





NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Seek, Serve, Embrace | Engaging with neighbors near and far in Christ's love

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Third Sunday in Advent | December 14, 2025, 10:00 am

*(*For those who are able, please stand)*

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME

PRELUDE

"Improvisation on MERTON" | Richard Webster (b. 1952)

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Mark this holy season with anticipation.

**As we wait,
Come, Lord Jesus.**

Mark this holy season with expectation.

**As we watch,
Come, Lord Jesus.**

Mark this holy season with eager hearts.

**As we worship,
Come, Lord Jesus.**

* HYMN NO. 107

"Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn" | REJOICE REJOICE

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH: WE CONFESS AND ARE FORGIVEN

from Isaiah 35: 1-2

Hear these words of the prophet Isaiah,
"The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
**like the crocus, it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and singing."**

We light this candle in joy,
the joy we have in Jesus, our Savior.
Prepare now the way of the Lord.

(The candle of Joy is lighted.)



107 Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for an - gels
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em - man - u -
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when all the
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night. Though dark the



her - ald its dawn-ing. Sing out your joy, for soon he is
el comes a - sing - ing; his hum - ble song is qui - et and
world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so qui - et and
win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall crown you with



born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing. Come as a ba - by
near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing; mu - sic to heal the
free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing. Then shall the mute break
light; be strong and lov - ing and fear - less. Love be our song and



weak and poor, to bring all hearts to - geth - er, he o - pens
bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing - kind - ness. The thun - der
forth in song, the lame shall leap in won - der, the weak be
love our prayer and love our end - less sto - ry; may God fill



wide the heaven - ly door and lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
of his an - thems rolls to shat - ter all ha - tred and vio - lence.
raised a - bove the strong, and weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
ev - ery day we share and bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

After attending a carol concert, the author and composer of this hymn was moved to create a contemporary, accessible carol that drew on the familiar images in a new way. There are echoes here of passages such as Isaiah 9:6, Isaiah 7:14/Matthew 1:23, Isaiah 35:5-6, Isaiah 2:4.

We confess, O God,
we often miss the joy
of this holy season.
We are distracted
by our lists, menus, and arrangements.
Forgive us for forgetting
the true joy of this season
which is found in the promise
whose fulfillment we await.
Help us prepare the way of the Lord.

* **SILENT CONFESSION**

Siblings in Christ, there is good news.
The candle of Joy reminds us that
in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

* **RESPONSE**

Hymn No. 106: "Prepare the Way, O Zion" (stanza 3)



3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sav - ior's rule em - brace,



and ti - dings of sal - va - tion pro-claim in ev - ery place.



All lands will bow re - joic - ing, their ad - o - ra - tion voic - ing.

Refrain



O blest is Christ who came in God's most ho - ly name.

* **SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all;
And also with you.

Worshippers may greet one another with words of Christ's peace

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S TIME

Offerings added to the Joyful Noise Pail are for mission partner Heifer International

ANTHEM

"What Shall We Call Our King" | English Folk Tune

The king shall come when morning dawns. What shall we call our King?
And right shall triumph over wrong. What shall we call our King?
He shall be called Emmanuel. Mighty God. Prince of Peace.
Light of the World. The King of Kings. Jesus, Emmanuel.
Mighty God and Prince of Peace. Promised Son of Righteousness.
Savior, Shepherd. Holy One. Jesus, Emmanuel.

Children are dismissed to Church School

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON | PROPHETS

Isaiah 35: 1-10 | OT p. 663

ANTHEM

"Deo Gracias" | Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

Deo gracias! Deo gracias!
Adam lay ybounden,
Bounden in a bond,
Four thousand winter
Thought he not too long.

And all was for an apple,
An apple that he took,
As clerkës finden written in their book.

Ne had one apple taken been,
The apple taken been,
Ne had never Our Lady
A been Heaven's Queen.

Blessed be the time
That apple taken was.
Therefore we moun singen:
Deo gracias!

SECOND LESSON | GOSPEL

Luke 1: 46-55 | NT p. 57, Spark Bible p. 202

SERMON

"Finding Joy Together" | Karen Herbst-Kim

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of Heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven.
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM | Cameron Kenley Rowe & Elliott Mae Rowe

Presentation

Profession of Faith

Thanksgiving Over the Water

The Baptism

Welcome

* HYMN NO. 487

"These Treasured Children" | *PUER NOBIS NASCITUR*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

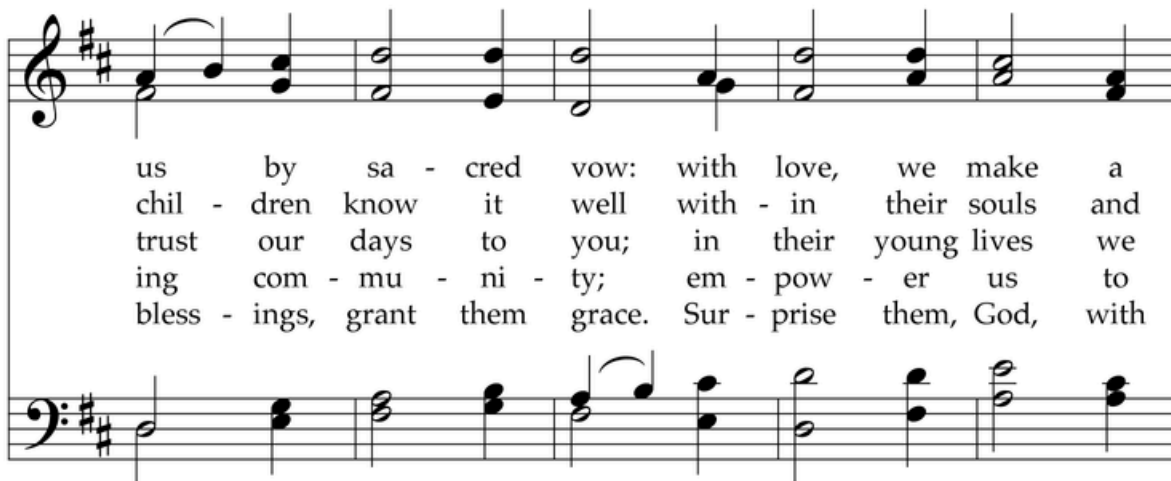
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

These Treasured Children

487



1 These trea - sured chil - dren pres - ent now are bound to
 2 Our an - cient sto - ry we shall tell, till these our
 3 We long to trust as chil - dren do and so en -
 4 Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, help us be a nur - tur -
 5 Then, ten - der God, each child em - brace; God give them



us by sa - cred vow: with love, we make a
 chil - dren know it well with - in their souls and
 trust our days to you; in their young lives we
 ing com - mu - ni - ty; em - pow - er us to
 bless - ings, grant them grace. Sur - prise them, God, with



heart - felt claim to wel - come them in Je - sus' name.
 minds and hearts, for this is where their jour - ney starts.
 clear - ly see a les - son in hu - mil - i - ty.
 re - a - lize God's king - dom through our chil - dren's eyes.
 won - ders still, and gent - ly guide them to your will.

This text emphasizes the covenantal dimensions of baptism, most obvious in the baptism of children (though also present in the baptism of adults), including the worshiping community's commitment to acquaint children with salvation history and to learn from their humble trust.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Advent" | Hilary Tann (1947-2023)

* DOXOLOGY

GLORIA

Praise to God, Creator, sing!
Praise to God the Son, we bring!
Praise to God the Spirit be
Ever and eternally.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

* HYMN NO. 100

"My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout" | *STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN*

* BLESSING AND CHARGE

Go into the world to live this holy season.

We go, seeking God among us now.

We go, watching
for the living Christ in our midst.

**We go with eager hearts,
waiting for the miracle
of God's love to be born.**

May the One
who waits and watches with us,
**fill us with
wonder, reverence, and awe.**
Come, Lord Jesus!

RESPONSE

"Wolcum Yole!" (*Middle English*) | Benjamin Britten

Wolcum be thou hevenè king. Wolcum Yole!
Wolcum, born in one morning, Wolcum for whom we sall sing.
Wolcum be ye Stevenne and Jon.
Wolcum Innocentes everyone.
Wolcum, Thomas, marterone. Wolcum, be ye, Good Newe Yere.
Wolcum, seintes lefe and dere, Wolcum Yole! Wolcum!
Candelmesse, Quene of bless, Wolcum both to more and lesse.
Wolcom be ye that are here. Wolcum Yole!
Wolcum alle and make good cheer.
Wolcum alle another yere. Wolcum Yole! Wolcum!

100 My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
2 Though I am small, my God, my all, you
3 From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a
4 Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
work great things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
jus - tice tears ev - ery ty - rant from his throne.
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread; ev - ery
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

Refrain



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the



fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the



dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

IN WORSHIP

The liturgy for the Advent season was written by Carol McDonald. The Doxology text is from ironsermons.org and is sung to the tune of Hymn No. 113, "Angels We Have Heard on High."

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Karen Herbst-Kim | *Pastor*

Brian Shivers | *Pastor*

Marko Petričić | *Organ*

Barb Angotti & Arthur Angotti | *Advent Candle Lighters*

Peace Choir

Chancel Choir

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Events and Announcements

All-Church Bake Sale | Today | 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Join us today for the All-Church Bake Sale! Browse free-will offering items in the Gathering Place following worship and feel free to take some home. Proceeds will go to support our Congolese refugee family.

Pastors' Holiday Hangout | Wed., Dec. 17 | 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Join pastors Brian and Karen for a time of relaxed reflection, conversation, and questions. Please bring any topics or thoughts you'd like to share - from holiday joys to sorrows to anxiety to gratitude.

Youth Group Christmas Party | Sun., Dec. 21 | 5:30 - 7:30 pm

Bring a dish to share (think appetizer) and a wrapped ornament that costs \$10 or less for the gift exchange. We will enjoy food, games, and decorating cookies together! Contact Emma Moore for directions.

Comfort & Joy | Sun., Dec. 21 | 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Sponsored by Spiritual Wholeness and Wellness at Northminster, Comfort and Joy will include a sound bath with live music, a Longest Night self-guided liturgy, and a labyrinth walk. Free and open to all ages. Childcare available!

Advent Decorations Donation | Deadline Mon., Dec. 22 | 12:00 pm

Consider a donation for plants and décor in honor of or in memory of a loved one which will be printed in the Christmas Eve bulletins. Scan the QR code, visit our website, or contact the office to make your donation before the 22nd!



Christmas Eve at Northminster | Wed., Dec. 24 | 4:00 pm & 6:30 pm

Join us at 4:00 pm for the Children's "Joyful Noise" worship service as we welcome the Christ Child. There are ways for all to participate! Then, join us at 6:30 for a choral prelude followed by our traditional Christmas Eve service.

December Mission Donation: Canned Fruit

For the month of December, the Mission Team is collecting canned fruit of any kind for our partner, Westminster Neighborhood Services. Please consider a donation in the yellow bin in The Gathering Place!

Clothe-A-Child Donations | Donate Now Through End of December

We are 70% of the way to our goal to raising \$11,000 to fund next year's Clothe-A-Child! Please consider donating to this event using the QR code or by including a check in the designated envelopes located in the pews.



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Christ-Centered | Grounded in the Word | Relevant | Inclusive | Nurturing | Serving

Brian Shivers
Pastor/Head of Staff

Karen Herbst-Kim
Associate Pastor

John Wright
Director of Music Ministries

Carol McDonald
Parish Associate

Marko Petričić
Music Associate/Organist

Amy Hughley
Interim Director of Music Ministries

Cheryl Plunkett
Office Administrator

Melissa Hopkins
Director of Children's Ministry

Timothy Foster
Director of Communications

Denise Harrington
Director of Senior Ministries

Emma Moore
Operations Administrator & Youth Ministry Coordinator

Krista Wright
Spiritual Wholeness and Wellness Coordinator

Elisabeth Kleinsmith
Family Engagement Coordinator

Ynfinity Taylor
Bookkeeper

Steve Williams
Finance Administrator

Shiloh O'Rourke
Director of Preschool

Tim McElroy
Lead Custodian

Jonathan McGee
Custodian

Valerie Boak
Custodian

Rod Mail
Stephen Ministry Leader

Tony Dzwonar
Stephen Ministry Leader

Teri Thomas
Pastor Emerita

Donald R. Durrett
Associate Pastor Emeritus

Matthew 25

As a Matthew 25 congregation, we focus on building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism, and eradicating systemic poverty.

Covenant Network of Presbyterians

As a member of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians, we seek equity for LGBTQIA2S+ people in church and society. We welcome, honor, celebrate, and include all.

Parenting and Sensory Rooms

Behind the sanctuary in the Narthex are Parenting and Sensory Rooms.

The Parenting Room offers a private space for feeding, changing diapers, and calming children. Toys, games, and books are also available! The Sensory Room provides a quieter, darker space with tools for those with sensory needs. Both rooms have TVs for livestreaming the service via YouTube.

Fidgets and noise-dimming headphones are available outside the Sensory Room.

Children in Worship

We rejoice in all ages worshipping together! There are red worship bags available with activities as well as a quiet activity table and rocking chairs available on the east side of the sanctuary. We also have nursery care and church school happening simultaneously to worship if that is preferred.

Prayer Lists

The prayer list is available 24/7 online! Visit northminster.church/prayer

Connect With Us



@Northminsterindy



@northminsterindy



northminster-indy.org

(317) 251-9489

office@northminster-indy.org

9am - 3pm (M-Th) | Closed Friday

1660 Kessler Blvd. E. Dr, Indianapolis, IN 46220

