



We hope you received Walnut Hill Church's Stewardship 2026 letter and Estimate of Giving card. We kindly ask that you return your Estimate of Giving card to the basket on the altar within the next few Sundays. Thank you for your kindness, your generosity, and the countless visible and invisible ways each of you supports our church family. We are truly grateful!



DONATE ANYTIME, ANYWHERE!

You can now scan the QR code at left with your phone using your camera app to access our **WHC Giving Page!** From there, you can select a number of causes to donate to including our Backpack Ministry, Building, and General Offerings Funds. *Not sure you can be here every Sunday?* You can also set up weekly and monthly giving using this QR! See or contact Jessica with any questions.

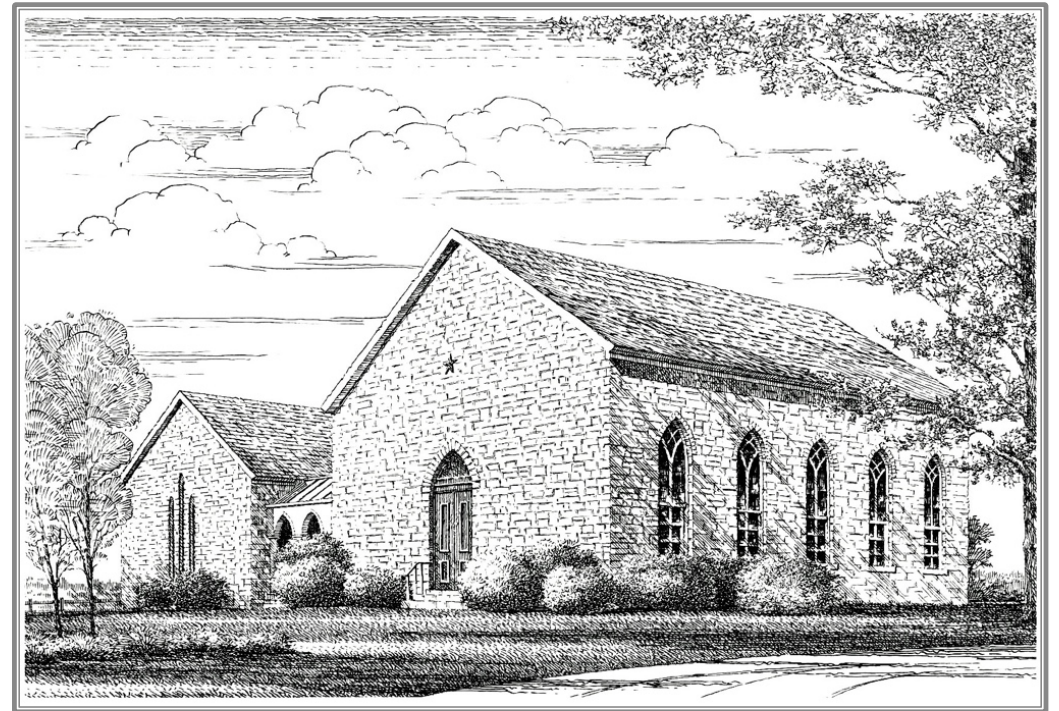


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Order of Worship Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025



Pen + ink drawing by WHC member, Phil Bloomfield, 2010

Walnut Hill Church

A welcoming ecumenical congregation embodying the gospel of Jesus Christ, serving the community at large, and the world through worship, education, fellowship, and partnership outreach.

GATHERING

Greetings & Announcements

Prelude

Creator of the Stars at Night
Ancient Plainsong Chant

Dr. Angela Hurley

*Hymn #9

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Call to Worship

(adapted from Deuteronomy 31:3 and Matthew 28:20)

Come, all who feel alone, forgotten, or unsure. God is here—faithful in every moment.

Come all who rejoice and give thanks—God rejoices with us and receives our praise.

In all seasons, through all things, we worship the One who never leaves us.

Let us now worship and praise our faithful God!

Invocation

Prayer of Confession

Our gracious God, we confess that we so often fix our eyes on the troubles of this world rather than in your eternal hope. As a result, we doubt you and your promises. Forgive us, Lord, for focusing only on what we can see on this side of eternity. Empower us instead to trust you, walk by faith, and rest confidently in your grace daily. We pray this in the merciful name of you Son, Jesus Christ. Silent Confession. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

(from Titus 3:5, 6)

God saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit, who God poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Friends believe the Good News and be glad; in Christ our sins are forgiven. Amen!

Hymn #510

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

WORD

Scripture: Luke 1:25-45

The Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Nativity
A Promise Fulfilled

Rev. Shawn Barkley

RESPONDING

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

Offering

Longing for Light in the Darkness
Choir

Dr. Angela Hurley

*Doxology

(The Worship Book, p. 4) and Prayer of Dedication

CELEBRATING

Eucharistic Prayer

(The Worship Book, p. 56)

Sharing the Sacrament

Prayer

SENDING

*Hymn #8

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

*Benediction

Postlude

Variation on Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates
Jerry Westenkuehler, arr. | American (b. 1966)

Dr. Angela Hurley

*Please rise in body or in spirit.