

THE OFFERTORY

*THE DOXOLOGY

GO FAITHFULLY

*HYMN 134 *Joy to the World*

*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*THE POSTLUDE

*Indicates the People Standing

Ushers
Allen Kling, Stan Lanford, Mac and Ann Pace

Acolytes
Maggie Graybill, Kaylee O'Conner

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

December Thirty first the Year of Our Lord
Two Thousand Seventeen

First Sunday after Christmas

GATHER JOYFULLY

THE PRELUDE

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION

Psalm 148, Galatians 4:4-7

(Congregants are encouraged to read and reflect upon these passages as they prepare for worship.)

BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

THE PASSING OF PEACE

THE GATHERING HYMN *Good Christian 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 CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Leader: Look to the Lord your God, and live.

Congregants: Give thanks to the Holy One, our Savior.

Leader: For though we once were dead in sin,

Congregants: Now, by the grace of God, we live.

Leader: Let us worship God!

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION (unison)

Loving God, giver of all light and life,

You sent Jesus Christ into the world

not to condemn, but to save.

Help us to lift up the light of Christ

so that the world might believe in him

and receive the gift of eternal life.

**We pray through Christ, the light of the world.
Amen.**

* HYMN 133 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

*THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**God our Redeemer, we confess
that we are people of ashes and dust.
We grumble and complain
when You have provided all we need.
We continue to walk in darkness
when You have given us the light of the world.
Forgive us, God of grace.
Help us to trust in You
so that we may not perish
but may have eternal life.**

*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Minister)

*RESPONSE 113 *Angels We Have Heard on High* (Verse One)

Angels we have heard on high; sweetly singing o'er the plains and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains, Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

GROW SPIRITUALLY

THE FIRST LESSON Isaiah 61:10 – 62:3

¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹ For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. ² The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. ³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / 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.

NO CHILDREN'S MESSAGE / CHILDREN LEAVE FOR JP's

THE SECOND LESSON Luke 2: 22-40

²² When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.' ²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹ 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.' ³³ And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.' ³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. ³⁹ When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

THE SERMON "Resolve, Resolute, Resolutions" Chuck Lockard

HYMN 119 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Announcements

The candle will shine on December 31 for **Tyler Joseph Allen** who was baptized on December 30, 2012. His parents are Emily and T.J. Allen and celebrating with them are Tyler's grandparents, Barry and Judy Ferrell along with aunt and uncle, Kim and Wally O'Conner and cousins Cameron and Kaylee. By lighting this candle we reaffirm our commitment to undertake the responsibility for the Christian nurture of this child, Tyler. We remember him and his family with loving prayers.

Ushers for January 7, 2017 – Jyke Jones, Allen Kling, Mac and Ann Pace
Communion Servers for January 7, 2017 - Greg and Margie Cundiff

The Amos and Hambrick families would like to thank you for being there for them and for the Christian love you have showed.

We will have a Congregational meeting on January 14, 2018 immediately following the worship service for the purpose of presenting the 2018 budget to the congregation.

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!

Calendar

Today	9:45 am 11:00 am	Sunday School Worship 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