



NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

First Sunday of Christmas | December 28, 2025, 10:00 am

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

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME

PRELUDE

"1. Prelude" and "2. Andante" (from *Pastorale in F Major*) | *J.S. Bach (1685-1750)*

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Hope has come in the baby of Bethlehem.

Peace is possible through the Prince of Peace.

Joy lifts our hearts with the angels' song.

Love fills our lives with celebration.

Let us worship God.

* HYMN NO. 133

"O Come, All Ye Faithful" | *ADESTE FIDELIS*

* PRAYER FOR THE SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

As this season draws to a close,
we pray, Holy One, that you will break in.
Break into our lives, Lord Jesus.

**Come to us as you came long ago,
in gentleness and tender vulnerability.
Call forth in us that love which alone can save us
and, through us, save your world.**

In this season of giving and receiving,
we pause to recall the gifts
you have blessed us with this Christmas.

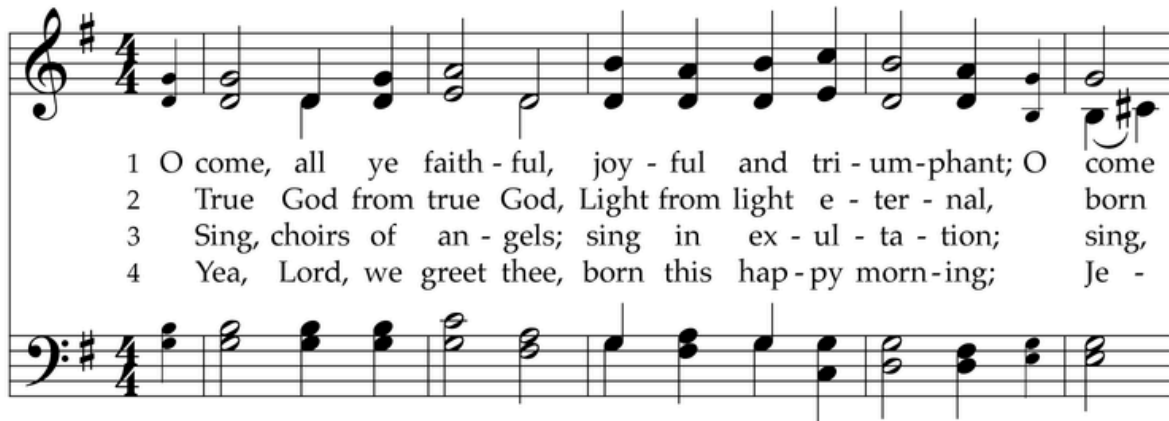
(Silent Thanksgiving)

**For the gifts of neighbors and family,
of friends near and far, we thank you.
For the gifts of lighted candles,
laughing children, and lingering memories, we rejoice.
For the child of Bethlehem,
your Word made flesh,
your love alive in our very midst,
we praise you.**



O Come, All Ye Faithful

133



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um-phant; O come
 2 True God from true God, Light from light e - ter - nal, born
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; sing,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je -



ye; O come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come, and be - hold him,
 of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; ver - y God, be -
 all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all
 sus, to thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther,

Refrain



born the King of an - gels!
 got - ten, not cre - at - ed! O come, let us a - dore him; O come, let
 glo - ry in the high - est!
 now in flesh ap - pear - ing!



us a - dore him; O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

From its Roman Catholic origins, this 18th-century hymn has spread to worldwide use by many denominations in both Latin and vernacular versions. Once popular with a wide range of hymn texts, this tune is now firmly associated with this Christmas text from which it is named.

For all these gifts we bring our thanks.
We pray for those for whom
blessings have been hard to find this season
and for those whose joys
are often few and far between.

May we, Holy One,
somehow be a blessing to them
in the name of, and for the joy of, the babe in a manger
who is Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen and Amen.

*** RESPONSE**

Hymn No. 136: "Go, Tell it on the Mountain" | *GO TELL IT*

*** 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

Children are dismissed to Church School

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON | GOSPEL

Luke 2: 21-39 | *NT p. 59, Spark Bible p. 226*

SOLO

"Mary and Joseph Came to the Temple" | *EVENING HYMN*

A CONVERSATION

"When God Calls" | *Ian Clarke and Carol McDonald*

*** HYMN NO. 132**

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" | *IN DULCI JUBILO*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

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.

136 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain $\text{♪} = \text{♪}^3 \text{♪}$

Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;

go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

Fine

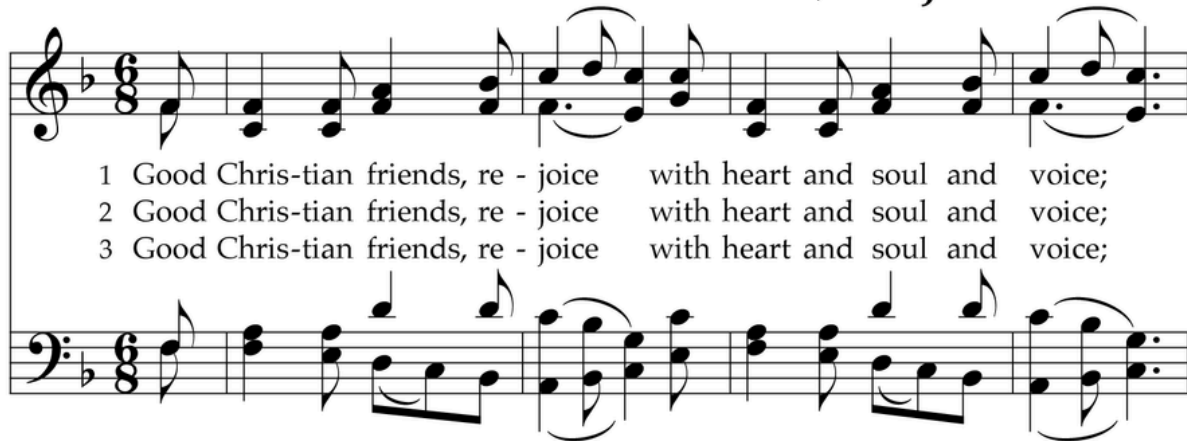
1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a - bove the earth
3 Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,

be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

to Refrain

Like other material from oral traditions, 19th-century African American spirituals flourished without being written down. Their refrains were their most stable parts, and narrative stanzas were often improvised to fit. These Nativity stanzas attempt to recall that tradition.

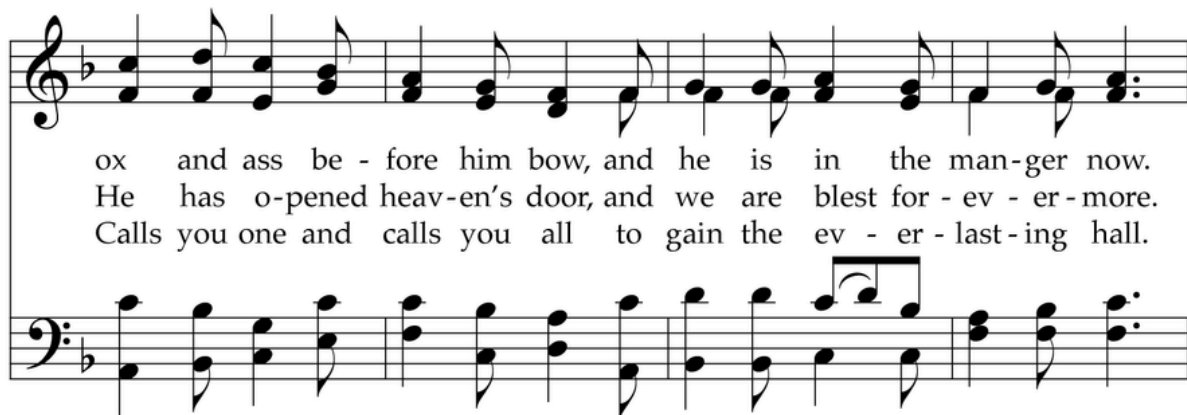
132 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice



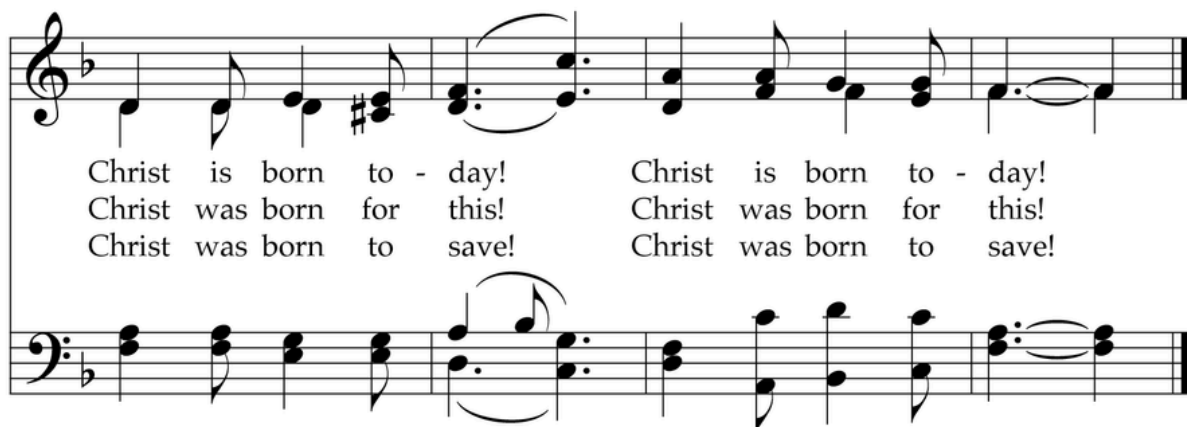
1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to-day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man-ger now.
 He has o-pened heav-en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last-ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Carols using two languages, like this one dating from at least the 14th century, belong to a special group called "macaronic," the original languages here being German and Latin. Though the present version is only in English, it is sung to the traditional German folk melody.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"3. Lento" (from *Pastorale in F Major*) | J.S. Bach

* 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. 134

"Joy to the World" | ANTIOCH

* BLESSING AND CHARGE

Go now into the world
singing the songs of this holy season.
Go...singing against silence.

We will sing for the voices of peoples long silenced.

Go...singing against exclusion.

We will sing welcome for all yearning to be seen.

Go...singing against injustice.

We will sing wholeness for all God's children.

And may the One
who sang the stars into existence,
the Christ whose birth
was announced in Mary's song,
and the Spirit who still hums
in the voices of the unheard,

**go with us,
sustain us,
and teach us to sing.
Alleluia! Amen!**

POSTLUDE

"4. Finale, Allegro" (from *Pastorale in F Major*) | J.S. Bach

Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -

her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
 tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 and heaven and na - ture sing,

and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,

While Isaac Watts did not write this text strictly for Christmas use, he did purposely cast his paraphrase of Psalm 98:4-9 in Christian terms, titling it "The Messiah's coming and kingdom." So "the Lord" here is Jesus Christ, rather than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

IN WORSHIP

Today's liturgy was prepared by Carol McDonald. The Blessing and Charge are adapted from "There's a song that has always lived in our bones" by Alex c (*Presbyterian Outlook*, November 2025)

Today we welcome Ian Clarke to worship leadership. Ian, son of Krista and John Wright, is a senior at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. Endorsed and supported by the Session of Northminster Presbyterian Church, Ian is a candidate for ministry under care of the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley. He will graduate from seminary in May, 2026.

We are grateful to Ted Gibboney for sharing his musical gifts with us this morning.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Carol McDonald | *Parish Associate*

Ted Gibboney | *Organ*

Ian Clarke | *Candidate for Ministry in the PC(USA)*

Krista Wright | *Soloist*

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Events and Announcements

iPad Donations for Homebound Members

If you have an old or unused iPad, consider a donation to Northminster to give our homebound members easy access to the live-stream service. Contact the office for more information on how you can donate!

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

We are 75% 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.



Northminster Chapel Labyrinth | Now through Jan. 6

The Northminster Labyrinth is now open! The labyrinth is open on Sundays after worship, Wednesday evenings, and anytime the church office is open. Free resources are available in the Chapel as you walk the labyrinth.

Update Photos in Member Directory

Help us keep ShelbyNext up to date with your photo! Use the app, website, or email photos to Roz. Roz will also be available on the 1st and 4th Sunday of each month before and immediately following worship.

