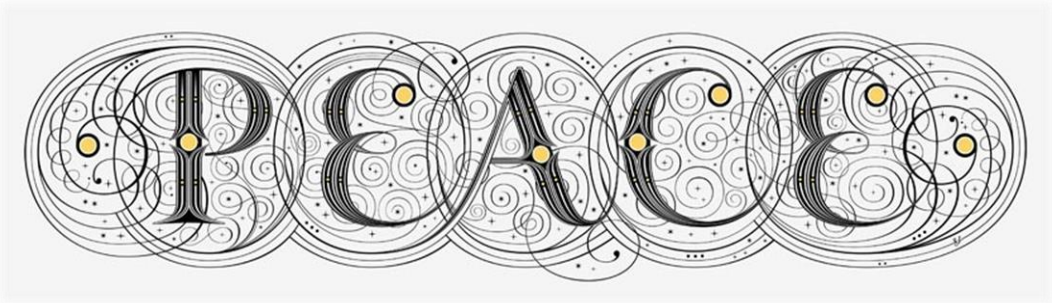
Service of Word and Sacrament

Northminster Presbyterian Church

December 4, 2016 — 2nd Sunday of Advent — And On Earth Peace



Gathering Around the Word

On this second Sunday of Advent, we are invited to consider the Peace of this season. In coming weeks, we will move to Joy and Love.

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 *Divinum Mysterium* Dorothy Sheets

> *A Thought as You Prepare for Worship*
> *"There are two ways of spreading light:*
> *to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it."*
> *~ Edith Wharton*

Introit *God's Children* Beth R. Mochnick

Preschool and Elementary Sunday School Choirs

An 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 appears in **bold italics.***

*The Lighting of the Advent Wreath — Rev. S. Blain

We dream God's dream, of a world at peace
where enemies are reconciled, and children play in safety;
where the poor and powerless find justice.

We remember God's promise of a Ruler of Peace,
filled with the Spirit of God, of wisdom and understanding,
of counsel and might, of justice and faithfulness.

We light this Advent candle, and we pray:

Come Lord Jesus!
Open our lives to the Peace which you bring;
let us turn to you, and get ready! Amen

Today in Sunday School, Northminster's youngest will hear the story of the Annunciation and the Angel's visit as told in Luke 1:26-28.

Northminster warmly welcomes Alex DeMarco as its new Youth Director. Alex is thrilled to be here! He recently earned his Master of Divinity at Princeton Seminary.

*Hymn *People, Look East* Purple, No. 105

*Opening Prayer

*Sharing the Peace
The Peace of Christ be with you. ***And also with you***.

Proclaiming the Word

A Time with the Children

Welcoming Our New Director of Youth Ministry

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 Joel 2: 12-13, 28-29 OT pp. 847, 848

Advent Plea Tune, Purple, No. 372

Beset by trials, by loss made numb,
Our fearful trembling earth,
Longs for new visions promised us.
Come, Love, spring from new birth.

Sermon *While to That Rock I'm Clinging*

Responding to the Word

Sharing our Life and Ministry

Worship through Giving

Call to Offering
Offertory *There Shall a Star from David* F. Mendelssohn
*Response *Prepare the Way of the Lord* Purple, No. 95

*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.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

There are no specific communion hymns for Advent, but this one reminds us that all of the seasons of the year are times when Christ's great feast is welcome.

*HYMN *Come to the Table* Purple, No. 508

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord is here.

God's Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

* * *

…..who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

* * *

…..great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.

Today, as a sign that God comes to us where we are, in the midst of life, we receive communion at our seats. Remembering that we are each loved for our unique selves, when the bread comes, you are invited to eat it individually. Remembering too, that we are part of a larger community of believers, we hold the cup until all have received and then drink together.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (using "debts" and "debtors")

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

RECEPTION OF THE ELEMENTS

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Bearing and Following the Word into the World

*Hymn *The People Who Walked in Darkness* Purple, No. 86
(verses 1, 2, 3 & 5)

*Charge and Blessing

*Closing Response

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

Postlude *Picardy* Barbara Harbach

The Chancel Flowers today are given to the Glory of God by Mary Sheppard in loving memory of Grant and Lois Leslie.

Today's Worship Leadership

Preaching—Rev. Jessica Gregory
Liturgist—Rev. Michael Kirby
Candle Lighting—Byron and Fran Kinney
Time with the Children—Pastor Michael
Musicians—Dr. Christopher Owen, Paul Vander Weele, Northminster Chancel Choir
Children's Choirs
Choral Soloists—Sarah Schroeder, soprano; Jackie King, alto;
Dennis Kalup, tenor; Steve Uliana, bass
Ushers—Kent Geibel, Ryan Gregory, Dennis Trautvetter
Greeters—Sara & Gordon Guth, Carol & Bob Lounsbury
Acolytes—Nate & Theo Janes-Smith

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*
Sarah Bartolome—*Interim 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*
Claudinette 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*

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