

Christ our Saviour was born upon this day, to save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray; O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy!

From God our heavenly Father a blessed angel came, and unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same, how that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name. O tidings of comfort and joy...

"Fear not, then," said the angel, "Let nothing you affright; this day is born a Savior of a pure virgin bright, to free all those who trust in him from Satan's power and might." O tidings of comfort and joy...

Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place, and with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace; this holy tide of Christmas doth bring redeeming grace. O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy!

THE FIFTH LESSON Luke 12: 35-40

³⁵ 'Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. ³⁹ 'But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'

HYMN *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning*
From the new Presbyterian Hymnal

(Congregation remains seated. The choir will introduce the hymn, and then the congregation will sing the hymn two times.)

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning; keep your lamps trimmed and burning; keep your lamps trimmed and burning, for the time is drawing night.

Sister, don't grow weary; brothers, don't grow weary; children, don't grow weary, for the time is drawing night.

Soon and very soon we are going to see the King. Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're going to see the King!

No more crying there; we are going to see the King. Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're going to see the King!

No more dying there; we are going to see the King. Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're going to see the King!

Soon and very soon we are going to see the King. Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're going to see the King!

THE SIXTH LESSON Revelation 1: 4-8

⁴ John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. ⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. ⁸ 'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

CAROL *Of the Father's Love Begotten*
Divinum Mysterium, Plainsong

Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be, He the Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending He, of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see evermore and evermore!

Christ, to Thee with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to Thee this hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises of honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory, evermore and evermore!

*THE RECESSIONAL HYMN 6
Jesus Comes With Clouds Descending Helmsley

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth;
5 and he shall be the one of peace. If the Assyrians come into
our land and tread upon our soil, we will raise against them seven
shepherds and eight installed as rulers.

CAROL *The People Who Walked in Darkness* Isaiah 9
From the new Presbyterian Hymnal

The people who walked in darkness awaken to see a great light.
The people who dwelt in the land of the shadow rise to a star shining
bright.

Refrain: His name is Wonderful, Counselor, Almighty God, Father
forever, Prince of Peace.

For God has enlarged the nation, and prospered the fruit of its land.
God's people are blest with the harvest of victory, gift from a
bountiful hand. (Refrain)

The yoke of despair and bondage, the chains of the slave master's
rod are shattered and scattered like dust in a windstorm, loosed by
the justice of God. (Refrain)

For us now a child is given, for all the despised and forlorn. The rule
of compassion shall rest on his shoulder. God's own Messiah is
born! (Refrain)

How vast is our God's dominion! How far truth and mercy extend.
The zeal of the Lord will accomplish its purpose: justice shall reign
without end. (Refrain)

THE THIRD LESSON Luke 1: 26-38

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in
Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name
was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was
Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The
Lord is with you.' ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and
pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her,
'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. ³¹And
now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will
name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the
Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his
ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and
of his kingdom there will be no end.' ³⁴Mary said to the angel, 'How

God.' ³⁸Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it
with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her

CAROL *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* arr. Jason Kr

THE FOURTH LESSON Luke 2:1-14

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all
world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was
taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own
towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph 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. ⁵He went
to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was
expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her
to deliver her child. ⁷And 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. ⁸In that region there were
shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock
at night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory
of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the
angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good
news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the
city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will
be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and
lying in a manger.' ¹³And 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 favours!'

*HYMN 23 *Angels We Have Heard on High* Glo

CAROL *He is Born* French traditional carol arr. David Willcox

Refrain: He is born, he is born, Sound forth the oboes with pipes
replying; He is born the divine Christ child, Sing we praise to the
infant mild.

More than four thousand years on earth, Seers his advent were
prophesying; More than four thousand years on earth, Man awaited
this joyous birth. (Refrain)

O what beauty and charm are thine, Heav'nly grace to our hearts
supplying; O what beauty and charm are thine, O what sweetness

Announcements

We thank the choir members and musicians who have contributed their time and talent to this worship service.

Bob Bielawski	Frankie Bielawski
Di Brammer	Dana Esworthy
Hope Hale	Tom Hale
Sarah Godsey	Lynn Kirby
Sheila Lancaster	Margie Lemon
Susan Lockard	Sandy Lyle
Debbie Newman	Karen Smith
Paula Jones	Jeff Midkiff

*Lighting of the advent candle:
Tom and Jane Olsen*

*Ushers:
John and Lee Ann Kabana, Stan Lanford, Chuck Lockard*

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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PHONE: (540) 366-8115

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 12:30 pm

Russ Merritt, Interim Minister	Melissa Hudson, Music Director
Susie Tallmage, Secretary	Lauren Godsey, Nursery Attendant

Let us keep those listed below in our prayers.

Members

Bobby Brammer	Kara Moretz Campbell	Mary Donato
Eloise Dunagan	Barry Ferrell	Ella Guntner
Tom Hale	Jake Hayes	Betty Hinkle
Rose Howard	Atwood Huff	Mary Ann Huff
Jim Maile	Nancy Maile	Jace Newman
Mac Pace	Dot Seigler	Sandy Smith
Frances Stevens	George Wingeier	Shirley Wynn

Friends and Family

Mrs. Keith – (mother of Judy Ferrell)
Hayley Guthrie – (Grand-daughter of Sheila Guthrie)
Cindy Lanford – (daughter-in-law of Stan and Elise Lanford)
Mike Duckworth – (brother-in-law of Holly Woodson)

***THE SESSION ***

Clerk of Session: Holly Woodson

Class of 2016: Kathv Baker, Sarah Godsev, Greg Cundiff, Chuck Lockard, Tom

Ushers for December 11, 2016 – Barry and Judy Ferrell, Bob Newman, Tom Olsen

Circle 2 will meet Tuesday, December 6, at 7:00 pm with Dana Esworthy.

Circle 1 will meet Tuesday, December 13, at 11:30 am at Pete’s Deli.

A COLD WEATHER CLOTHES COLLECTION DRIVE will be held for the refugees and immigrants of Blue Ridge Literacy through the month of December. Please bring cold weather clothing for any age group---especially women and children---to the church, and Blue Ridge Literacy staff will take the clothing to those in need.

THERE WILL BE NO MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE on Sunday, December (Christmas morning). Our service for that day will be held on Saturday, Christmas Eve, December 24, at 4:00, and will include the celebration of Holy Communion.

December 17th Teddy Bear Toss at ROANOKE RAIL YARD DAWGS GAME!!
Northminster is doing a family outing to see Roanoke’s new hockey team. So bring the whole family and/or a friend with you, and join us at the game! Mark your calendar for December 17, 2016 at 7:05 at the Berglund Center. We will meet at 6:30 to hand out the tickets. The cost is \$8.50/ticket. AND it is a special event night- a Teddy Bear Toss. Bring a Teddy bear to the game, and after the Rail Yard Dawgs score their first goal- we toss our teddy bears onto the ice. They will be collected and distributed to a children’s charity for Christmas. Dana Esworthy is organizing the event, and they expect a big crowd. So we need to know by December 4th who will attend. You can give the money along with the count to either Margie Cundiff or Dana Esworthy before the event or in the offering plate at church. (Write the check to Dana Esworthy please since she is buying the block of tickets.) We are opening this up to everyone in the church, so it should be a lot of fun! If you have any questions, contact either Dana or Margie.

ALL WORSHIPPERS ARE ENCOURAGED to sit towards the front of the sanctuary, to help build a truly worshipping community with everyone gathered together in praise.

Calendar

Today	9:45 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Festival of Lessons and Carols
Monday	5:00 pm	Worship Committee Meeting
Tuesday	7:00 pm	Circle 2 with Dana Esworthy
Next Sunday	9:45 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Morning Worship