon MacFarlane

# Hymn

## “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

VU 60

Words: JOHN WADE; Music: JOHN READING, Arranged by DAVID WILLCOCKS

**O** come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:  
Come and behold him,  
born the King of Angels;  
*O come, let us adore him,  
o come, let us adore him,  
o come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

God of God, light of light,  
Lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb;  
Very God, begotten not created:  
*O come, let us adore him...*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
Glory to God in the highest:  
*O come, let us adore him...*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee be glory given;  
word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:  
*O come, let us adore him...*



*The congregation may be seated.*

## **Christmas Prayer and the Lord's Prayer**

Given by Rev. Sherri McConnell

Our Father/Mother,  
    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 trespasses,  
    as we forgive those  
    who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
    but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
    the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.

## **Hymn**

**“Silent Night! Holy Night!”**

VU 67

Words: H. MOHR, Trans. J.F. YOUNG; Music: FRANZ XAVIER GRÜBER

*Choir alone:*

**S**ilent night! holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin  
mother and child.  
Holy infant so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace.

## *Choir and congregation:*

Silent night! holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight;  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,  
Christ, the Saviour, is born!

Silent night! holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

## **Benediction**

Given by Rev. Sherri McConnell

## **Christmas Carols on the Schulmerich Carillon**



Join us every other Friday for the Bell Tower Community Café.

**Free live music, food and drinks.**

For more information, please visit  
[Belltowercommunity.wordpress.com](http://Belltowercommunity.wordpress.com)

## WESTMINSTER CONCERT ORGAN SERIES

Come to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Concert of our 29<sup>th</sup> Season  
*Westminster United Church, Westminster at Maryland*



### RAÚL PRIETO RAMÍREZ

Spain, now Indiana, USA

*"Sizzling", "Transcendent". Professor of Organ at Ball State University, Indiana, Organist-in-Residence at the Sursa Concert Hall since 2013 & Artistic Director of the annual summer International Organ Festival in Barcelona, Spain. He played to acclaim here in the fall of 2014, and we welcome this elite Spanish organist on his return to our series.*

2:30 PM,

Sunday, February 18, 2018

*Pre-Concert Entertainment 2:00 PM*

Tickets at McNally Robinson or at the door:

Adult - \$25 Senior (>65) - \$20 Student (to post-secondary) - \$10

(204) 784-1330 or [www.westminsterchurch.org](http://www.westminsterchurch.org)

All families are invited to join us for a

## FAMILY FUN GATHERING: EPIPHANY

Westminster United Church  
Saturday, January 13  
from 12:00 - 2:00

Join us for a light lunch,  
crafts and activities  
as we visit with one another  
and learn more about  
Epiphany together.

There is no cost to participate  
and everyone is welcome.

RSVP by January 10  
Teri Skakum, Child and Family Coordinator  
at [teri@westminsterchurch.org](mailto:teri@westminsterchurch.org)  
or leave a message at the Church Office 204-784-1330



# **Peace, Hope, Joy & Love to You**

From the Staff of Westminster Church

Dan Beauvais, Ricky Ramos

Marilyn Thiessen

Michael McKay

Don Menzies

Nathan Poole

Rev. Sherri McConnell

and

members of the Church Board and Committees.

The special gifts that Christmas brings  
never did consist of things!

but all the peace and hope and caring  
that grow in size  
with love and sharing.

## **Sundays at Westminster**

We worship as a community every Sunday, at 10:30 am. All are welcome.

If you'd like to be a part of our mailing list, send a shout-out to  
[sayhello@westminsterchurch.org](mailto:sayhello@westminsterchurch.org).

Our choir rehearses and presents music from September to June. If you or somebody you know would like to join the choir, please contact Nathan Poole, director of music in worship at [nathanpoole@westminsterchurch.org](mailto:nathanpoole@westminsterchurch.org)

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Merry Christmas!