

GO FAITHFULLY

*HYMN OF DEDICATION 134 *Joy to the World*

*THE CHARGE

THE BENEDICTION

*THE POSTLUDE

*Indicates the People Standing

If standing is difficult, please remain seated. Larger print bulletins are available.

Ushers

Matt and Susan Graybill, Lynn Kirby, Allen Kling

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

December Thirtieth the Year of Our Lord

Two Thousand Eighteen

First Sunday after Christmas Day

WE WELCOME YOU TO WORSHIP! You are special, because God brought you here today.
Together we celebrate and rejoice in God's blessings in our lives!

GATHER JOYFULLY

THE PRELUDE

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION

I Samuel 2:18-20; Psalm 148; Luke 2:41-52

(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)

Minister: Holy and awesome is the Name of the Lord.

**Congregants: How wonderful are the works of the Lord,
full of glory and majesty, righteous and eternal.**

Minister: The works of the Lord are faithful and just,
His ways are worthy of trust.

**Congregants: The people of God are fed by His
kindness and mercy.**

Minister: So come, let us worship God!

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION (unison)

**Almighty God,
You wonderfully created,
and even more wonderfully restored,
our place with You through eternity.**

**In Your mercy and grace,
let us share this day and beyond
the divine life of Jesus Christ,
who came to share our humanity,
and who now lives and reigns with You
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

* HYMN OF PRAISE 133 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

*THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**God of grace and truth,
in Jesus Christ You came among us
as light shining in the darkness.
We confess that we have not welcomed the light,
or trusted good news to be good.
We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst,
expecting little, and hoping for less.
Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope,
so that we may receive the fullness of Your grace,
and live in the truth of Christ the Lord.
Hear these our silent prayers.**

*THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Minister)

* RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS 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 READING OF GOD'S WORD Isaiah 11:1-9

¹A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ² The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. ³ His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. ⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together;

and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. ⁹ They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

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.

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE / CHILDREN LEAVE FOR JP'S

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Luke 2:8-14

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by 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!'

THE SERMON

CHRISTMAS VISIONS: HOPE

Dr. Merritt

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 119 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles' Creed* (unison)

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.

THE OFFERTORY

*THE DOXOLOGY

Announcements

Ushers for January 6, 2019 –

Please get Newsletter items for the January/February Newsletter to Debbie Newman at dnewstamp4u@cox.net by Thursday, January 2nd.

Have you checked the decorations in the narthex? The mitten tree is waiting for you to cover it with mittens, gloves, scarves, socks, etc. for children at the Presbytery Center, Rescue Mission, Ram and Salvation Army. Our snow last week may be just a beginning. The little ones need you!!!

THE CHURCH LIBRARY HAS MANY BOOKS available to church members, to guide you in your respective spiritual journeys, Members are encourage to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to deepen their spiritual knowledge and understanding of the faith.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE A PLEDGE CARD for your 2019 financial support of God's work at Northminster, please contact Barry Ferrell, Stewardship Chair.

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

Let us keep those listed below in our prayers.

Members

Bobby Brammer	Betty Dixon	Michael Hambrick
Jake Hayes	Betty Hinkle	Rose Howard
Tom Kirby	Jim Maile	Floyd Moretz
Ramona Ortiz	Ann Pace	Mac Pace
Buddy Smith	Sandy Smith	Frances Stevens
Jo Ann Threlkeld	Bill Waddell	George Wingeier
Shirley Wynn		

Friends and Family

Mike Duckworth-(Holly Woodson's brother-in-law)
Cindy Lanford – (daughter-in-law of Stan and Elise Lanford)

***THE SESSION ***

Clerk of Session: Holly Woodson

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

Class of 2020: Bob Bielawski, Frankie Bielawski, Lynn Kirby, Bob Newman,
Dave Snider