

Northminster Presbyterian Church

Welcomes You to Worship

**First Sunday
in Advent**

December 1, 2013

10:00 A.M.

The Reverend Dwight McCormick II, Pastor

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Episode on "Veni, Emmanuel"

SMITH

Prayer of Invocation and The Lord's Prayer (debts and debtors)

Introit

"Advent Carol"

***Call to Worship**

Leader: We gather as people whose faith is strong

People: and as those who struggle with their faith.

Leader: We gather as people of prayer, who sometimes do not know what to pray for.

People: We gather with the longing to be transformed.

Leader: We come as God's people, from busy days or lonely nights.

People: We come to worship, and to witness God's work in the world.

ALL: Let us worship God!

***Hymn No. 2**

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Blue Hymnal

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that far too often, we do not value our life together, or honor the faith which you have given us. We take others for granted, and we fail to realize how important we are to each other. Forgive us, God! Strengthen our faith so that we may truly live as members of the one body, the church, the place where our faith lives. Amen.

Silence is kept for individual confession of sin.

Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: Once you were no people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. Hear the good news, and be at peace.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen!

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Congregational Response "Grant Us Peace"

Dona nobis pacem, pacem.

Dona nobis pacem.

Joys and Concerns

Congregational Prayer Response

*O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer;
when I call answer me.*

*O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer;
come and listen to me.*

The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise.

All my hope comes from God.

The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise.

God, the well-spring of life.

Anthem

"Rejoice! Rejoice!"

HAUGEN

Children's Time

Lighting of the First Advent Candle

Rob, Liz, Lilly & Grace Adams

Leader: Today is the first Sunday of Advent. We light the first candle as we begin the season of waiting and preparing.

People: It is a season of faith.

Leader: Our faith is in the God who makes covenant with us. Our faith is in God's son, Jesus Christ, who comes to us as grace embodied, transforms us into one body, and makes us members of one another.

ALL: Let the light of faith shine in our hearts!

First Reading

Psalm 122

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

Romans 12:1-5

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon “It’s a Wonderful Life: Have Faith in It” Rev. Dwight McCormick II

***Hymn No. 5** “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” Blue Hymnal

Video Minute for Mission Christmas Joy Offering

Invitation to the Offering

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

“Adagio from Flute Sonata, Opus 4”

LOEILLET

***Response of Praise**

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

Your days are surely coming Holy One, just as surely as the needs of this world are real. We offer these gifts in awe of your victory over the cross and in celebration of your present and coming reign, that life—even life abundant—might multiply for all people. Bless these gifts, that they may be used according to your will. Amen.

***Hymn No. 106** “Soon and Very Soon” Green Hymnal

***Blessing by Music** “He Came Down” BELL

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

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*Those who are able are invited to stand.

Please stay for fellowship in the Family Room following worship.