

THE OFFERTORY

*THE DOXOLOGY Hymn 708 Verse One

**We give thee but thine own, whatever the gift may be; all that we have is thine alone, a trust,
O Lord, from thee.**

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

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Dedication

GO FAITHFULLY

*HYMN OF DEDICATION 151 *We Three Kings of Orient Are*

*THE CHARGE (Minister)

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE POSTLUDE

*Indicates the People Standing

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

Ushers

Ron Staton, Greg Theimer, Holly Woodson, Ray Williams

Communion Servers

Walt and Marie Haines, Ray Williams

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

January Fifth the Year of Our Lord

Two Thousand Twenty

Epiphany Sunday

**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

Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14

(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 136 *Go Tell it On the Mountain* (Refrain)

**Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that
Jesus Christ is born!**

**Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent us Salvation that
blessed Christmas morn.**

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Minister: From distant lands and faraway shores,

God calls us together to worship Him.

Congregants: Like a shepherd tending his flock,

God gathers us

Minister: Along straight paths and cleared byways,

God guides our journey.

Congregants: Like a mother taking her child's hand,

God brings us home.

Minister: Let us sing aloud with gladness,

come, let us worship the Lord!

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION (Unison)

**Almighty God, Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
You have filled us with the light of the Word,
Who became flesh and lived among us.
Let the light of faith shine in all that we do,
that we may live as stars shining in the darkness.
Be with us in our worship this day and all days,
and shine Your light through all we say and do.
Through Christ, the true Light, we pray. Amen.**

* HYMN OF PRAISE 147 *The First Nowell*

*THE CALL TO CONFESSION

God is light, and in Him there is no darkness.
As we confess our sins to Him,
we leave our darkness and move into His light.
Let us come to God with our repentance.

* CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison)

**God of glory, You sent Jesus among us
as the light to all the world,
to reveal Your love and mercy for everyone.
We confess that our sin and pride
hide the brightness of Your glorious light.
We turn away from those who need us.
We ignore cries for justice and for peace.
Through Your grace, cleanse us of our sins,
and fill us again with Your Holy Spirit,
so that, forgiven and renewed,
we can shine with the glory of Jesus.
Hear these our silent prayers.**

*THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

* RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS 113
Angels We Have Heard on High (Refrain)
“Gloria in excelsis Deo”

GROW SPIRITUALLY

THE FIRST READING OF GOD’S WORD Ephesians 1:3-14

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God’s own people, to the praise of his glory.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE SECOND READING OF GOD’S WORD John 1:1-5

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

THE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON

LIFE IN THE NEW LIGHT

Dr. Merritt

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 150 *As with Gladness Man of Old*

*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.

Announcements

We will be remembering **Kallie Cameron** who was presented for baptism by their parents, Kevin and Emma on January 3, 2016. Celebrating with them is a special friend, Lois Hopkins. It is our hope that Kevin and Emma have felt the prayers of the church in raising Kallie in the Christian faith.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated during our morning worship service.

There will be a Called Session meeting held today immediately following the worship service. The nominated Elders are invited to attend.

A MEETING OF THE CONGERGATION has been called for Sunday January 12th immediately following the worship service, for the election of new elders.

A MEETING OF THE CONGERGATION has been called for Sunday January 19th immediately following the worship service to install new elders and to receive the church budget for 2020

ACOLYTES AND LITURGISTS are being scheduled for 2020. If you (or your children) are interested in serving in worship services, please let the Minister know.

Members who joined Northminster from Green Ridge are encouraged to participate in ushering and/or serving communion. There are no requirements to usher, but to serve communion, you must be an elder (active or inactive). The sign up sheets are on the bulletin board in the hallway across from the offices. This would work to further blend the two congregations. If you have any questions, you can contact Margie Cundiff, Judy Ferrell, or Bob Bielawski (members of the Worship Committee).

Did you see it? Our Mitten Tree is back in the narthex. Each year our undecorated tree goes up the first of December. It looks mighty bare until we decorate it with gifts of mittens, gloves, scarves, socks and leggings, and other “keep warm” items for children. We have included panties and underwear, mostly for children, but recently RAM has sent out requests for socks and underwear for adults, so we could use just a few of those. There are often some good sales at this time of the year. After Christmas these will be distributed to Presbyterian Center, Rescue Mission, RAM, Salvation Army Women’s Shelter. Can you help make our tree bloom with lots of things?

THE MINISTER'S ADULT BIBLE STUDY is offered each Sunday at 10:00, prior to worship, and is open to everyone seeking to learn more of God's teachings. Come join us each week (and bring your Bible!).

Calendar

Today 10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service / Communion

Wednesday 5:30 pm Bells

Next Sunday
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Russ Merritt, Transitional Pastor Melissa Hudson, Music Director
Susie Tallmage, Secretary Lauren Godsey, Nursery Attendant
Ministers...Members of Northminster

If you or someone you know should be included in the list of those needing special prayer, please contact the Minister. If prayers have been answered and we can celebrate God’s goodness by removing your name from the list, let the Minister know.

Let us keep those listed below in our prayers.

Members

Rod Bittner	Bobby Brammer	Charlotte Cooley
Michael Hambrick	Jake Hayes	Betty Hinkle
Barbara Jones	Bob Lancaster	Floyd Moretz
Ann Pace	Mac Pace	Gladys Presson
Buddy Smith	Sandy Smith	Frances Stevens
Jo Ann Threlkeld	Olive Whisner	

Friends and Family

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

*THE SESSION *

Clerk of Session: Holly Woodson

Class of 2019: Margie Cundiff, John Kabana, Allen Kling, Holly Woodson

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

Class of 2021: Vee Hayes, Judy Ferrell, Chuck Lockard, Jeremy Newman,
Ray Williams

