

**Wilshire**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

**November 24, 2024**  
*Christ the King Sunday*

# Preparing for worship

Today, Christ the King Sunday, is the last Sunday of the church year. This is also Thanksgiving week, and next Sunday will mark the beginning of Advent. And so begins the holiday season. How are you feeling about this time of year? Calm, peaceful, thankful and happily rejoicing? Maybe frazzled and wondering how you can get everything done? Or you might be feeling lonely, empty and wondering whether you have the strength to make it through these days. Are you feeling grateful, or would grumpy be a better description?

Years ago, my job involved supervising a large team, and we were going through a challenging time. Grumpiness and discontent were commonplace, and I was trying to find a way to get us back on track. I stumbled upon some research indicating it was almost impossible to be grumpy and grateful at the same time. After sharing that nugget of wisdom with my team, I don't recall any miraculous changes in anyone's attitude except mine. Even now the phrase seems to suddenly float through my mind on the days when

the challenges of life seem insurmountable.

Gratitude is easy when everything is going well, but the challenge comes when the world seems to be spinning out of control and nothing feels right. Becoming a grateful person takes effort and practice. For people of faith, practicing gratitude can be a spiritual discipline.

As our time of worship begins today, take a deep breath, sit quietly and begin to focus on those things for which you can express gratitude. Let's start with the things that do not change. Psalm 93 reminds us of the eternal attributes of God — strength, majesty, power, holiness. Our hymns remind us of God's unfailing love, generosity, mercies and grace. And we are reminded that in this broken world, Christ still reigns as the King.

The good news for all of us is whether we're grateful or grumpy, God is here with us, knowing our weaknesses, understanding our emotions and reminding us we are loved. For that, we are truly grateful.

—LeAnn Hampton



4316 Abrams Road | Dallas, Texas 75214 | 214-452-3100 | [wilshirebc.org](http://wilshirebc.org)

*Building a Community of Faith Shaped by the Spirit of Jesus Christ*

Partnered with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

Member, Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists

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**On the cover:** *Pantocrator*, Nathan Simpson.

**November 24, 2024**  
11:00 a.m.  
Christ the King Sunday

**Chiming of the Hour**

We gather in community this morning to worship God.  
To help center our focus in worship, please silence all electronic devices.

**Welcome to Worshipers**

Kelly Akins

**Prelude**

*Jesus Shall Reign*  
Carillon Ringers  
Ralph Manuel, director

arr. Arnold B. Sherman

**Opening Sentences**

Anne Foster

In a world where we cling to our own agendas, striving to rule ourselves, where leaders often exploit, abuse and terrorize those they are called to serve, and where fame is exalted and the kings and queens of pop are idolized over Jesus as king, we find ourselves longing for something greater. May we see Jesus as the king he truly is — a king of justice, righteousness, hope, love, peace, mercy and grace for all. Let us lay down our own agendas and live faithfully as his kingdom people, shining his light in these challenging times.

**+Congregational Song**

*Rejoice, the Lord Is King*  
No. 215

DARWALL

**Psalm Reading — Psalm 93**

Valerie Lott

The LORD is king; God is robed in majesty;  
the LORD is robed; God is girded with strength.  
The LORD has established the world; it shall never be moved;  
your throne is established from of old;  
you are from everlasting.

The floods have lifted up, O LORD,  
the floods have lifted up their voice;  
the floods lift up their roaring.  
More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters,  
more majestic than the waves of the sea,  
majestic on high is the LORD!

Your decrees are very sure;  
holiness befits your house,  
O LORD, forevermore.

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+All congregants are invited to stand in body or spirit.  
Hearing devices are available in the Narthex and South Atrium.

Offertory

A Quiet Heart  
Carillon Ringers

Karen L. Buckwalter

+Gospel Reading — John 18:33–37

Carter Adcox

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” Jesus answered, “My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

For the Word of God in Scripture,  
For the Word of God among us,  
And for the Word of God within us,  
**Thanks be to God!**

+Congregational Song

*O God Beyond All Praising*  
No. 366

THAXTED

Message

“The Reign of Christ”

Timothy Peoples

Anthem

*Ride On, King Jesus!*  
Sarah Navy, solo

arr. Harry T. Burleigh

Ride on, King Jesus! No man can-a hinder me,  
Ride on, King Jesus, ride on! No man can-a hinder me.  
I was but young when I begun, no man can-a hinder me;  
But now my race is almost done, no man can-a hinder me.  
King Jesus rides a milk-white horse, no man can-a hinder me.  
The river of Jordan he did cross, no man can-a hinder me,  
Ride! Ride! Ride!

Prayers of the People

Heather Mustain

Silence

We pause in silence to reflect and to be attentive to the Spirit of God.

The 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 sins,  
As we forgive those who sin against us;  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory forever. Amen.**

+Congregational Song

*Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*  
No. 372

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

Sharing of Decisions

Timothy Peoples

Benediction

Timothy Peoples

Postlude

*Toccata on "Rejoice, the Lord Is King"*

arr. Gordon Young

Cindy Fuller, guest organist

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## Meet today's worship leaders

**Carter Adcox** grew up at Wilshire. His parents are Abbey and Chris Adcox, and his siblings are Camryn and Collin. Carter graduated in May from Vanderbilt University, where he majored in economics and art history. He works for Heritage Auctions as an operations assistant and attends Wilshire's Intersection Class.

**Anne Foster** and her husband, John, joined Wilshire in 2022. They have two adult sons and three grandchildren. Anne is a member of Epiphany Class, teaches second grade Sunday School and serves on the Christian Advocacy Committee and the Lord's Supper Ministry Team. A realtor, Anne served nine years on the Richardson Independent School District Board of Trustees.

**Valerie Lott** is married to Senior Pastor Timothy Peoples and joined Wilshire in January 2023. Valerie practices law in the Dallas office of a national law firm. At Wilshire, she teaches two-year-olds in Sunday School and will begin service on the Preschool Education Committee next year.

**Sarah Navy** is in her third year as a Wilshire choral scholar. A Houston native, she is a student at SMU's Meadows School of the Arts, where she earned a master's degree in voice performance this year and is now pursuing a performance diploma. Sarah is also in her third year performing as an Education Outreach Artist with the Dallas Opera.



**We're glad you're here.** If you're a guest today and would like to let us know, please scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to access our online response card. You can also scan the code to make a financial contribution or submit a prayer request. Response cards and offering envelopes are available in the pew racks and can be placed in the offering plate or offering boxes.

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# Staff contacts

**Phone numbers:** 214-452- followed by extension shown below. **Email addresses:** first letter of first name and full last name followed by @wilshirebc.org (example: tpeoples@wilshirebc.org). Staff members with phone extensions have Wilshire email addresses.

## Communications

- Mark McKenzie, Communications Director (3169)

## Congregational Care

- Barbara Clayton, Pastoral Care Assistant (3125)
- Linda Garner, Parish Nurse (3151)
- Carolyn Murray, Coordinator of Congregational Life (3170)
- Heather Mustain, Associate Pastor (3110)

## Early Childhood Learning Center

- Carole McClung, ECLC Administrative Assistant (3115)
- Ramona Randle, ECLC Director (3140)

## Finance

- Lori Gooden, Director of Finance (3131)

## Food Services

- Haley Garcia, Food Service Director (3117)
- Luke Munion, Food Service Staff
- Gillian Tinsley, Food Service Staff
- Wilfredo Velasquez-Cruz, Food Service Staff

## Hospitality and Facilities

- Maricela Escutia, Facilities Supervisor
- Holly Irvin, Director of Hospitality (3150)
- Daniel Latin, Facilities
- Leticia Medina, Facilities
- Rachel Oney, Receptionist (3165)
- Kevin Sierra, Facilities
- Leticia Vega, Facilities

## Missions and Advocacy

- Abbey Adcox, Missions and Advocacy Coordinator (3127)
- Heather Mustain, Associate Pastor (3110)

## Music and Worship

- Jeff Brummel, Associate Minister of Music/Organist (3122)
- Carol Cabaniss, Music and Worship Coordinator (3106)
- Shana Gaines, Wilshire Winds Director (3163)
- Ralph Manuel, Handbell Coordinator (3161)
- Candy McComb, Children's Choir Coordinator (3124)
- Ariel Merivil, Minister of Music (3135)

## Operations and Technology

- Rene Altamirano, Maintenance Technician
- Bryant Greer, Building Operations Manager (3146)
- Jim Tapley, Audio and Video Coordinator

## Pathways to Ministry

- Debby Burton, Pathways to Ministry Assistant (3158)
- Charlie Fuller, Pathways to Ministry Director and Coach in Residence (3123)
- George Mason, Senior Pastor Emeritus and Pathways to Ministry Alumni Director (3133)
- Georgia McKee, Pastoral Resident (3152)
- Maggie Morey, Pastoral Resident (3153)

## Senior Pastor

- Chelsea Hopkins, Executive Assistant (3132)
- Geri McKenzie, Executive Director of Administration (3159)
- Timothy Peoples, Senior Pastor (3132)

## Spiritual Formation

- Kelly Akins, Minister to Preschoolers (3139)
- Becky Bridges, Spiritual Formation Coordinator (3130)
- Darren DeMent, Associate Pastor (3102)
- Julie Girards, Minister to Children (3104)
- Katie Murray, Minister to Senior Adults (3129)
- Barbara Peterson, Librarian (3114)

# Tapestry



News & Announcements  
November 24, 2024

## Condolences to

■ **Jeri Baker** on the death of her sister, Judy Talkington, Nov. 15.

■ **Ann Marie and Mark Mihm and Jackson Mihm** on the death of their son and brother, **Spencer Mihm**.

## Preschool Playtime tomorrow



Preschoolers and their families are invited to a Preschool Playtime on Monday, Nov. 25, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Join Minister to Preschoolers Kelly Akins in the Multipurpose

Room for a fun time of building and art.

## Poinsettia orders due Dec. 1

Help decorate the Sanctuary for Advent by ordering a poinsettia in honor or in memory of a loved one. Dedications will be listed in the Dec. 8 worship folder. Each plant costs \$14, and donors may take them home after Christmas Eve services. Order by Dec. 1 in the church office or online at [wilshirebc.org/poinsettias](http://wilshirebc.org/poinsettias).



## Next Lunch & Learn is Dec. 4

All are invited the first and third Wednesdays every month for lunch (\$10 ea.) and Bible study. On Dec. 4, Associate Pastor Heather Mustain will teach on 2 Samuel 11-12. See the fall schedule at [wilshirebc.org/events/lunch-learn](http://wilshirebc.org/events/lunch-learn).

# Film screening set for Dec. 2

Wilshire members and guests are invited to the Angelika Film Center for a special screening of the documentary *Rising Hope* on Monday, Dec. 2, at 7 p.m. The film will be followed by a Q&A with director



Theo Avgerinos and Jason Coker, president of Together for Hope, a nonprofit agency featured in the film. Jason is a former minister of missions at Wilshire.

*Rising Hope* ([risinghopefilm.com](http://risinghopefilm.com)) tells the story of a Mississippi Delta community where hope survives despite generational poverty. The Oxford Film Festival called it an “elegant tapestry of human experience” and “a moving exploration of what can be from the people who believe it will be.” The film has won awards at festivals in Washington, D.C., San Francisco and Mississippi.

Admission is donation-based, with a suggested donation of \$10. Space is limited. Scan the QR code or visit [givebutter.com/RisingHopeDallas](http://givebutter.com/RisingHopeDallas) to RSVP.



**Sundays:** Worship at 11 a.m. Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Our service livestreams at [youtube.com/wilshirebaptist](http://youtube.com/wilshirebaptist) and at [wilshirebc.org/worship/livestream](http://wilshirebc.org/worship/livestream). Keep up with Wilshire by subscribing to our YouTube channel and following us on Facebook and Instagram.





**ADVENT 2024**

*Like the shepherds who kept watch over their flock, we too want to keep watch this Advent season. In a time when our public life feels polarized and uncertain, how do we keep watch for one another? As we move through the weeks of Advent, is it possible for us to keep watch for moments of hope, joy, peace and love? In this season of great anticipation, may the eyes of our hearts be open as we keep watch for God's continual love and presence to us and the world. [wilshirebc.org/advent](http://wilshirebc.org/advent)*



# Advent begins next Sunday, Dec. 1

## Sign up kids to build nativity

Children are invited to help build the Sanctuary nativity scene by carrying elements to the chancel at the start of worship. We'll begin Dec. 1 and build the scene week by week until it is complete at the 4 p.m. Christmas Eve service. Sign up at [wilshirebc.org/nativity](http://wilshirebc.org/nativity).

## Visit the Giving Tree

Select a tag from the Giving Tree in James Gallery and fulfill a Christmas wish for a child or adult served by one of our local mission partners. Due dates vary by agency. Scan your tag's QR code and we'll send you a due-date reminder. We also have a **Virtual Giving Tree**; find the link at [wilshirebc.org/giving-tree](http://wilshirebc.org/giving-tree).

## Advent book study

All are invited to participate as we collectively read *Calling All Angels: an Advent Study of Fearlessness and Strength* by Erin Wathen. The book examines four angelic encounters that began with the same refrain, "do not be afraid," and challenges readers to apply this timeless message to our lives today. The book is available to purchase from major book retailers.

■ On Sundays from 9 to 9:45 a.m., Darren Dement and Katie Murray will lead a **discussion group** on the book in 1205-G. Starts Dec. 1.

■ Many **Sunday School** classes, including Youth, will study the book during Advent.

■ A **family study guide** will be available for parents to use with children. Pick up a copy in the main office or near the north entrance.

## Give a Hope Box for Christmas

Give a unique gift and support a Wilshire mission partner with a Hope Box from Together for Hope, which fights rural poverty through education, health, housing and social enterprise. Each box contains culinary products produced by TFH partners. Purchase at [koinoniafarmstore.com/together-for-hope-box](http://koinoniafarmstore.com/together-for-hope-box).

## Celebration of the Green

**Sunday, Dec. 8 | 6:30 p.m. | Sanctuary** | In this annual favorite event, themed *Comfort! Comfort Now, My People. Tell of Peace!*, the Christmas story will come alive through music and narration, offering a timeless message of peace and the assurance that "all will be well." Featuring Wilshire Winds, Carillon Ringers, Children's Choir, Youth Choir, Shekinah, Nova and Sanctuary Choir. A reception will follow.

## Adventurers lights tour

**Tuesday, Dec. 10 | 6 p.m.** | Join the Wilshire Adventurers for a guided bus tour of Christmas lights in Highland Park. \$40 per person. Register at [wilshirebc.org/events/christmas-lights](http://wilshirebc.org/events/christmas-lights). Adventurers is a fellowship group for those 60 and above.

## Christmas pageant

**Wednesday, Dec. 11 | 6 p.m. | Sanctuary** | Kindergarten, Pre-K and 3-Year-Old choirs will be in costume as they sing and act out the Nativity. Join us after the program for cookies and cocoa in James Gallery.

## Parents Night Out

**Friday, Dec. 13 | 6:30 p.m.** | Wilshire will offer free childcare (infants–grade 5) on the night many adult classes have Christmas parties. Space is limited. Register at [wilshirebc.org/events/pno-dec13](http://wilshirebc.org/events/pno-dec13) by Dec. 8.

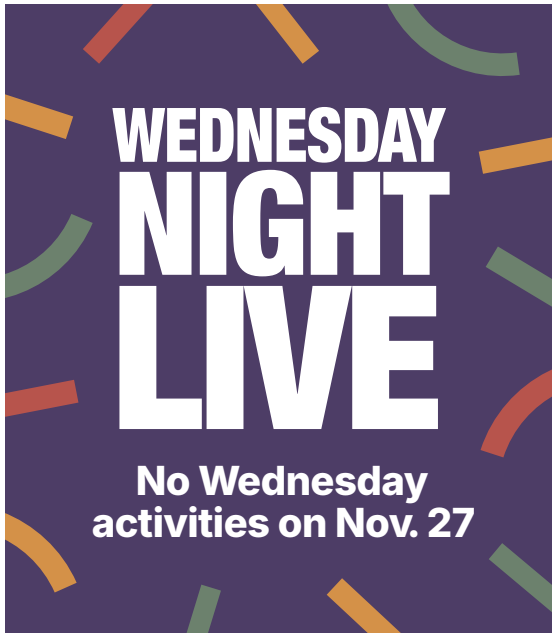
## Christmas Eve

**Tuesday, Dec. 24**

■ 4 p.m. Christmas Eve family service. Suitable for all ages.

■ 11 p.m. Christmas Eve liturgical service. Includes celebration of the Lord's Supper.

**Note:** No Sunday School (worship only) on Sunday, Dec. 29.



### **Advent Vespers on Dec. 4**

Resident-Led Vespers at 6 p.m. in McIver Chapel will take the form of a Moravian Lovefeast, a traditional service of music and readings with no homily.

### **Christmas Pageant on Dec. 11**

The final Wednesday Night Live before a holiday break will feature the preschool Christmas Pageant at 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary. A reception will follow in James Gallery.

### **WNL: Virtual Edition on Dec. 11**

Those who engage with Wilshire primarily online are invited to a Zoom session led by Associate Pastor Darren DeMent on Dec. 11 at 6 p.m. Central. The link will be posted at [wilshirebc.org/events/wnl-virtual](http://wilshirebc.org/events/wnl-virtual) closer to the event.

### **Holiday break**

No Wednesday Night Live on Dec. 18, Dec. 25 or Jan. 1. WNL resumes Jan. 8.

## **Women of Wilshire**

■ **Brown Bag Book Club** | Dec. 5 | Noon | 1205-L | *Good Night, Irene* by Luis Alberto Urrea. Contact: Carolyn Murray ([cmurray@wilshirebc.org](mailto:cmurray@wilshirebc.org))

■ **Tuesday Evening Book Club** | Dec. 10 | 6:30 p.m. | Parlor | *The Deal of a Lifetime* by Fredrik Backman. Contact: Debby Burton ([dburton@wilshirebc.org](mailto:dburton@wilshirebc.org))

■ **Take a Hike: Holiday Edition** | Dec. 14 | 8:30 a.m. | NorthPark Center | Loop the mall and then grab breakfast.

## **Wilshire kitchen is hiring**

Over the past few months, Wilshire staff have thought through food service staffing needs to ensure that we are able to provide a meaningful fellowship experience for members and guests when the kitchen is used. To that end, the church is seeking applicants for three food service positions: a full-time sous chef, a part-time prep cook and a part-time floater position. See the job descriptions and application instructions at [wilshirebc.org/employment](http://wilshirebc.org/employment) and contact Food Service Director Haley Robinson Garcia ([hrobinson@wilshirebc.org](mailto:hrobinson@wilshirebc.org)).

## **Pop-up mission project on Dec. 4**

If you're in the building on Wednesday, Dec. 4, stop by the tables in James Gallery and spend a few minutes assembling Holiday cutlery packs for mission partner Cornerstone Baptist Church's Community Kitchen. Supplies will be available from noon to 7:45 p.m. Contact: Abbey Adcox ([aadcox@wilshirebc.org](mailto:aadcox@wilshirebc.org))

## **Wilshire Welcome is Dec. 8**

Wilshire Welcome, a one-hour session to help guests and new members learn more about the church, will meet Sunday, Dec. 8, at 9:45 a.m. in the Prayer Room near the chapel. Contact: Carolyn Murray ([cmurray@wilshirebc.org](mailto:cmurray@wilshirebc.org))

# Ralph Long

**Hometown:** Union, Mississippi  
**Present City:** Dallas  
**Education:** B.F.A. and M.S. from the University of North Texas  
**Profession:** College professor (retired)

## **Tell us about your family.**

I am the youngest of nine children. I am a “P.K.” My wife, Linda, a longtime Wilshire member, died in 2016. I am father to “Scooter,” who was born with multiple disabilities. I am a stepfather, grandfather and great-grandfather. These facts have molded me into the person I am today.

## **Any favorite hobbies?**

I am an avid “junker.” I enjoy searching for treasures in resale and thrift stores, estate sales and the like.

## **What are your favorite places to travel?**

If the destination includes warm sun, sea and sand and a frozen adult beverage, I am in! I enjoy traveling in Italy. The island of Ischia ranks as a favorite sun, sea, sand destination. Grand Cayman, Cozumel and Puerto Vallarta make the list as well.

## **What brought you to Wilshire and when?**

My wife brought me to Wilshire. I joke that I became Baptist by marriage. We were married in McIver Chapel in 1981.

## **Where are you engaged at Wilshire?**

I am a member of Open Bible Class. My fellow members are extended family, and I am blessed to have their love, acceptance and support. I have been crowned the eternal social director, and I occasionally teach.



## **What has surprised you most about Wilshire?**

I prefer the word pleased rather than surprised. I am pleased that the words “Be you. Belong.” aren’t simply words printed on the banner outside the church, but are words proclaimed on the chancel inside the church. The fact that your original baptism, your sexual orientation, your political affiliation, your race, your gender, et. al. is not de facto exclusionary is refreshing.

## **What do you think God is up to in your life right now?**

God is letting me know that who I am and where I am at this stage of my life is something that can be woven into the tapestry that makes up Wilshire.

## **Tell us about your faith journey.**

Born and reared a Pentecostal preacher’s kid, I toyed with atheism, agnosticism and skepticism. Finding Wilshire gave me a spiritual family, a place of acceptance and the gift to spiritually live and grow in the love and grace of God.

## **What is something interesting most people would not know about you?**

I am, at my core, an introvert. The Myers-Briggs shows me as an INFP with a decidedly strong “I.”

## **What adjectives best describe you?**

Accepting, giving, creative, loyal, protector, fighter.

# THANK YOU FOR GIVING

*Your gifts are changing lives inside and outside our walls. Here are some ways to make a financial contribution to Wilshire.*

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**ONLINE.** Set up a recurring or one-time gift charged to your debit or credit card or as an ACH from your checking account. Get started at [wilshirebc.org/give](http://wilshirebc.org/give).

**REALM CONNECT APP.** Easily make gifts and see past giving on your mobile device. Available at your device's app store. Find download links at [wilshirebc.org/realm](http://wilshirebc.org/realm).

**AUTOMATIC BANK PAY.** Visit your bank's website and set up Wilshire as a payee. The bank will send the church a check.

**MAIL.** Send to Finance Director Lori Gooden's attention at Wilshire.

**TEXT.** Text WILSHIRE and a dollar amount (ex: WILSHIRE 50) to 73256.

**DONATE STOCKS.** Contact Lori to learn how to donate appreciated stocks.

**FROM YOUR IRA.** For those over 70.5 years old, tax-free IRA gifts offer a financial benefit and may reduce future tax burdens.



Scan code with your smartphone camera to make an electronic contribution.

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At Wilshire, we use a one-fund approach to giving called the Unified Budget. Your gifts support the basic mission, ministry and operations of the church. Once the Unified Budget is fulfilled, gifts overflow into visionary aspects of our mission.

# *This Week*

## **Sunday, Nov. 24**

- WSM Fall Retreat, Lone Oak Ranch and Retreat
- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Faith in 3D meeting, 1205-G, 11:45 a.m.
- Belong Team, 1205-L, 11:45 a.m.

## **Monday, Nov. 25**

- Preschool Playtime, 1350, 9:30 a.m.
- Wilshire Winds, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

## **Tuesday, Nov. 26**

- Sanctuary Choir, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

## **Wednesday, Nov. 27**

- New Song, Choral Hall, 9:30 a.m.

## **Thursday, Nov. 28**

### **Friday, Nov. 29**

- Church closed; staff holidays

## **Saturday, Nov. 30**

- Lord's Supper preparation, Sanctuary, 9 a.m.

## **Sunday, Dec. 1**

- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Children's Choir Snack Lunch, 2221, noon
- Youth Choir Snack Lunch, Youth Center, noon
- Children's Choir, 12:30 p.m.
- Youth Choir, Choral Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- Shekinah, Choral Hall, 1:30 p.m.
- Carillon Ringers, Handbell room, 2:15 p.m.

## **Monday, Dec. 2**

- Wilshire Winds, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.
- *Rising Hope* screening, Angelika Film Center (Mockingbird Station), 7 p.m.

## **Tuesday, Dec. 3**

- Stephen Ministry Supervision/CE, 1205-G, 1205-L, Parlor, 6:30 p.m.