

The logo features a stylized cross with a blue vertical bar and red horizontal bars, flanked by red flames.

WESTMINSTER CHURCH OF DETROIT



17567 Hubbell Ave
Detroit, MI 48235
(313) 341.2697
office@wcodetroit.org
www.wcodetroit.org

Sunday, December 24, 2023
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Lessons & Carols

Prelude

Prelude on 'Forest Green'
Dalos Grobe, Organ

Richard Purvis

Welcome to all – especially to our guests.

Hymns labeled GTG are in the Glory to God Hymnal (purple)

Hymns labeled AAHH are in the African American Heritage Hymnal (beige)

**Please stand as you are able*

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Call to Worship

The coming of our Lord is near.

Draw close, Lord Jesus Christ,

Shed your light on all that is filled with evil.

The coming of our Lord is near.

Draw close, God's beloved son,

Teach us the wonder of your all-embracing love.

The coming of our Lord is near.

Draw close, Savior of all creation,

our hearts ache for justice,

our minds long for holiness,

our spirits seek for unity.

In trust, let us worship God.

Opening Prayer

***Carol GTG #140**

Once in Royal David's City
vv. 1,2&4

Lesson One

Genesis 3: 8-15, 17-19

*God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise
and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.*

Anthem

What Adam's Disobedience Cost
Gospel Choir

arr. Emily Brink

Lesson Two

Genesis 22: 15-18

*God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed
shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.*

Anthem

There Shall a Star from Jacob
Chancel Choir

Felix Mendelssohn

Lesson Three

Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7

The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.

*Carol GTG #87

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Lesson Four

Isaiah 11: 1-3a, 4a, 6-9

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

Anthem

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
Chancel Choir

arr. Edmund Hughes

Lesson Five

Luke 11: 26-35; 38

The angel Gabriel salutes the Virgin Mary.

*Carol

Gabriel's Message

**The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
"All hail," said he, "O lowly maiden Mary,"
Refrain: Most highly favored lady, Gloria!**

**"For know a blessed mother you shall be.
All generations praise continually,
Your Son shall be Emmanuel by seers foretold."
Refrain**

**Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:
Refrain**

Lesson Six

Luke 2: 1, 3-7

Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

Anthem

**Mary Had a Baby
Gospel Choir**

arr. Roland Carter

Lesson Seven

Luke 2: 8-16

The Shepherds go to the manger.

Anthem

**Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow
Chancel and Gospel Choirs**

arr. Alice Parker

Lesson Eight

Matthew 2: 1-11

The Wise Men are led by the Star of Jesus.

Call to Offering

Prayer of Dedication

Anthem

**Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes
Chancel Choir**

Hal Hopson

Lesson Nine

John 1: 1-14

John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

***Carol AAHH #188**

**O Come, O Come Emmanuel
vv. 1,2,4**

***Charge and Blessing**

Postlude

Joy to the World

arr. Gilbert Martin

(The organ postlude is offered as an instrumental prayer. You are invited to remain seated; if you wish to depart, please do so quietly, remembering those who are still worshiping.)

Worship Leaders:

The Rev. Dakota Whitaker, Pastor/Head of Staff

Dalos Grobe, Chancel Choir Director/ Organist

Victor Boyd, Gospel Choir Director

The Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Downs, Liturgist

* Please stand as you are able.

Visit www.wcodetroit.org for the link to view our Sunday morning worship services on YouTube.

Today's Anthems

What Adam's Disobedience Cost

What Adam's disobedience cost, let Holy Scripture say: ourselves estranged, an Eden lost, and then a judgment day: each day a judgment day. An ark of mercy rode the flood but we, where waters swirled, rebuilt, impatient of the good, another fallen world: an unrepentant world. A little child is Adam's heir, is Adam's hope and Lord, sing joyful carols everywhere, that Eden is restored: in Jesus is restored. Regained is Adam's blessedness: the angels sheathe their swords: in joyful carols all confess the kingdom is the Lord's the glory is the Lord's! Renewed, restored, we look ahead to glimpse that glorious day when in the new Jerusalem all griefs will pass away. "Amen, Hallelujah!"

There Shall a Star from Jacob

There shall a star from Jacob come forth, and a scepter from Israel rise up, and dash in pieces princes and nations. As bright the star of morning gleams so Jesus sheddeth glorious beams of light and consolation! Thy Word, O Lord, radiance darting, truth imparting, gives salvation; thine be praise and adoration!

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Of the Father's love begotten
e're the worlds began to be
he is Alpha and Omega
he the source, the ending he.
Of the things that are that have been
and that future years shall see
evermore and evermore.

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming
from tender stem hath sprung,
of Jesse's lineage coming
as men of old have sung.
It came a flow'ret bright
amid the cold of winter
when half spent was the night.

Mary Had a Baby

Mary had a baby, Oh my Lord. Where was he born? Born in a manger low. What did they call Him? Some call Him one thing but I'll call Him another. Some say Immanuel. I'll call Him Sweet Little Jesus Boy. I'll Call him Jesus, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father. He's the prince of Peace. Mary had a baby, O my Lord.

Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow

There's a star in the East on Christmas morn, rise up, shepherd, and follow! It'll lead to the place where the Savior' born, rise up...Leave your sheep and leave your lambs, rise up... Leave your lives and leave your rams, rise up... Follow, follow! Rise up shepherd and follow! Follow the star of Bethlehem, rise up...If you take good heed to the angel's words, you'll forget your flock, you'll forget your herd! Follow, follow! Rise up and follow!

Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes

Thou shalt know Him when He comes, not by any din of drums, nor the manner of His airs, nor by anything He wears...Not by His crown or His gown, but His coming known shall be by the holy harmony which His coming makes in Thee.

Westminster Church of Detroit News

Thank you to all the Sewers!

This year at the Second Annual Mitten-a-thon, 320 pairs of mittens were made! 61 pairs went to the Mount Clemens Cairns Community Center and were distributed on December 9th along with their annual coat giveaway. The remaining 259 pairs of mittens will go to the children who are in Detroit Public Schools. We are so grateful to everyone who contributed their time and energy to make this happen including: Westminster Sewing Ministry Team Cindy Ruffino, Daryl Barton, Karole Sharpe, Kathy Kowalski, Tillie Taylor, Chris Gaither, Joanne White, Jan Calcaterra, Cathy Neall, Geri Kieley, Elizabeth Cooper, Angela Boone, Jayda Morton, Mary Robinson, and Laverne W. Greene. Mount Clemens Cairns Community Center Tuesday sewing class Cindy Ruffino, Karole Sharpe, Dorthy Sykes, Jean Dixon, Mary Kimbel, Marlon Ellis. Dearborn sewing Ladies, and Karen Stunkel.

2023 Donations End of Year Deadline

As we approach the end of the fiscal year, note that any final donations for 2023 should be received by the church no later than **07 January 2024** (and dated in 2023) to be recorded in 2023. Anything received after that deadline will be reflected in your 2024 statements.

Nametags for Sunday Mornings Are Back!

Before entering the sanctuary on Sunday morning, please remember to get your nametag, located in the narthex. Wearing a nametag is an invitation to have a conversation with other people. It also helps guests and newcomers to feel welcome and a part of our church community. If you do not see one with your name on it, please add your name to the list next to the nametag board and one will be made for you. Please return your nametag to the board before leaving at the end of the morning.

Wednesday Adult Bible Study

The Rev. Beth Downs leads this weekly Adult Bible study. This group meets faithfully every Wednesday from noon to 1:00pm, studying and discerning God's word. All are welcome to come and participate, either in person or by Zoom. The Zoom link can be found on the WCOD website: wcodetroit.org.

Westminster Church of Detroit Sewing Ministry Team

In the coming year, we will be working on new throw pillows for Worthington Lodge at Camp Westminster, flannel blankets for preemie babies, lap blankets for the elderly and shut ins, and of course a big quilt to donate to the Linus project. All are welcome to join us no matter what your skill level.

We have machines available to use or other helpful skills are needed such as sorting and cutting materials. Bring a sack lunch and join us for wonderful fellowship and lively discussions!

10:00am to 2:00 pm:

December 28, 2023

January 11th and 25th

February 8th& 22nd

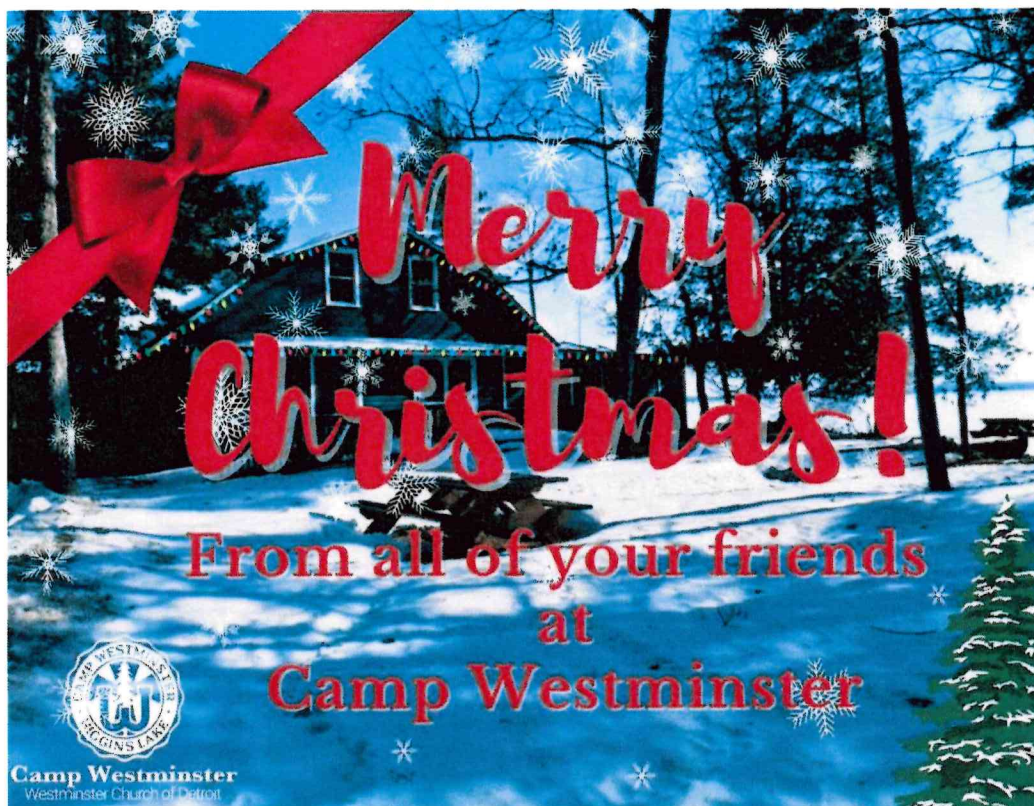
Pop Can Tabs for the Ronald MacDonald House of Detroit

As you enjoy cool drinks, please remember to pull the tabs and bring them to church. Removing the pull tab will not change any refund you are due. There is a large jar on the table by the church office where you can deposit them. Annette Trice, a member of our office staff, takes the tabs to the Ronald MacDonald House of Detroit, near the DMC. The donated tabs are used to purchase laundry supplies. Ronald MacDonald House provides residential space to families while their children recover from surgery.

POD Toilet Paper Drive

The Presbytery of Detroit is taking donations of single-wrapped toilet paper rolls. Their goal is 3 rolls per family for a total of 3900. If you would like to contribute, please bring them next time you come to WCOD. If you need further information, contact Unah at unah@detroitpresbytery.org or 313-345-6550 x207.

Camp Westminster News



Once in Royal David's City 140

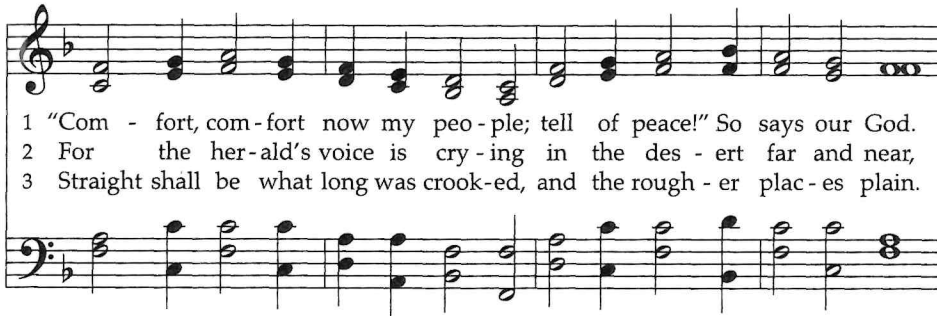
1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly
 2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and
 3 Je - sus is our child - hood's pat - tern; day by day like
 4 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re -

cat - tle shed, where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a
 Lord of all, and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his
 us he grew; he was lit - tle, weak and help - less; tears and
 deem - ing love; for that child so dear and gen - tle is our

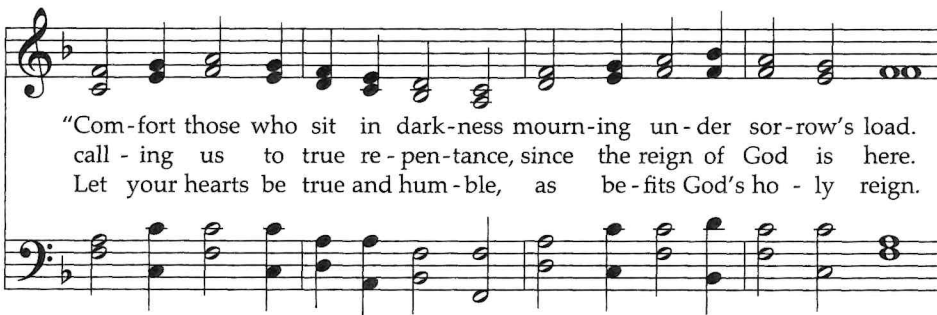
man - ger for his bed: Mar - y was that moth - er
 cra - dle was a stall; with the poor and meek and
 smiles like us he knew; and he feels for all our
 Lord in heaven a - bove; and he leads his chil - dren

mild; Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
 low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 sad - ness, and he shares in all our glad - ness.
 on to the place where he is gone.

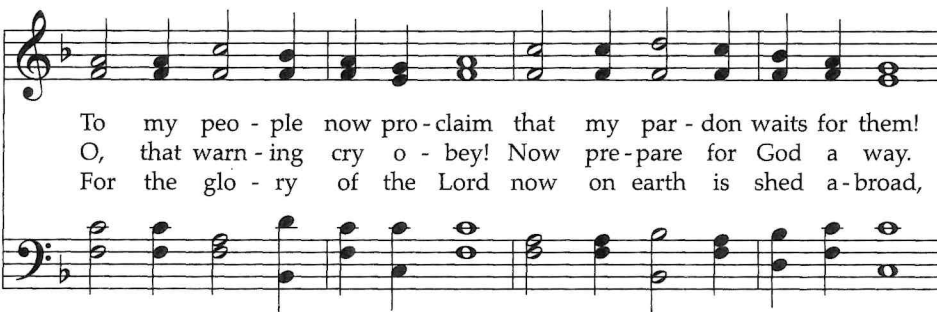
Comfort, Comfort Now My People 87



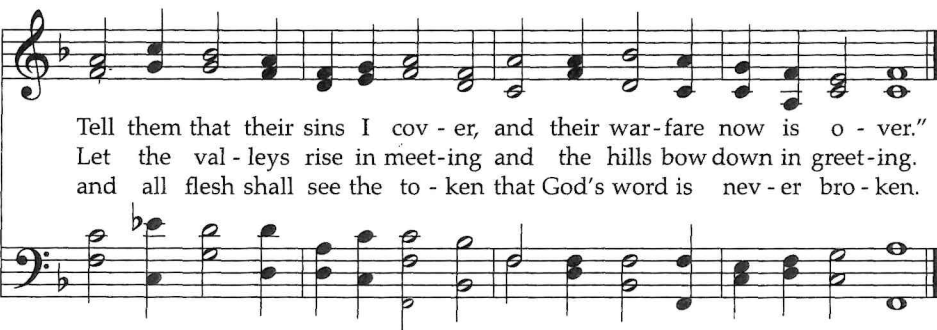
1 "Com - fort, com - fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.
 2 For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
 3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



"Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn - ing un - der sor - row's load.
 call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.
 Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits God's ho - ly reign.



To my peo - ple now pro - claim that my par - don waits for them!
 O, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.
 For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their sins I cov - er, and their war - fare now is o - ver."
 Let the val - leys rise in meet - ing and the hills bow down in greet - ing.
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

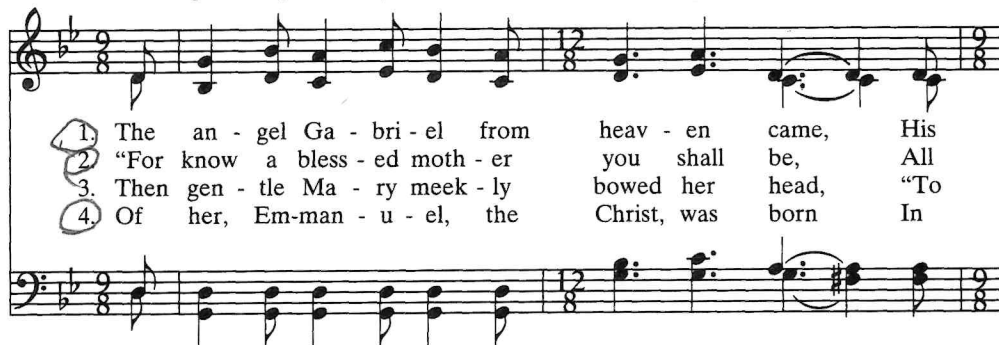
The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

GABRIEL'S MESSAGE 10.10.12.10

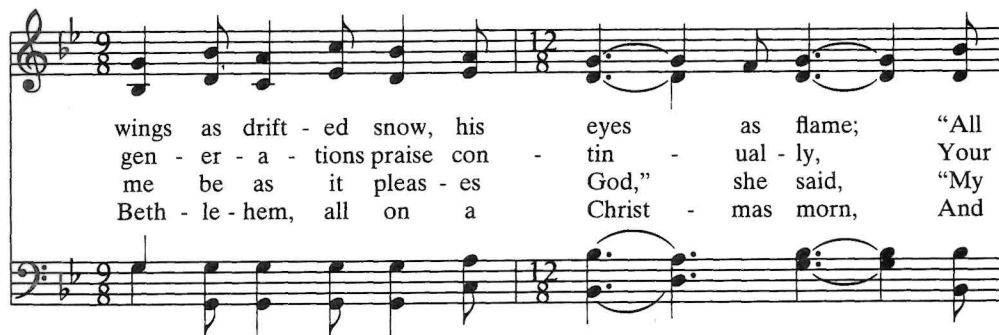
Basque carol

Para. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)

Arr. by Edgar Pettman and John Wickham



1. The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came, His
 2. "For know a bless - ed moth - er you shall be, All
 3. Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head, "To
 4. Of her, Em-man - u - el, the Christ, was born In



wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame; "All
 gen - er - a - tions praise con - tin - ual - ly, Your
 me be as it pleas - es God," she said, "My
 Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn, And



hail," said he, "O low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,"
 Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told." Most
 soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
 Chris - tian folk through-out the world will ev - er say:




high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!


188 O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

"...the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and they shall name Him Emmanuel," which means "God is with us."
Matthew 1:23



Unison




1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And
2. O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, And
3. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind All
4. O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer Our




ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el, That
or - der all things, far and nigh; To
peo - ples in one heart and mind; Bid
spir - its by Thine ad - vent here; Dis -

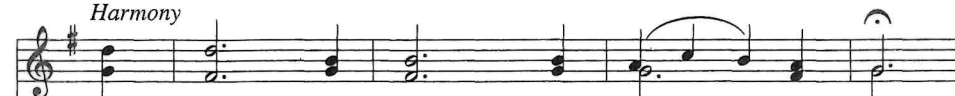
mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here Un -
us the path of knowl - edge show, And
en - vy, strife, and quar - rels cease; Fill
perse the gloom - y clouds of night, And



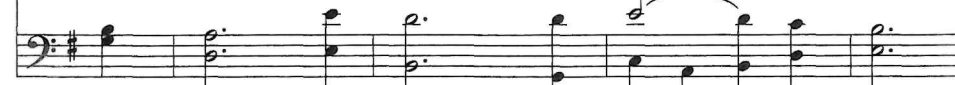


til the Son of God ap - pear.
cause us in her ways to go.
the whole world with heav - en's peace.
death's dark shad - ows put to flight.



Harmony



Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el

Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

