

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

## NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 1, 2017

EPIPHANY SUNDAY



### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

#### WELCOME

*As the welcome pads are passed down your aisle, please help us to celebrate your worshipping with us today by signing the register.*

#### PRELUDE

*How Lovely Shines the Morning Star*

Paul Manz

#### A Thought as You Prepare for Worship

*"I think joy and sweetness and affection are a spiritual path. We're here to know God, to love and serve God, and to be blown away by the beauty and miracle of nature. You just have to get rid of so much baggage to be light enough to dance, to sing, to play. You don't have time to carry grudges; you don't have time to cling to the need to be right."* —Anne Lemott

*Happy New Year! We are so glad you have begun 2017 by worshipping with us!*

*We are celebrating Epiphany today and will have communion and reaffirmation of our baptismal vows next Sunday.*

As asterisk\* indicates that you are invited to stand in body or in Spirit as you feel led and are able.

Please join in saying or singing all text that appear in **bold italics**.

We traditionally use the "debts" and debtors" form of the Lord's Prayer

<sup>†</sup>Reprinted with permission of United Church Press from *Bread for the Journey*, ed. Ruth C. Duck. ©1981 by the Pilgrim Press.

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

REV. ROBERT GEORGE, KAREN GEORGE, JUDY COLBY-GEORGE

When Jesus is born to Mary and Joseph,  
***God is there.***

When Jesus is presented at the temple,  
***God is there.***

When Simeon holds Jesus in his arms,  
***God is there.***

When Anna recognizes Jesus in the temple,  
***God is there.***

This very morning,  
***God is here.***

In the future we cannot see  
***God is there.***  
***Let us worship God!***

\*HYMN

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Purple, No. 133

\*OPENING PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR NEED OF GRACE<sup>†</sup>

***Eternal God, who can make all things new, we humbly bring you the record of our lives in the year that just ended. Where life has been good to us, do not let us take more of the credit than we deserve. Where we have been good to others, help us to forget all thoughts of honor and reward. Where we have fallen short, forgive us, and free us from brooding over what is past. Help us to receive your grace. Cleanse us by your mercy, guide us by your truth, fill us with your love, lead us forward with your all-conquering hope. Through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.***

ASSURANCE OF RESTORATION

The Peace of Christ be with you.

***The Grace of God in Christ is never apart from us.***

The hope of tomorrow is that we are freed from the failures and the wrongs of the past.

***We are forgiven! Let us praise God with songs of joy!***

\*RESPONSE

*Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!*

Purple, No. 591

\*SHARING THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you.

***And also with you.***

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

### A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

HYMN OF PREPARATION      *Thy Word*      Purple, No. 458

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

***Light of the World, those who sit in darkness await your spark of inspiration. Light your revealing flame in each of our hearts. Set your radiant truth aglow in our minds that we might hear, understand and follow you. Amen.***

SERMON READING      Luke 2: 21-38      NT, p. 59

SERMON      *Praise as Protest*

\*HYMN      *Mary and Joseph Came to the Temple*      Purple, No. 148

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

### SHARING OUR LIFE AND MINISTRY

### WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Call to Offering

Offertory      *O Come, All Ye Faithful*      Arr. John F. Wade

\*Response      *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful*      Purple, No. 654

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

***O God, whose bounty we have all received, accept this offering of your people with our gratitude, and so follow it with your blessing that it may promote peace and good will among all peoples, and advance the coming commonwealth of our Savior and Friend Jesus Christ, Amen.***

*Since there is no Sunday School today, children should remain in the worship service with their parents. Worship bags are available in the narthex.*

*Today's scripture is one of three stories within Jesus' childhood narrative. Most often on Epiphany Sunday we hear of the three Magi from the East who follow the star to baby Jesus. This year, our journey with the Narrative Lectionary brings us to this story of Jesus being presented at the temple to Simeon and Anna.*

## BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

\*HYMN      *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*      Purple, No. 611

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE      *Trumpet Tune on 'Wachet Auf'*      Martha Sobaje

*If you depart during the  
Postlude, please be  
mindful of those still in  
worshipful  
contemplation.*

### TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

*Preaching*—Rev. Jessica C. Gregory

*Liturgist*—Nan Shorey

*Time with the Children*—Kelly Brest van Kempen

*Musicians*—Dr. Christopher Owen and Paul Vander Weele

*Ushers*—Kent Geibel, Ryan Gregory, Dennis Trautvetter

*Acolytes*—Calvin & Merritt Wooldridge

### Our Northminster Family at Work

#### PROGRAM AND WORSHIP STAFF

Rev. Michael D. Kirby—*Senior Pastor & Head of Staff*

Rev. Jessica Gregory—*Associate Pastor*

Rev. Ann Ohlrogge Johnson—*Parish Associate*

Dr. Christopher Owen—*Director of Music*

Paul Vander Weele—*Organist*

Kate Lee—*Director of Youth Music*

Margaret Parcell—*Director of Northminster Nursery School*

Meredith Rogowski—*Director of Children's Ministry*

Alex DeMarco—*Director of Youth Ministry*

Gina DiBenedetto—*Director of Mom's Morning Out*

Ami Bauman—*Coordinator of Mom's Morning Out*

Lisa Martinez—*Sunday Nursery Supervisor*

Claudinetta Voltaire—*Sunday Nursery Assistant*

#### ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT STAFF

Sharyn Wilson Woods—*Parish Administrator*

Mike Jin—*Financial Secretary*

Davit Hovakimyan—*Facilities Manager*

Alex Villegas—*Sunday Sexton*

#### CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Greg Boyer—*Clerk of Session*

Jim Kirk—*Moderator, Deacon Board*

Members of NPC—*Ministers*

***Northminster Presbyterian Church, 2515 Central Park Ave., Evanston IL 60201***

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