



NORTHMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

...making disciples, growing in faith together and serving others in Christ

November 27, 2022

1st Sunday of Advent

10:30am

GATHERING

Greeting

Prelude

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Call to Worship — Psalm 122

I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord!”

**Our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

Jerusalem—built as a city
that is bound firmly together.

**To it the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord,**

as was decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

**For there the thrones for judgment were set up,
the thrones of the house of David.**

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
“May they prosper who love you.

**Peace be within your walls
and security within your towers.”**

For the sake of my relatives and friends
I will say, “Peace be within you.”

**For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,
I will seek your good.**

Hymn #88, verses 1-5

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lone 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.

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.

CONFESSING

Call to Confession

Prayers of Confession

**Merciful God,
always with us, always coming:
We confess that we do not know
how to prepare for your Advent.
We have forgotten how to hope in miracles;
we have ignored the promise of your kingdom;
we get distracted by all the busyness of this season.
Forgive us, God.**

**Grant us the simple wonder of the shepherds,
the intelligent courage of the Magi,
and the patient faith of Mary and Joseph,
that we may journey with them to Bethlehem
and find the good news of a child born for us.
Now, in the quiet of our hearts,
we ask you to make us ready for his coming ...**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Response to Forgiveness #88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

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.

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 the Peace

Announcements and Invitations

Gathering our Offerings

Offertory Music

Doxology #606

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

LISTENING

Prayers of Thanksgiving and for Illumination

Scripture – Romans 13:11-14

Hymn #82 (remain seated)

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

Scripture - Matthew 24:36-44

Sermon – “Now is the moment for you to wake from sleep”

Hymn #100

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

[*refrain*] My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn. Wipe away all tears,
For the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.

Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,
And your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,
You will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn. [*refrain*]

From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food thy can never earn;
There are tables spread; every mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn. [*refrain*]

Through the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,
Till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around. [*refrain*]

DEPARTING

*Benediction

*Sung Response

Northumbria Community

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever he may send you.
May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm.
May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you.
May he bring you home rejoicing, once again into our doors.

Postlude



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.

PRAYER CONCERNS

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

Current Member Concerns: Ann R. Smith; Ann Hall; Jane Ebey; Jon Geerlings; Kathy Wheeler; Frank Clark; Lynn Southerland; Steve, Helene, and baby Amelia Olk; Ricky Smith; Tom Jones (kidney issues); Nancy Miles; Ann Weaver

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

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

Macon Recovers Coat Drive

Our wonderful neighbors, Macon Recovers, are holding a winter coat drive now through November 30th. Please bring your gently used scarves, gloves, coats, socks, and hats to Northminster before November 30th or you may take your items directly to Macon Recovers Tuesday through Saturday between 11AM-7PM.

Youth Bottled Water Drive

The Northminster Youth have learned of a need for bottled water for the Loaves & Fishes Ministry, as they go through 45 cases a month! Even with cooler months coming, the need continues. This is the last Sunday for collection to take place. Youth will be available to bring the waters from your car into the church, or a monetary donation is welcome. Simply put "water" in the check memo line or on your offering envelope. See Donna Shuford if you have any questions.

Annual Gloves for the Homeless

Northminster will once again be donating warm gloves for the Mentor's Christmas Party for the homeless population of Macon and our friends at Loaves & Fishes. Each year we donate 250 pairs of gloves to each organization. We will be collecting donations throughout this month for the purchase of these gloves. Donate online or in the collection plate (please add "gloves" to the memo line of your check). Thank you!

Annual Alternative Christmas Fair

Mark your calendars for Sunday, December 4th! Join us after worship for our Alternative Christmas Fair in the fellowship hall. The Alternative Christmas Fair is an opportunity to give to a charity or mission of your choice in honor of someone else. What a perfect gift! It always fits, never expires, and makes everyone feel good. Christmas cookies and punch!

Church Directory Updates and Photos

Throughout the Advent season, we will be taking photos and asking everyone to review the contact information we have for you. We plan to publish an updated pictorial directory at the start of 2023.

Christmas Joy Offering – December 18

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 communities of color and providing support for Presbyterian church workers in their time on need.

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; Barbara Fatkin; Roland Hill; Jan Hirsh; Melissa McDougald; Jinny McDuffie; Ray Mosely; Michael Napier; Minor Vernon; Genny Whitaker

RALPH HAWKINS, Pastor and Teaching Elder PAUL EVANS, Parish Associate GUNNER CHANCEY, Director of Music
KAREN JONES, Clerk of Session JENNIFER WHITEHEAD, Ministry Assistant

In-Office hours this week: Sunday, Monday, Thursday 9:00-1:00
Jennifer Cell: 478-318-7911

WWW.NORTHMINSTERMACON.ORG

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565WIMBISH RD. MACON, GA 31210