

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you have not picked up your 2012 contribution envelopes please pick them up in the commons. Please do not use your new envelopes until the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of January 2012. Offering envelopes are very important for tracking your contributions to EPC. Please use your new account number and discard your old 2011 envelopes at year end.

**On January 8, the Session will begin preparing the 2012 Program Budget for EPC.** Please, if you have not informed the church of your intended financial commitment for 2012 please use one of the pledge cards located in the Commons. Your support empowers the ministry of EPC! Thank You!

**The Church Office will be closed** during Christmas and New Years from December 26<sup>th</sup> through January 3<sup>rd</sup>. During this time the floors are scheduled to be refinished. Cleaning will be from the 28<sup>th</sup> through the 30<sup>th</sup>. We are being asked to avoid walking on the floors until the wax has had time to cure. The church will be available for use on Saturday afternoon December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Join us for worship on Sunday, January 1, 2012 at 10:30 AM.

## CHURCH STAFF

Stephen R. Vance <a href="mailto:svance@eastminster.com">svance@eastminster.com</a>	Interim Pastor
Steven Putnam <a href="mailto:steven@eastminster.com">steven@eastminster.com</a>	Director of Christian Education
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# EASTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Christmas Day, 2011

## The Christmas Spirit

is that hope  
which tenaciously clings  
to the hearts of the faithful  
and announces  
in the face  
of any Herod the world can produce  
and all the inn doors slammed in our  
faces  
and all the dark nights of our souls  
that with God  
all things are still possible,  
that even now  
unto us  
a Child is born!

Ann Weems, Kneeling in Bethlehem  
Westminster Press, 1980

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# ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

*Christmas Day, 2011*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

COMMENTARY ON SCRIPTURE

Stephen R. Vance

\* DECLARATION OF FAITH

*A Declaration of Faith 1977*

**We affirm that Jesus was born of woman  
as is every child,  
yet born of God's power  
as was no other child.**

**In the person and work of Jesus,  
God himself and a human life  
are united but not confused,  
distinguished but not separated.**

**The coming of Jesus was itself  
the coming of God's promised rule.**

**Through his birth, life, death, and resurrection,  
he brings about the relationship between God and  
humanity that God always intended.**

THE OFFERING OF THE PEOPLE

Call for the Offering & Prayer of Dedication

Musical Offering:

MORNING PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

\* CAROL #29 "Go Tell it on the Mountain"

*GO TELL IT*

\* BENEDICTION

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

CAROL #28 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!"

*IN DULCI JUBILO*

\* POSTLUDE

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS & CONCERNS

PRELUDE

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

*Isaiah 9:6*

Leader: A child has born to us

**People: A son given to us;**

Leader: Authority rests upon his shoulders and he is named:

**People: Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God  
Everlasting Father  
Prince of Peace**

Leader: With joyous thanksgiving, let us worship God!!

\* CAROL #22 "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

*REGENT SQUARE*

PRAYER OF PRAISE

**All glory to you, great God, for the gift of your Son, whom you  
sent to save us. With singing angels, we praise your name and  
with our voices proclaim to all the earth his story; that all  
may believe, rejoice, and acknowledge your love, through the  
gift of one whose birth we celebrate today: Jesus Christ our  
Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy  
Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

\* CAROL #31 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

*MENDELSSOHN*

TIME WITH CHILDREN

*SUSAN CARLSON*

\* CAROL #25 "Away in a Manger"

*MUELLER*