



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

“The face of Christ does not indeed show us everything, but it shows us the one thing we need to know – the character of God. God is the God who sent Jesus.”

-P. Carnegie Simpson

THE ACT OF WORSHIP

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021

Ten-thirty o'clock

PREPARATION AND PRAISE

The worship of God begins this morning as you enter the Sanctuary. You are encouraged to use these moments for meditation, reflection and prayer. Following the service, greet our visitors and share your fellowship with those around you.

COME YE FAITHFUL

A Service of Carols

by Hal H. Hopson

The Carol Prelude

The Opening Proclamation

-from John 1:1-5

Major Treadway

The Carol Processional

“Personet Hodie”

On this day earth shall ring With the song children sing
To the Lord, Christ our King, Born on earth to save us
Him the Father gave us. *Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo!*

His the doom, our the mirth; When he came down to earth
Bethlehem saw his birth; Ox and ass beside him
From the cold would hide him. *Ideo gloria in excelsis!*

On this day angels sing; With their song earth shall ring,
Praising Christ, heaven's King, Born on earth to save us;
Peace and love he gave us. *Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo!*

*The Advent Banner

Bowen Cox

*The Lighting of the Third Advent Candle: Joy

Sasha Hammack

*The Carol

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

ADESTE FIDELES

All: 1. O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold him, Born the King of angels!
O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Choir: 2. *Adeste, fideles, laeti, triumphantes;
venite, venite in Bethlehem.
Natum videte Regem angelorum.
Venite, adoremus, venite, adoremus,
venite, adoremus Dominum.*

All: 3. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

All: 4. Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation!
O sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!
O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

The Greeting

Charles Poole

The Bidding Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Lesley Ratcliff

Witnesses to the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

ZECHARIAH AND ELIZABETH

The First Reading

-from Luke 1:5-13, 16, 59-79

Charles O'Mara

The Carol

“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings Glad tidings of the King of kings!
Refrain: News of great joy, news of great mirth. News of our merciful King’s birth..

Then cleansed be ev’ry life from sin; Make straight the way for God within,
And let us all our hearts prepare For Christ to come and enter there.
Refrain:

We hail you as our Savior, Lord, Our refuge, and our great reward;
O let your face upon us shine And fill the world with love divine.
Refrain:

All praise to you, eternal Son, Whose advent has our freedom won,
Whom with the Father we adore, And Holy Spirit, evermore.
Refrain:

MARY

The Second Reading

-from Luke 1:26-38

Camille Snyder

The Carol

“Canticle of the Turning” (*The Magnificat*)

Cecelia Stearman, *mezzo*

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant’s plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
So from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?
*Refrain: My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.*

Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,
And your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,
You will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn.
Refrain:

From the halls of pow’r to the fortress tow’r, not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears ev’ry tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;
There are tables spread, ev’ry mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn.
Refrain:

Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:
God’s mercy must deliver us from the conqueror’s crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,
‘Til the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around.
Refrain:

THE SHEPHERDS

The Third Reading

-from Luke 2:8-12

Marcia Poole

The Carol

“Shepherds, Shake Off Your Drowsy Sleep”

J J Coker, *tenor*

Shepherds, shake off your drowsy sleep, Rise, and leave your flock of sheep;
Angels from heav’n around are singing, Tidings of great joy are bringing.
Refrain: Shepherds! The chorus come and swell! Sing Noel, O sing Noel.

Hark! Even now the bells ring round, Listen to their merry sound;
See how the stars afresh are glowing, All their brightest beams bestowing,
Refrain:

Cometh at length the age of peace, Strife and sorrow now shall cease;
Prophets foretold the wondrous story, the story of the heav’nborn Prince of Glory.
Refrain:

Shepherds! Then up and quick away, Seek the Babe e’re break of day;
He is the hope of ev’ry nation; All in him shall find salvation.
Refrain:

THE ANGELS

-from Luke 2:13-14

Betsy Beard

The Fourth Reading

*The Carol

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

- All: 1. Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise; Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”
- Choir: 2. *Christ, by highest heav’n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold him come, Off-spring of a virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail incarnate Deity!
Pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!”*
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”
- All: 3. Hail the heav’n born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, Ris’n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, Born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

*The Offertory Prayer

Major Treadway

The Offertory

“What Child Is This?”

Bonam

*The Doxology

THE ANIMALS

The Fifth Reading

-from *New Prince, New Pomp* by Robert Southwell, 1561-1595

Natalie Pace

The Carol

“The Friendly Beasts”

Pam Steadman, Gwen Anderson,
Amanda Milam, Rose Mary Porter, *sopranos*

Jesus, our brother, kind and good, was humbly born in a stable rude,
And the friendly beasts around him stood; Jesus, our brother, kind and good.

“I,” said the donkey, shaggy and brown, “I carried his mother uphill and down,
I carried his mother to Bethlehem town;” “I,” said the donkey, shaggy and brown.

“I,” said the cow, all white and red, “I gave him my manger for his bed,
I gave him my hay to pillow his head;” “I,” said the cow, all white and red.

“I,” said the sheep with curly horn, “I gave him my wool for his blanket warm;
He wore my coat on Christmas morn;” “I,” said the sheep with curly horn,

“I,” said the dove, from the rafters high, “I cooed him to sleep that he should not cry.
We cooed him to sleep, my mate and I.” “I,” said the dove, from rafters high.

Thus ev’ry beast, by some good spell, in the stable dark was glad to tell
Of the gift he gave Emmanuel, the gift he gave Emmanuel.

THE WISE MEN

-from Matthew 2:1-11

Ryan McElveen

The Sixth Reading

The Carol

We Three Kings of Orient Are
Richard Joiner, Jack Edwards, Jack McDaniel, *basses*

KINGS OF ORIENT

- The Kings: 1. We three kings of Orient are, Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, Following yonder star.
- Refrain: (all) *O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.*
- King 1: 2. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, Gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never, Over us all to reign.
- King 2: 3. Frankincense to offer have I, Incense owns a Deity nigh:
Prayer and praising, voices raising, Worshiping God on high.
- King 3: 4. Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.
- Congregation, 5. Glorious now behold him arise; King and God and Sacrifice;
Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia Sounds through the earth and skies.
- Refrain: (all) *O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light*

OUR WITNESS TO THE NATIVITY

The Seventh Reading

- Paul Gerhardt (1607-1676), tr. Catherine Winkworth

Lesley Ratcliff

*The Carol

“Silent Night! Holy Night!”

STILLE NACHT

- All: 1. Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright,
'Round yon virgin mother and child! Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.
- Choir: 2. *Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht! Alles schläft, einsam wacht
Nur das traute, hoch-heilige Paar. Holder Knabe mit lockigem Haar.
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh', Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!*
- Choir: 3. *Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face, With the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.*
- All: 4. Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

The Time of Response

*The Closing Prayers

Charles Poole

*The Carol Postlude (The choir will recess, followed by the congregation.)

**The congregation will please stand.*

Today's Musicians:

Cheri Waite, *flute*
Marta Szlubowska, *violin 1*
Shellie Kemp, *violin 2*
Ausra Jasineviciute, *viola*
Ben Randman, *cello*
Glen Hale, *bass*
Kristina Finch, *harp*
Bud Berthold, *percussion*
Sheila Hess, *organ*

CAREGIVING CONCERNS:

CARE CARDS may be found in the pew racks, if you would like to write anyone. Place your cards in the offering plate. Cards will be mailed from the church office on Monday morning.

CURRENT CAREGIVING CONCERNS:

⚪ Northminster is saddened by the death of Mary Lee, an active member of Northminster since 2009. Christian sympathy is extended to all of Mary’s family and friends.

Misti Crisler is recovering after surgery

CONGRATULATIONS to Katie Love and Alston Owen on the birth of their son, James Alston Owen, III. James Alston is also welcomed by his sister, Katherine Hastings Owen, and by Rick, Eliza, Mary Hastings and West Garraway, and Howard and Mary Eliza McMillan.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY to Wilson, Jennifer, Roger, Bennett and Celia Stribling on the death of Wilson’s sister, Susan Stribling.

ONGOING CAREGIVING CONCERNS:

Emily Smith	Robbie Cross	Sue Edwards	Robyn Chunn
Roxanne Aldridge	R.W. McCarley	Virginia Hamilton	
Vivian Thompson	Martha Collum	Libby McGee	
Gorman Schaffer	Pat Walston	Jack Cochran	

Martha Quarles, mother of Lori Quarles

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today is the Third Sunday of Advent, the inaugural season of the Christian year. Advent is a time of spiritual preparation for the coming of Christ. The color purple reflects the Advent themes of confession and repentance as we “prepare the way of the Lord.

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The Caregiving Committee considers it a privilege to pray for each concern that affects our church family. Recognizing the power of prayer, we meet each Monday at 8:30 a.m. in the church conference room for a brief, informal prayer-time and invite all who can to join us. If you have prayer concerns, please call the church office or a member of the Caregiving Committee.

The Deacon of the Week is Amy Finkelberg.  
 The Caregiving Chair for December is Annette Hitt.  
 The Caregiving Coordinators for December are Faye Barham, Steve Godbold, Annette Hitt and Sarah Reynolds.  
 The Caregiver of the Week is Sarah Reynolds.  
 The Liturgist for December is Rush Miller.  
 The Flowers for December are provided by Lisa Kelly.  
 The Usher Captain for December is Keith Davis.

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*The rose on the altar is in celebration of the birth of James Alston Owen, III.
The proud parents are Katie Love and Alston Owen.*

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*While, thankfully, many data points related to the pandemic are improving, the pandemic, nonetheless, remains with us. In an effort to be mindful of our congregants’ varying levels of pandemic precaution, we are reserving the back rows on the west side of the sanctuary for those who wish to maintain masking and distancing.*

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Church-wide Christmas Breakfast
 (No Sunday School)
 Sunday, December 19
 during the Sunday School hour
 in the Great Hall

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**Christmas Eve**  
**Candlelight Communion Service**  
 Friday, December 24  
 5:30 p.m.  
 Pre-service music begins  
 at 5:00 p.m.

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NORTHMINSTER ANGEL TREE
Wednesday, December 15, is the last day to bring gifts.
 Please contact Megan Mayhan at 601-624-6701 or
 meganmayhan@gmail.com with any questions.

STUDENT NEWS:

Caroling: Today, 3:30 p.m. We will gather with the 4th-6th graders at the Youth House and go sing Christmas Carols before ending up at Sal and Mookies to share a meal together. We will return to the church by 6:30 p.m.

Sunday Nights at the Youth House: January 9, 5:00 p.m. Sunday Nights at the Youth House start back. Join us for a shared meal, games, lessons, prayer, and fellowship.

MLK Service Day: Monday, January 17. Time to be together, to serve and to reflect.

Super Bowl Party: Sunday February 6, 5:00 p.m.

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**Children's Living Nativity**

The children will rehearse on  
Sunday morning, December 19  
from 9:00 - 9:30 a.m. in the Choir Room.

\*We will gather at 4:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve  
to prepare and present the Living Nativity.

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The Worship and Music Committee has prepared
The Season of Advent Devotional Guide 2021

These worship guides for personal and family worship are available
throughout the church and a digital copy can be downloaded
from the Northminster website during the Advent season.
Please feel free to take copies for your family and friends.

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**Coffee for Salt and Light**

Premium Honduran coffee is currently for sale at \$10 per bag.  
Proceeds will help fund expenses of Sal Y Luz Ministry in Honduras.

To purchase please call Jann Puckett at  
601-594-8590. Jann will deliver to your home.

Please make checks payable to Salt and Light Ministries (no cash please).

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Brumfield House

December 16

Thomas Elfert

December 23

Skipper Jernigan

December 30

Mike Peters

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**CHILDREN'S WORSHIP  
VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE**

**December 19**

**Firecrackers**

Laura & Patrick Taylor

**Sparklers**

Sandra & Rob Triplett

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MEALS ON WHEELS

Wednesday, December 15

Cooks

Rose Mary Porter

Shirley Geary

Jan Stewart

Drivers:

Rt. 1 Suzan & Tommy Thames

Rt. 2 Brooks & Thomas Elfert

Monday, December 27

Cooks

Gail Poole

Lawana McLennan

Faye Barham

Drivers:

Rt. 1 Jean & Kelley Williams

Rt. 2 Cathy & Jeff Davis

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The church office will be closed Friday, December 24 and Monday, December 27.

For pastoral care needs, please call 601-259-7993.

## MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

### Every member a minister

Every member of Northminster Baptist Church, like every disciple of Christ, is commissioned to participate in Christian ministry. The following persons have been called by this congregation to serve as enablers in such ministry.

Pastor  
Associate Pastor for Children and Adults  
Associate Pastor for Students  
Minister of Music  
Organist  
Organist Emeritus  
Pastors' Secretary/Administrative Assistant  
Financial Secretary  
Receptionist/Secretary  
Sexton  
Wider Net Ministry Coordinator

Charles Poole  
Lesley Ratcliff  
Major Treadway  
Tim Coker  
Sheila Hess  
Billy Trotter  
Leslie Ward  
Sam South  
Jan Wilson/Neely Grimsley  
Lamenais Simeon  
Rosaline McCoy

### THE CHURCH IN SERVICE

#### Sunday, December 12

9:00 a.m. Living Nativity Practice, Choir Room  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service/Lessons and Carols  
11:30 a.m. Deacons' Luncheon  
3:30 p.m. Caroling, YH  
5:00 p.m. Atrium, Girls of Grace, Guys 456

#### Monday, December 13

8:30 a.m. Caregiving, L/CR  
5:30 p.m. Adult Ministries Committee, GH

#### Tuesday, December 14

12:00 p.m. Youth Committee, L/CR  
5:30 p.m. Building Maintenance Committee, L/CR

#### Wednesday, December 15

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study, L/CR  
10:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels  
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

#### Sunday, December 19

9:00 a.m. Living Nativity Practice, Choir Room  
9:15 a.m. Church-wide Christmas Breakfast, GH  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

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