

# SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

## NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 9, 2018 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN



### 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

*Two Advent Carols*

Paul Manz

#### A Thought as You Prepare for Worship

*"One of the essential paradoxes of Advent: that while we wait for God, we are with God all along, that while we need to be reassured of God's arrival, or the arrival of our homecoming, we are already at home. While we wait, we have to trust, to have faith, but it is God's grace that gives us that faith." —Michelle Blake*

#### INTROIT

*Silent Night*

M. Johnson, Arr.

#### \*THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

People of God, the Messenger who wrote Malachi lived in a time when peace was largely out of the people's control, and where people had stopped looking to God as a source for their peace.

***We are here seeking peace to overcome struggle, violence, apathy, and cruelty.***

*The second Sunday of Advent, our hope gives birth to a desire for peace in all its forms. Next week is the Sunday we celebrate Joy.*

*Michelle Blake is a poet and author who lives in Brattleboro, Vermont.*

*An asterisk\* indicates that you are invited to stand in body or in Spirit as you feel led and are able. Please join in speaking or singing all words printed in **bold italics**.*

It can be dangerous to call for peace.

***This might be the job God needs us to do.***

Today we light a candle to symbolize God's peace.

***We hope in the One who will come.***

***We pray for God's peace to prevail.***

(Light the candles of Hope and Peace.)

People of God, take courage.

***We take courage from the light of God's peace.***

\*OPENING HYMN *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* Purple, No. 82

\*OPENING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

\*SHARING THE PEACE

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

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD, CLAIMING THE PROMISE

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN/CHILDREN'S CHOIR

*O Come, Little Children*

Schultz

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION

Words of scripture: Galatians 3:27-29

NT, p. 189

Presentation of the candidate for baptism

QUESTIONS TO FAMILY, CONGREGATION & CHILDREN

RENUNCIATIONS OF EVIL

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

***I do.***

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love?

***I do.***

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?

***I will, with God's help.***

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles' Creed* Purple, Page 17

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

BAPTISM

BLESSING, ANOINTING & PRESENTATION OF LIGHT

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

*Today in Sunday School, Northminster's children will learn about the angel's visit/the annunciation.*

*Because the children of the congregation play a role in making promises on behalf of the newly baptized, and to symbolize that God reaches out to claim us in love and grace before we can respond, we place the baptism early in the service, not as a response, but claiming the promise made in Christ before any action on our part.*

## WELCOME OF THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

Owen George has been received.... Let us welcome the newly baptized.

***With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into Christ's church to share with us in his ministry, for we are all one in Christ.***

HYMN                      *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*                      Purple, No. 486

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

***Unstop our ears, O God, that we may hear your Word proclaimed this day. Open our minds and hearts to be changed. Free us from worry, fear, destruction, and self-centered pride. Teach us, Lord, that we may follow you more faithfully. Amen.***

ANTHEM                                      *Advent Hope*                                      D. Hakes

## ADVENT VISITOR

SERMON READING                      Malachi 3:1-6                      OT, pp. 889-890  
This is the word of the Lord.                      ***Thanks be to God.***

SERMON                                      *He Is Like a Refiner's Fire*

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### SHARING OUR LIFE AND MINISTRY

### WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Call to Offering

Offertory                                      *Veni*                                      J. Krug

\*Response                      *Prepare the Way of the Lord*                      Purple, No. 95

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

***Kind and Loving One, for all that we have, for who you have made us to be, we are grateful and humbled. Let what we offer here be used so that those who need may have, those who lament may hope, and those who wander may find welcome and home. Amen.***

*This Sunday we are celebrating the baptism of Owen George Hayes, son of Jennifer and Brad Hayes, and little brother to Emma and Luke. Owen was born on April 12, 2018 and we are thrilled to welcome him into this family of faith.*

*Today's Advent visitor is renowned Contralto and London-based actress Susanna Maria Arne Cibber, one of two renowned soloists who participated in the World Premier performances of Handel's Messiah in Dublin, Ireland in April of 1741. While the letter she reads is imagined, all of the events contained in it are factual.*

# BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*Pastor Michael wrote the text for today's closing hymn in 2005. He will be going on a hymn-writing retreat at the end of this month.*

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

\*CLOSING HYMN

*Prepare*

See Insert

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE *The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns* D. Johnson

*The Chancel Flowers today are given to the Glory of God by Laurie, Chad and Jack Davidson in loving memory of Paige and Betty Carlin.*

## TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

*Preaching*—Rev. Michael D. Kirby

*Liturgists*—Rev. Jessica C. Gregory & Becky Wanberg

*Candle Lighting*—Kathi & Bill Gregoline

*Musicians*—Dr. Christopher Owen, Paul Vander Wee, Dr. Sarah Bartolome, Northminster Adult Bell Choir, Children's Choir

*Ushers*—Greg Boyer, Tom Buess, Andy Eloff, Leslie Noble

*Acolytes*—Annabelle & 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 Wee—*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*  
Claudiette 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*

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