

THE HOUR OF WORSHIP HAS ENDED;
NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS

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NORTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Making Disciples -
Making a Difference*

Jesus
HOPE
FORMANKIND

December 1, 2024
9:30 A.M.
First Sunday in Advent
www.northpres.church
607-734-2977

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

*Good shepherd, seek me out,
and bring me back again to your fold.
Smile upon me with your favor,
that I may dwell in your house
all the days of my life,
and praise your name forever. Amen.*
Based on a prayer of Jerome (c. 342 – 420)

↑Please stand, as you are able. ↓Please be seated.

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

QUIETING OUR HEARTS AND MINDS *(Psalm 25, vs. 1-10)*

The Lord be with you!
And also with you!

Let us quiet our hearts and our minds as we gather to worship the Lord.

PRELUDE

The King Shall Come

GATHERING AS THE BODY OF CHRIST *(Psalm 16, vs. 1-2, 7-11)*

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust;
Do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
Let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.
Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD!

Good and upright is the LORD;
Therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

He leads the humble in what is right,
And teaches the humble his way.

All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,
For those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

Thanks be to God.

↑GIVING PRAISE TO GOD IN SONG

I Will Sing of the Mercies

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory now and forever. Amen.

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

This is the body of Christ broken for you.
Amen

This is the blood of Christ shed for you.
Amen

COMMUNION MUSIC *Watchman, Tell Us of the Night*

UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Mighty God, holy is your name. We thank you for gathering us at your table and feeding us with the bread of life. As we leave this table to go to the many places where you call us, send your Spirit to accompany us, so that we may share in your magnificent work: lifting up those who are laid low, showing mercy to all in need of human kindness, and feeding the bodies and hearts of all those who are hungry. Amen.

BEING SENT FORTH TO LOVE AS CHRIST LOVES US

↑GIVING THANKS TO GOD IN SONG

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

GTG #82

CHARGE

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Wake, Awake, For Night Is Flying

Therefore we join our voices with all those who sing your praise in every time and every place:

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

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest.

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son. You sent him into this world to bring freedom to the captives of sin, and to establish justice for the oppressed.

He came among us as one of us, taking the lot of the poor, sharing human suffering, dying an unjust death.

We rejoice that in his dying and rising again, you set before us the sure promise of new life, the certain hope of a heavenly home where we will sit at table with Christ our host.

On the night of his arrest, Jesus took the bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, including the one who was to betray him, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord, until he comes again.

Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and this wine and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising, as we await the day of his coming.

With thanksgiving we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service

Great is the mystery of faith:

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

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, that we may be one with all who share this feast, united in ministry in every place.

Strengthen us, O God, in the power of your Spirit to bring good news to the poor and loose the chains that bind. Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in final victory, and we shall feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

↓**BELL CHOIR**

Promised Land

↓**CALL TO ADMIT OUR SINS AND TURN TO GOD**

A voice crying out in the wilderness: Repent! For the kingdom of God has come near. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins against God and neighbor.

ADMITTING OUR SINS AND TURNING TO GOD IN PRAYER *(Unison)*

God of our past, our present, and our future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and your peace.

In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD'S GRACE AND FORGIVENESS *(Responsive)*

Hear the good news! Every valley is lifted up; every mountain made low. Now the glory of the Lord is revealed, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

↑**GIVING GLORY TO GOD**

Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)

GTG #581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST JESUS *(Responsive)*

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Let us live by and be guided by the Holy Spirit in all things, including how we treat one another.

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

Please exchange the peace of our Lord with one another in the way you are comfortable.

↑**GIVING PRAISE TO GOD IN SONG**

To You, O Lord

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

↓**PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE AND WISDOM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

Holy God, our hope and strength, by the power of your Spirit prepare the way in our hearts for the coming of your Word, so that we may see the glorious signs of your promise fulfilled; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

The Gospel According to Luke 21:25-36

GATHERING OF CHILDREN

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

HYMN

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

GTG #85, vs 1

SCRIPTURE READING

The Book of Jeremiah 29:4-11 and 33:14-16

SERMON

OUR RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

↑RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD IN SONG

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

GTG #88, vs 1-5

PROCLAIMING WHAT WE BELIEVE WITH THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

↓GIVING OF OURSELVES TO GOD IN THANKSGIVING

OFFERING OF MUSIC

Song of the Watchman

↑DOXOLOGY

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

GTG #606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

↓PRAYER DEDICATING OUR GIFTS TO GOD'S WORK

PRAYING FOR GOD'S MERCY

We especially pray for ...

We give you thanks for all that is good in our lives and all that you have given to us. May we have wisdom and strength to follow and do your will.

We thank you especially for ...

We pray all these prayers and the prayers deep within our hearts in the name of your Son and our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

They shall come from east and west and from north and south to feast at the table of the Lord. All are welcome at this table. The grace of God is free and open to all in need – and there is no one who does not need God's grace.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe.

You formed us in your image and set us in this world to love and serve you.

When we were captives in slavery, you delivered us to freedom, and made covenant to be our sovereign God. When we were stubborn and stiff-necked, you spoke to us through prophets who looked for that day when justice shall triumph and peace shall reign over all the earth.