

where deity was cradled in a manger.
Few saw or understood this in-breaking,
this Word made flesh,
this divine love become human.
As an adult Jesus walked among us,
healing, teaching, touching, preaching,
breaking new paths to truth,
and making hope and joy real.
He explained life as it really is, as God intends.
We join now with all who receive him,
and seek to serve in his mercy and grace,
sharing Christmas love, hope, joy, and peace.
So be it! Amen!

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

The Graybill Family

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to The Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving / The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

Congregational Hymn 112 *On Christmas Night All Christians Sing*

Hymn 147 *The First Nowell*

Prayer after Communion

*Hymn 122 *Silent Night* (Bell Interlude between Verse 1 and 2)

*The Lighting of Candles

*Hymn of Celebration 134 *Joy To The World*

*The Charge and Benediction

Postlude

*Indicates the People Standing

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome to Christ's Service of Worship for the Lord's Day

*December Twenty Fourth the Year of Our Lord
Two Thousand Seventeen*

*Fourth Sunday of Advent
Christmas Eve*

Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

Passing the Peace

The Gathering Hymn *Good Christians Friends Rejoice*

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today; ox and ass before him now, and he is in the manger now. Christ is
born today! Christ is born today!

The Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle

The O'Conner Family

The Call to Worship (responsive)

Minister: The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light.

**Congregants: Those who lived in a land of darkness,
on them light has shined.**

Minister: The light shines in the darkness.

Congregants: And the darkness has not overcome it.

Minister: Christ is born in Bethlehem!

Congregants: Come, let us adore him!

*Hymn of Praise 133 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

*The Prayer of Invocation and Adoration (unison)

**All glory be unto God in the highest,
and peace to all people on earth!**

**Living God, on this holy day we gather—
to stand with shepherds, amazed at Your glory;
to sing with angels, rejoicing in Your work;
to wait with Joseph, trusting in Your promise;**

Communion Servers:
Greg Cundiff, Barry and Judy Ferrell, Matt Graybill, Lynn Kirby

Announcements

Ushers for December 31, 2017 – Allen Kling, Stan Lanford, Mac and Ann Pace

New address for Betty Dixon 3715 Mckinley Ave. Fort Myers FL 33901.
Phone number (239) 939-0638

Our Operation Christmas Child boxes are being delivered to Togo. Togo has 7.9 million people and is located in West Africa. 40% of the population is 14 years old or younger. Your shoebox is just the first step to transforming a young life for eternity. Every shoebox gift delivered by Operation Christmas Child is a tangible expression of God's love. This year in Togo, Bible lessons will be offered to children who receive a shoebox gift. These 12 lessons guide children through a study of who Jesus Christ is, what it means to follow Him, and how to share this exciting message with others. More than 118,000 children in Togo have enrolled in this program since it started, and over 101,000 have graduated. Thanks to everyone who supported this ministry!

Devotional booklets and daily scripture reading guides can be found in the hallway outside the fellowship hall in the new wall racks and on the table. Current and past copies of devotional booklets including, *These Days* and *The Upper Room* are available. Please help yourself to any of these excellent publications.

Calendar

Today	9:45 am 11:00 am	Sunday School Christmas Service
Next Sunday	9:45 am 11:00 am	Sunday School Worship Service

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
3911 Greenland Avenue, Roanoke, Virginia 24012-3250
WEBSITE: WWW.NORTHMINSTERPCUSA.ORG

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

Let us keep those listed below in our prayers.

Members

Bobby Brammer	Betty Dixon	Michael Hambrick
Jake Hayes	Betty Hinkle	Lois Hopkins
Rose Howard	Jim Maile	Floyd Moretz
Jace Newman	Mac Pace	Buddy Smith
Sandy Smith	Ruth St. Cyr	Frances Stevens
Jo Ann Threlkeld	Lois Waddell	George Wingeier
Shirley Wynn		

Friends and Family

Cindy Lanford – (daughter-in-law of Stan and Elise Lanford)

*THE SESSION *

Clerk of Session: Holly Woodson

Class of 2017: Lynn Kirby, Judy Ferrell, Matt Graybill, Bob Newman, Dave Snider

Class of 2018: Dana Esworthy, Barry Ferrell, Jyke Jones, Stan Lanford, Ann Pace

Class of 2019: Margie Cundiff, John Kabana, Allen Kling, Sarah Plymale,

Holly Woodson

10:30 am

Summer Worship