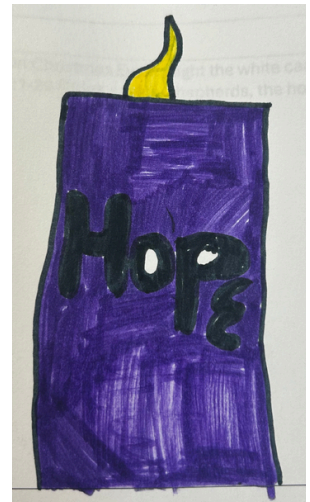
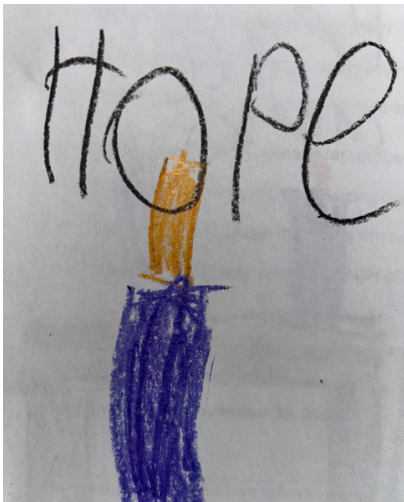




First Sunday of

Advent

Worthington Presbyterian Church
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
1st Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2025

10:00 AM

*Welcome! If your child did not get a Chrismon
when you were seated, please see an usher.*

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

**Please stand*

WELCOME

Nicholas Robison

Invitation to Mission & Discipleship *(Please sign & pass the Friendship Pads)*

Moment for Youth Ministries

Katie Becker

Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Please stand and greet one another in the Peace of Christ.

CALL TO WORSHIP

"He Comes To Us"

Gilbert M. Martin

IN MUSIC

Kim Anderson, organist

The music is a call to open one's spirit to God's presence in our midst.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

Brant, Megan, Eva, Emmett Leitnaker

The First Candle: Hope *(Based on Isaiah 2:2-5)*

(When you hear: "People of God,"

Please respond: "Live in the hope of the Lord.")

***HYMN #137**

"He Came Down"

He came down that we may have hope;

he came down that we may have hope;

he came down that we may have hope;

hallelujah forevermore.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(in unison)*

Loving God, thank you for your grace.

You have called us to walk with you, but we have not followed.

Forgive us when we ignore you and each other.

Have mercy on us and show us your way

so that we can learn to do your will.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

(Silent confession)

*Advent Congregational Response (#121, v. 4, "O Little Town of Bethlehem")
*O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!*

*Assurance of Pardon

*Advent Gloria (Refrain from #113, "Angels We Have Heard on High")
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

HANGING OF THE CHRISMONS

Annie Barner

The Crown; The World

*If you have a crown or a world Chrismon,
please put it on the tree during singing...*

HYMN #100 "My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout" (v.1)

The Lamb; The Star

*If you have a lamb or a star Chrismon
please put it on the tree during singing...*

HYMN #97 "Watchman, Tell Us of the Night" (v.1)

The Lamp; The Dove

*If you have a lamp or a dove Chrismon,
please put it on the tree now...*

HYMN #109 "Blest Be the God of Israel" (v.1)

The PAX; The Heart

*If you have a PAX, a heart, or ANY OTHER Chrismon,
please put it on the tree now...*

HYMN #93 "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" (v.3)

*Children will now go to the Advent Workshop in Fellowship Hall.
Youth will attend regular Sunday School.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

1st SCRIPTURE READING John 11:21-26

Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

ANTHEM *There Shall A Star from Jacob Come Forth* Felix Mendelssohn
The Chancel Choir
Russell Nagy, Director

*There shall a Star from Jacob come forth,
and a Sceptre from Israel rise up,
and dash in pieces Princes and Nations.*

*How brightly beams the morning star!
With sudden radiance from afar
with light and comfort glowing!*

*Thy Word, Jesus, only feeds us,
Rightly leads us, Life bestowing.
Praise, oh praise such love o'er flowing!*

2ND SCRIPTURE READING Ezekiel 37:1-14 Rev. Dr. Matt Reeves

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four

winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy and say to them: Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord."

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"The Hope in Our Bones"

Pastor Matt

***HYMN #88**

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (vv. 1, 2, 6 & 7)

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Matt

Sharing of Prayer Requests and Blessings

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (*in unison*)

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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Offertory

"Noel!"

Iris Ackenhusen

***ADVENT DOXOLOGY** (*Hymn #144, v. 4*)

*What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him: give my heart.*

***DEDICATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS**

You can give online by scanning the QR code or visiting bit.ly/engagewpc



GOING IN GOD'S NAME

***HYMN #106**

“Prepare the Way, O Zion”

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Pastor Matt

POSTLUDE

“Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord”

George Blake

*Please remain seated during the postlude as it is the final “Amen” to our worship.
Those who need to leave early are free to do so quietly.*

Join us downstairs in Fellowship Hall:
Coffee and treats • Sponsor-a-Family • Advent Devotionals • Family Advent Bags

Thank you to **Amy Lane, Claire Arthur and Elliot Bosse**
for their artwork on today's bulletin cover.

Introducing...



We are excited to share that WPC has been selected as a Partner Congregation for Child of Blessing, a new five-year initiative of the Presbyterian Association of Musicians, funded by the Lilly Endowment.

This project helps churches more fully include children in worship through workshops, new resources, and shared learning with other congregations across the country. Some elements of today's worship service, like the Prayer of Confession, come from this program. More than thirty churches are taking part, and we are excited to help pilot resources for the full liturgical year.

Watch for opportunities to get involved as we grow together in the joy of worship for all ages.