

THE SIXTH LESSON Revelation 1: 4-8

⁴John 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. ⁷Look! 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

*THE RECESSIONAL HYMN 348 *Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending* Helmsley

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE *In Dulci Jubilo* J.S. Bach

*The Congregation is invited to stand and sing on the hymns as indicated.

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

Bob Bielawski	Frankie Bielawski	Tyler Allen	Amari Gilliard
Di Brammer	Dana Esworthy	Porter Burnette	Amia Gilliard
Hope Hale	Tom Hale	Abbie Caldwell	Camden Newman
Sarah Godsey	Lynn Kirby	Mia Esworthy	Jace Newman
Margie Lemon	Susan Lockard	Maggie Graybill	Kaylee O'Conner
Russ Merritt	Debbie Newman	Lucy Graybill	Nicole Paquette
Tina Paquette	Bethany Price	Jake Hayes	
Betsy Robison	Karen Smith	Lilly Hayes	
Paula Jones	Jeff Midkiff	Quinn Kirby	

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*December Eight the Year of Our Lord
Two Thousand Nineteen*

FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

THE PRELUDE

THE WELCOME AND OFFERING

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

*THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN 88 *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* Veni Emmanuel
(Verses 1, 6, and 7)

THE COLLECT

CAROL *Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day* arr. Michael Helman

THE FIRST LESSON Isaiah 11:1-10

¹A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ²The 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. ³His 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; ⁴but 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. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. ⁶The 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. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. ⁹They 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. ¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

HYMN 129 *Lo, How a Rose* Es Ist Ein' Ros'
(Congregation please remain seated)

THE SECOND LESSON Micah 5:2-5a

² But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. ³ Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. ⁴ And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they 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 *Comfort Ye My People* Taylor Davis

THE THIRD LESSON Luke 1: 26-38

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' ²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. ³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He 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. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' ³⁵ The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶ And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God.' ³⁸ Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

CAROL *No Wind at the Window* Hymn 101, Columcille

THE FOURTH LESSON Luke 2:1-14

¹ In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph 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. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And 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. ⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' ¹³ And 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 113 *Angels We Have Heard on High* Gloria
(The Youth will sing the first verse)

CAROL *Still, Still, Still* arr. Cathy Moglebust

HYMN 140 *Once in Royal David's City* Irby
(Congregation please remain seated)

CAROL *How Silently* Lee Roesti

CAROL *He is Born* arr. Robert Wetzler

*HYMN *God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen* God Rest Ye Merry

THE FIFTH LESSON Luke 12: 35-40

³⁵ 'Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶ be 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. ³⁷ Blessed 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. ³⁸ If 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. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'

CAROL *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers* arr. Linda Cable Shute

*HYMN 384 *Soon and Very Soon* Andrae Crouch

