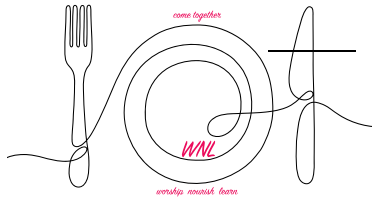


Wednesday Evening Worship • 5:30pm • December 6, 2023
St. John's United Church of Christ • 500 West Main Street • Lansdale, PA • 19446



You are invited to stand when indicated by an asterisk and speak the words in bold if able.

WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP AND ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING**

Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness.

Something is unfolding, something is emerging; a new birth is on the horizon.

Even if we can't yet see it, we sense it!

Yes, the world is about to turn! A new beginning is underway, and we are called to be hope-filled and ready!

We are choosing to center our lives around this light of Hope.

For in this light, we can see dawn peeking over the horizon.

We are able to feel the possibility of new life. What we long for will come to be.

Come let us worship in the light of hope!

Amen.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR ANTHEM

Will You Be Ready by Mark Patterson – Text on Reverse Side of Bulletin

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:39-55

REFLECTION

JOYS AND CONCERNS

HOLY COMMUNION

SHARING THE SACRED MEAL

Holy Communion is served by intinction. You are invited to take a piece of bread and dip it into a chalice of non-alcoholic grape juice. A gluten-free station is also available. All are welcome!

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father 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 debts as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

***SUNG BENEDICTION**

Now Bless the God of Israel – Music on Reverse Side of Bulletin

Offering for this service can be placed in the baskets by the door or can be given electronically by scanning the QR code below. Thank you for supporting St. John's United Church of Christ!



Worship Leaders: Rev. Addie Stong, Rev. Dale Davis, Andrew Paulson, and Members of the Congregation

WILL YOU BE READY

*People who walk in darkness have seen a great light.
The light will shine upon them; may it shine brightly tonight.*

*Will you be ready for the light, ready for the light to shine upon you?
Will you be ready for the light, ready for the light to shine?*

*Will you be watching? Will you be list'ning? Will you hear the angels sing?
Will you be waiting? Will you be searching for a Savior and a King?*

*Will you be ready for the light, ready for the light to shine upon you?
Will you be ready for the light, ready for the light to shine?*

*People keep watching, true light is coming, look for a bright star in the East.
Look for the Christ Child, born in a manger, there you will find the Prince of Peace.*

*Will you be ready for the light, ready for the light to shine upon you?
Will you be ready for the light, ready for the light to shine?*

*Will you be ready, ready for the light to shine?
Ready for the light to shine, shine? Will you be ready?*

Text: Mark Patterson, © 2002 Choristers Guild

NOW BLESS THE GOD OF ISRAEL

The musical score is written on four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, using mostly quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff ends with a repeat sign. The third staff ends with a double bar line, and the fourth staff ends with a double bar line.

In ten - der mer - cy, God will send the day - spring from on high,
our ris - ing sun, the light of life for those who sit and sigh.
God comes to guide our way to peace, that death shall reign no more.
Sing prais - es to the Ho - ly One! O wor - ship and a - dore!

Text: Ruth Duck, 1985, © 1992 GIA Publications
Tune: FOREST GREEN, Traditional English Melody