

CAROL SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 30, 2018

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS



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

Greensleeves

R.V. Williams

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Purple, No. 136 vs. 1 & 2 (Soloist)

Congregation: Refrains & v. 3

*OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Purple, No. 121

If this is your first time visiting with us, please stop by the Visitor Table at the top of the stairs near the Tower Entrance for a special gift.

Today's service is a reward for an Advent devoid of Christmas carols. While the rest of the world has turned its sights on the coming New Year, liturgically, we are in the midst of the Twelve Days of Christmas from the 25th to Epiphany. So, we will, one last time, sing the carols of Christmas as the prayers they are meant to be.

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR NEED OF GRACE

We pause, O God, to look over the past year—a year in which you were with us, but we were not always with you. Merciful God, we confess that we have broken trust with you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. Forgive us Lord and lead us into the new year that we might follow you more faithfully. We ask this—that we might be a people pleasing to you, a people who allow your light to shine in the darkness and who bring praise and glory to your name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF RESTORATION

Purple, No. 119

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

*RESPONSE

Joy to the World

Purple, No. 134, vs. 1&3

*SHARING THE PEACE

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

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

All children in Kindergarten and older will remain in worship following "A Time with the Children" today. Preschoolers should be in their classroom at 9:25 a.m. for Sunday School. There is no Music Time today for the children.

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

HYMN OF PREPARATION/PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Silent Night, Holy Night Purple, No. 122, vs. 1&3

SERMON READING

Matthew 1:1-17

NT, p. 1

This is the word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

SERMON

A Deeper Family Story?

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN *The First Nowell* Purple, No. 147

*PROFESSING THE FAITH OF THE CHURCH
Away in a Manger Purple, No. 114 vs. 1&3

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

RESPONSE *Joy to the World* Purple, No. 134, vs. 2&4

OUR WORSHIPFUL WORK TOGETHER

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Call to Offering

Offertory *What Child Is This* Soloist Doug Balkin

*Response Purple, No. 144 vs. 1, 3&4

In the Bleak Midwinter

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of hope and joy, with grateful hearts we present these fruits of our toil. Receive and bless all we give as we dedicate ourselves anew to be living witnesses to the love and servanthood of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN *There's a Star in the East* Purple, No. 135

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*POSTLUDE *Joy to the World* Arr. R. Ritter

The First Nowell was written in 1823, but you would hardly recognize that version. Today's text comes from an 1871 revision of the carol by composer John Stainer. He also made revisions to the Cornish tune that was originally written down by William Sandys.

In the Bleak Midwinter is one of the few 19th century carols written by a woman. English poet Christina Rossetti was asked to write a Christmas poem by Scribner's Monthly in 1872. Sometime later Gustav Holst set it to music and the carol was formally published in the early days of the 20th century.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Preaching—Rev. Jessica C. Gregory

Liturgist—Bob Wooldridge

A Time with the Children—Al Williams

Musician—Dr. Christopher Owen

Soloist—Doug Balkin, baritone

Ushers—Steve Davies, Stephanie Mitchell, Al Williams

Acolytes—Anabelle & Jasper Brown



Our Northminster Family at Work

PROGRAM AND WORSHIP STAFF

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

Rev. Jessica C. Gregory—*Associate Pastor*

Rev. Ann Ohlrogge Johnson—*Parish Associate*

Dr. Christopher Owen—*Director of Music*

Paul Vander Weele—*Organist*

Margaret Parcell—*Director of Northminster Nursery School*

Meredith Rogowski—*Director of Children and Family Ministries*

Dr. Sarah Bartolome—*Director of Youth Music*

Rev. Autum Lum—*Interim Director of Youth Ministry*

Carey Garrison—*Director of Mom's Morning Out*

Lisa Martinez—*Sunday Nursery Supervisor*

Claudinetta Voltaire—*Mom's Morning Out Coordinator
& Sunday Nursery Assistant*

ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT STAFF

Sharyn Wilson Woods—*Parish Administrator*

Athina Sato—*Financial Secretary*

Alex Villegas—*Sunday Sexton*

Mark Larsen—*Interim Facilities Manager*

CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Greg Boyer—*Clerk of Session*

Gretchen Wooldridge—*Deacon Moderator*

Members of NPC—*Ministers*

**Northminster Presbyterian Church, 2515 Central Park Ave., Evanston IL 60201
847.869.9210 www.northminpres.org**