



First Sunday of Advent: Prophets
November 28, 2021

GATHERING

Opening Scripture – Isaiah 40

Advent Wreath – A Candle for the Prophets

Responsive Prayer – Based on Psalm 25

In this Advent season of waiting on the Lord,

we trust in the Lord's goodness.

We rely on God's mercy.

We find shelter in God's steadfast love.

In this Advent season of waiting on the Lord,

we walk in the Lord Jesus' way.

We follow his example of love.

We keep our covenant promises.

In this Advent season of waiting, Lord, forget our sins.

Remember your love.

Remember each one of us.

Remember your people everywhere.

In this Advent season of waiting, Lord, we wait for your salvation.

We wait for your leading.

We wait for your coming.

Hymn #88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

verses 1-4

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.

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily:
to us the path of knowledge show; and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times didst give the law in cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Root of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save and give them victory o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Opening Prayer

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. And also with you.

Scripture Reading

CONFESSING

Call to Confession

Prayers of Confession

O promised Christ:

We are a world at war.

Our peace depends on your coming.

**We are a sinful people.
Our pardon depends on your coming.
We are full of good intentions but weak at keeping promises;
our only hope of doing God's will
is that you should come and help us do it.**

[silent prayers]

**Lord Jesus, Word made flesh,
our world waits
for your peace,
for your pardon,
and for your grace.
Even so: come, Lord Jesus.
Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Hymn #88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

verses 5-7

O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirit 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.

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.

*Passing of the Peace

LISTENING

Joys & Concerns of the Congregation

Prayers of the People, Lord's Prayer

Sermon in Music

In the Bleak Midwinter
Pat McCall, violin

arr. David Cherwien

Scripture – Isaiah, various

Sermon in Words

Run for the Hills! Here Come the Prophets

*Hymn #92

While We Are Waiting, Come

While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

With power and glory, come; with power and glory come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

Come, Savior, quickly come; come, Savior, quickly come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

DEPARTING

*Benediction – from the Brief Statement of Faith

**In gratitude to God,
empowered by the Spirit,
let us strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives
even as we watch for God's
new heaven and new earth,
praying: Come, Lord Jesus!**

*Sung Response

Hymn #88, verse 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.

Postlude

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Information & 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. Please share some contact information with us so we can follow up with you and make a place for you in our weekly fellowship. You may email our church office at admin@northminstermacon.org or by scanning the QR code to the right.



Sanctuary Flowers

Flowers this week have been given to the glory of God by Pat McCall in loving memory of her parents, James and Ada McCall.

PRAYER CONCERNS

If you have a need or a request for prayer, please contact the church office.

Current Member Concerns: Ann R. Smith; Jewel James; Ann Hall; Jane Ebey; Jon Geerlings; Kathy Wheeler; Betty Barlow; Donna Shuford; Frank Clark; Janet Kelly

Current Friends and Family Concerns: Margaret Yawn; Donna Carole Kitchens; Nelda Crow; Joel Jones

Military Personnel Prayer List: Austin Riley; Joshua Sulkers; Isaac Falkenstine (Bonnie Diboll's grandson)

Alternative Christmas Fair – December 5th

The annual Alternative Christmas Fair is a unique way to give a gift that “gives” twice. By giving a donation in any amount to any or all of the supported ministries – Thornwell, Loaves & Fishes, Habitat for Humanity - you will be given a card to gift to a friend or family member, letting them know you have given a donation in their honor. Join us immediately following the Lessons & Carols service on Sunday, December 5th for this wonderful event. You may also give by mail or online.

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: Kari Alderman; Emily Brown; Lynn Denny; Roland Hill; Jan Hirsh;

Melissa McDougald; Charlotte Nolan; Sandra Ridgeway; Minor Vernon

RALPH HAWKINS, Pastor and Teaching Elder PAUL EVANS, Parish Associate SANDRA SMITH, Music Director

KAREN JONES, Clerk of Session JENNIFER WHITEHEAD, Ministry Assistant

Office hours this week: Monday - Thursday 8:30-1:00