









# CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP Tuesday, December 24 • 4 pm

Celebrate the birth of Christ at Westover in a candlelight service. We will present "Worship The King – A Majestic Celebration" in word and song. Invite someone to join you!

### **YEAR-END GIVING**

To receive tax credit in 2024, contributions must be received in the office, postmarked or initiated online before midnight on December 31, 2024. Thank you for your generous support of Westover.

#### **HELP FIGHT HUNGER!**

Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC) provides free weekly supplemental groceries to Arlington residents in need. Help AFAC's mission to feed our neighbors in need by providing dignified access to nutritious supplemental groceries. You are encouraged to bring non-perishable items with you and place in the provided bins.

#### **TODAY'S GUEST SPEAKER**

Today, we welcome Rev. Dr. Donald J. Kelly, a native of Louisiana, as our guest speaker. Dr. Kelly was the founder and pastor of Olive Branch Community Church, retiring earlier this year. He has served a number of churches in ministerial roles. Dr. Kelly is a veteran of the US Marines and retired from a career in the FBI. He received a Doctorate of Ministry from Newburgh Theological Seminary and a Masters of Arts in Theology from Fuller Theological Seminary. He holds a bachelors and masters degree from Idaho State University. He and his wife Brenda have four daughters and five grandchildren.

### **Westover Baptist Church**

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www.westoverbaptist.org

# Westover Baptist Church December 15, 2024

**Prelude** "Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light" – arr. Schop Alma O Sanford, Minister of Music

**Chimes** 

Welcome Ed Koch, Administrator

**\*Hymn 85** "The First Nowell" (v. 1,2,4)

Advent Litany "The Candle of Joy" The Wong Family

\*Hymn 88 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

**Announcements** Administrator

Congregational Prayer Lia Farrington

Interlude & "Away in a Manger" – arr. Larson
Silent Prayer Minister of Music

\*Hymn 93 "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" (V. 1,2,4)

**Sermon** "Be United Joyful, In Prayer"

"Now I appeal to Euodia and Syntyche. Please, because you belong to the Lord, settle your disagreement. And I ask you, my true partner, to help these two women, for they worked hard with me in telling others the Good News. They worked along with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are written in the Book of Life. Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice! Let everyone see that you are considerate in all you do. Remember, the Lord is coming soon. Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you."

Philippians 4:2-9 NLT

Rev. Dr. Donald Kelly, Guest Speaker

**Invitation** Dr. Kelly

During the Invitation hymn, you are invited to come forward to make a commitment to follow Jesus Christ as your Savior. You may also decide to become a member of this congregation of Christ's church.

\*Invitation Hymn 321

"The Savior Is Waiting"

**Benediction** Dr. Kelly

**Postlude**"Joy to the World" – arr. Larson
Minister of Music

# Welcome to Worship at Westover Baptist Church! We invite our quests to complete the online quest form

to let us know you joined us for worship today.

We are thankful you came to join with us in our worship time today,

We hope that you have felt God's love in a new refreshing way,

For you are welcome in this place, and we hope you will come again,

To join with us in fellowship, and to make some special friends.

## **Prayer Requests**

We want to pray with you. Please share your joys, cares and concerns by email to **church@westoverbaptist.org** or through the Prayer menu on our home page.

## The Candle of Joy

**Reader:** On this third Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of Joy. This candle adds its light to the light of hope and the light of peace. We continue to anticipate with joy the coming of the Christ Child. Have we made room for his coming?

**All:** Will you come to our world, God? Will you come with joy? For we have too much seriousness, not enough laughter; too many expectations, not enough celebration; too many words, not enough singing. O come, O come Emmanuel. When you come, bring joy!

**Reader:** O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things. Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

**All:** Joy to the earth the Savior reigns. Repeat the sounding joy! God, today remove from my heart any obstacles that are keeping you from making yourself known through me. I want to tell your story with great joy.

**Reader:** Lord, set us free from boring religion. Restore the joy of our salvation so that we may readily share what you are doing in our lives here and now.

### Silent Prayer

**Reader:** God, make our hearts truly glad. Our souls rejoice in you. Amen.