



Welcome to Northminster Presbyterian Church

Merry Christmas! We are happy you are here to celebrate with us.

December marked the beginning of the Christian year and, over the last four weeks, we walked through the expectant season of Advent preparing for the birth of Christ. Tonight, our waiting is over. Tonight we celebrate the birth which took place so long ago, the birth that has the possibility to take place inside each one of us every day of our lives.

Whether you are here for the first time, or have been around a while, we invite you to take a look at the services listed in this bulletin. You can also check us out at www.npc.life.

Christmas Eve **December 24, 2021 @ 5:30 & 7:30 pm**

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

Music as we prepare our hearts and minds for worship

Prelude *"The First Noel"* arr. Ron Mallory
The Handbell Choir

Welcome and Announcements

Nursery care is available for infants through age 5 in Room 115.

Worship bag supplies are available on the worship cart in the narthex.

Call to Worship & Lighting the Christ Candle –

The Ussery Family (5:30)

Wayne & Paige Edwards (7:30)

Reader 1: This advent we listened for Hope in the voice of John the Baptist.

People: Prepare the way of the Lord!

Reader 2: We looked for hope in the light that shines in the darkness,

People: The Word that put on flesh and lived among us.

Reader 1: We sought to share hope,

People: As Jesus shared healing and forgiveness for all.

Reader 2: We proclaimed hope,

**People: Good news for the poor, release to the captives,
sight to the blind, the year of the Lord's favor.**

Reader 1: Tonight we light the long awaited Christ candle,

Reader 2: as we celebrate the night when our Hope was born into
the world.

Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

Glory to God Hymnal #133, verses 1, 3, & 4

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!

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;

sing, all ye citizens of heaven 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!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,

born this happy morning;

Jesus, to thee be all glory given;

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!

Opening Prayer

Liturgists:
Northminster Kids & Youth (5:30); NPC Staff (7:30)

Scripture Reading Luke 2:1-7

2 In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 All went to their own towns to be registered. 4 Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. 5 He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Hymn

Away in a Manger
Glory to God Hymnal #115

MUELLER

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

Children's Moment (5:30 only)

Scripture Reading Luke 2:8-14

8 In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: 11 to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 14 “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

Music Meditation “*On This Still, Silent Night*” arr. Laura Farnell
The Chancel & Handbell Choirs

Scripture Reading Luke 2:15-20

15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” 16 So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. 17 When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; 18 and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. 19 But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. 20 The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Hymn Angels we Have Heard on High GLORIA
Glory to God Hymnal #113, verses 1, 2, & 3

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Meditation

Affirmation of Faith

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born
of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended
into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the
Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge
the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the
resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Offering

**To support NPC financially, text NPC
to 73256 or scan this QR Code to give with
your debit/credit card**



Offertory *“O Holy Night”* (Adolphe Adam) The NPC Band

Sharing the Light of Christ

(As we sing silent night people will turn on their tea lights)

Hymn

Silent Night

STILLE NACHT

Glory to God Hymnal #122, verses 1, 2, 3, & 4

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.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav'nly hosts sing, "Alleluia!"
Christ, the Savior is born. Christ, the Savior is born.

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.

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.

Benediction

Congregational Response

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

Glory to God Hymnal #134, verses 1, 2, & 4

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Our next worship service will be Sunday, December 26 at 10:30 am.
Nursery will be available as well as our new Prayground space for the
children which they are welcome to use during the worship service.

Please Note:

The Church Office will be closed on **Monday, December 27.**

Our next Wednesday Evening worship and
communion service will be on December 29, 2021.

Our regular schedule of Sunday Services will resume on
Sunday, January 2, 2022
with worship and communion. No Sunday School on this day.

Sunday School for all ages at 9:30 am will resume on January 9.

For more information, please visit our website at:

www.npc.life

Year End Contributions 2021

Contributions must be received
in the office by 12 noon on Friday,
December 31. All mailed contributions
must be postmarked no later than
Friday, December 31, 2021.

