

Service of Lessons and Carols

December 6, 2020 10:30 AM

Prelude

String Quartet

Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Candle: Faith

Opening Prayer

Ella Smith

Opening Hymn

Once in Royal David's City

Irby

1. *(solo)* Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed, where a mother laid her baby, in a manger for his bed: Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.
2. **Jesus is our childhood's pattern; day by day like us he grew; he was little, weak and helpless; tears and smiles like us he knew; and he feels for all our sadness, and he shares in all our gladness.**
3. **And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love; for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above; and he leads his children onto the place where he is gone.**
4. **Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by, we shall see Him, but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high; when like stars His children crowned all in white shall wait around.**

Lessons

Lesson one from Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

Ann Putzke

"God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head."

Wondrous Love
NPC Bell Choir

arr. Lloyd Larson

Lesson two from Isaiah 59:9; Psalm 80:18-19

Sam Alderman, IV

"Waiting in darkness, we long for light."

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

hymn #88

1. **O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**
6. **O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**
7. **O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Lesson three from Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Ella Cole Alderman

“The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.”

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

String Quartet

arr. Bruce Healey

Lesson four from Isaiah 11:1-4, 6-9

Molly Brown

“The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.”

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

hymn #129

Congregation, please join in verses 2 & 3

1. (solo) Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung, of Jesse's lineage coming, by faithful prophets sung. It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.

2. Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind; with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind. To show God's love aright she bore for us a Savior, when half spent was the night.

3. This flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere. Enfleshed, yet very God, from sin and death he saves us and lightens every load.

Lesson five from Luke 1:26-35, 38

Josh Denny

“The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.”

Ave Maria

String Quartet

arr. Cleo Aufderhaar

Lesson six from Luke 2:1, 3-7

Abby Smith

“St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.”

Welcome to Our World

Chris Rice

Rebecca Layfield & Ella Cole Alderman, soprano

Lesson seven from Luke 2:8-16

Emma Brown

“The shepherds go to the manger.”

What Child is This

arr. Lloyd Larson

NPC Bell Choir

Lesson eight from Matthew 2:1-11

Kendall Emener

“The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.”

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

Brent Olstad

Edward Clark, saxophone solo

Lesson nine from John 1:1-14

Austin Emener

“St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.”

*Hymn #133

O Come All Ye Faithful

verses 1-3

- 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!**
- 2. True God from true God, Light from light eternal, born of a virgin, a mortal he comes; very God, begotten, not created! O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**
- 3. Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation; sin, al 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!**

*Closing Prayer and Benediction

Pastor Ralph Hawkins

*Closing Hymn #119

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

- 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!”**
- 2. Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin’s womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity, pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king!”**
- 3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, risen 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!”**

*Postlude

Hallelujah Chorus

G F Handel/Robert Frost

String Ensemble

** Indicates congregation standing as able*

Special thanks to...

Readers: Ella Cole Alderman, Sam Alderman, IV, Emma Brown, Molly Brown, Josh Denny, Austin Emener, Kendall Emener, Ann Putzke, Abby Smith, Ella Smith

Musicians:

String Quartet: Pat McCall & Kyla Gwyn, violin; Jaris Tobler, viola; Barbara Altman, cello

Bell Choir: Lynn Davis, Boyd Ellison, Karen Jones, Rebecca Layfield, Pat McCall, Abby Smith, Sharon Sulkers

Brass Duet: Jeff Denny & Josh Denny, trombone

Saxophone: Edward Clark

Sopranos: Rebecca Layfield, Ella Cole Alderman

Livestream Operators:

Ella Hawkins & Ella Smith



Announcements

Welcome to our guests!

Whether you are sharing in the worship of God with us for the first time, visiting with family or friends, or returning for a visit to your home church, we welcome you today in the name of Jesus.

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers today are given to the Glory of God by Evelyn Clark, Lala Scales, and Virginia Cowsert in loving memory of their friend, Dorothy Massey.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Current Member Concerns: Ann R. Smith; Karen Jones; Jewel James; Ann Hall; Jane Ebey; John Hurst; John Geerlings; Grace Goodwin; Mary Ann Ellis; Kathy Wheeler; Andy Weaver; Shelby Duffy; Betty Barlow
Current Friends and Family Concerns: Margaret Yawn; Donna Carole Kitchens; Nelda Crow; Kirk Knox
Military Personnel Prayer List: Austin Riley; T. Wright Goodwin, IV; James C. Watwood; Joshua Sulkers

Sounds of the Season - Music at Northminster

Sunday, December 13, the NPC Brass ensemble will lead our music in worship. Sunday, December 20, the Harmony IV Brass ensemble will be visiting with us to lead our music. Be sure to attend or tune in to hear some incredible sounds of the season!

Alternative Christmas Fair

Due to health concerns, the annual Alternative Christmas Fair will not be held in-person this year. Now through December 15th, you're invited to give to the following ministries in honor of your friends and loved ones:

Thornwell Habitat for Humanity Loaves & Fishes

You may give online at northminstermacon.org/give or, by using the provided envelope.

Christmas Joy Special Offering

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we turn our eyes to Bethlehem and celebrate the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

God has blessed the Church with incredible leadership in every time and place, but those leaders often need to be supported by their communities as well. This Offering addresses the support needed by some of our leaders, including supporting leadership development for all communities and providing support for Presbyterian church workers in their time of need. December 20, a special envelope will be provided for your offering.

Christmas Eve Worship Service

Please plan to join us in-person or online, Thursday, December 24th for our annual Christmas Eve worship service. The harp prelude will begin at 5:30^{pm}, followed by the service at 6:00^{pm}.

Youth – Montreat 2021

Youth parents, mark your calendars for June 12-19, for Montreat summer camp: "Called to Connect"! More details will be released in January, and the church will need a general headcount in February. The Presbytery will underwrite a large portion of travel and board for the group.

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Our calling at Northminster is to make disciples, to grow in faith together,
and to serve others in Christ.

CONGREGATION: Ministers of the Good News

SESSION of Ruling Elders: Sam Alderman, III; Boyd Ellison; Judy Hill; Ricky Smith; Ann Weaver; Emily Brown; Beau Kitchens; Lynn Denny; Charlotte Nolan; Sandra Ridgeway KAREN JONES, Clerk of Session

RALPH HAWKINS, Pastor and Teaching Elder PAUL EVANS, Parish Associate SANDRA SMITH, Music Director
BENJAMIN GAIL, Sexton JENNIFER WHITEHEAD, Ministry Assistant

Office hours this week: Mon-Fri 9:00-1:00

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