

Northminster Presbyterian Church

Welcomes You to Worship

**2nd Sunday
after Christmas**

January 3, 2010

10:00 A.M.

The Reverend Dwight McCormick II, Pastor

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements (pass attendance roster)

Pastoral Prayer

Prelude

Introit

***Call to Worship**

Cindy Ater

One: Arise! Shine! Your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you!

Women: **We have seen the star in the east, and we are following.**

Men: **We have remembered God's wonder and promise,
and we are worshiping.**

Children: **We have come not to get presents, but to give them!**

One: Lift up your eyes and look around;
God's people now gather together,
to open our hearts and sing out our praise.

All: **The mystery of God's wonder and grace is here:
Come, let us adore!**

***Unison Invocation**

God of wonder and mystery, today we remember how you surprise us in every age. Into the gloom of fear and want, you bring light; into emptiness, you bring abundance; into the cold, you bring warmth. Into the hardness of the world, you bring the greatest power we have known, in the seemingly powerless form of an infant. Enter now, Holy One, among us and within us, and move us to joyful adoration of your mystery and wonder.

***Hymn No. 2**

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"

Red Songbook

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

One: We remember the Magi, who set out with singular focus on the promise of the heavens.

All: And we remember the ways that we have lost sight of you, God, as the bright guide for our lives.

One: We remember that they stayed determined on their journey, not even swayed by Herod's power and promises.

All: And we remember that often we have started out well, but strayed from your path, detoured by our fleeting fears and desires.

One: We remember the wise ones who adored the child: wisdom and wealth falling to their knees before a poor infant.

All: And we remember that too often we have given our adoration to wealth or wisdom, not seeing the Christ in our midst. Forgive us Lord Jesus and bring the light of your forgiveness into our hearts and minds.

Assurance of Grace

One: To each of us who knows that we have lost sight of the promise, or lost the way of our God, or lost hope, God has a promise: "I am with you." God gives a holy presence, and forgiveness, and new hope, in the Christ.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Response of Praise

GLORIA PATRI

*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.*

Joys and Concerns

Congregational Prayer Response

*O Lord hear our prayer, O Lord hear our prayer,
when we call answer us.*

*O Lord hear our prayer, O Lord hear our prayer,
come and listen to us.*

Special Music

The Harmony Trio

Children's Time and the Lord's Prayer (debts and debtors)

First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

People: Thanks be to God

Second Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

People: Thanks be to God

Sermon

"Rise and Shine!"

Rev. Dwight McCormick II

***Hymn No. 595**

"Alleluia"

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

***Response of Praise**

DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Savior, Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***Prayer of Dedication (unison)**

Purposeful Lord, we praise your wisdom and your insight in providing us the opportunity to give to your ministries through this local church during 2010. Through His birth and deeds, Jesus set us free from earthly limitations. Today, we joyously acknowledge that our spiritual blessings are evidence of your love. Amen.

***Hymn No. 56**

"The First Nowell"

***Benediction**

and Response

***Postlude**

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*Those who are able are invited to stand.