

Northminster Presbyterian Church

Welcomes You to Worship

January 2, 2022

2nd Sunday of Christmas

10:00 a.m.

Ministers: Everyone in the Congregation
The Reverend Dwight McCormick II, Pastor

Prelude

“He is Born, The Divine Christ Child”

WOOD

Welcome and Opening Prayer

***Call to Worship**

Lois Shroyer

Leader: This past year, we found ourselves on a different road,

People: yet we still look for that Baby born long ago in Bethlehem.

Leader: This year, we are worshiping in different ways,

People: yet we still look for that Child of Christmas who gifts the needy with hope, who sets free the oppressed.

Leader: This year, we gather in different places,

People: yet we still long to find the One who has come for us, even as we remain apart from those we love so much.

Hymn (sung)

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

Glory to God

Call to Confession

Lois Shroyer

Unison Prayer of Confession

If we turned toward the Light you offer, Creator of stars, we would find the road you want us to travel. But we are more comfortable on those shadowed streets of seduction we know all too well. We can drive down the roads of rebellion with our eyes closed. We continue to play hopscotch with hate and fear on the sidewalks placed along the paths of prejudice.

Have mercy on us, Shaper of universes as well as our lives. How foolish we are to continue to take the easy paths, rather than that road of justice, that road of hope, that road of forgiveness that are less traveled in these days. May we be like those wise ones of so long ago, who found grace, salvation, and you by following that different road of faith which led them to that Child called Jesus, who would guide them and the rest of us, from that moment on.

Silence is kept for individual confession of sins

Leader: Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Lois Shroyer

Leader: Open your eyes! The Light has come to all of us, to each of us. The Light of justice, the Light of love, the Light of life.

People: This Light is not just for us, so we will carry it to everyone we meet, as we travel down the different road of faith in our lives. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen!

***Gloria Patri (sung)**

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.

Joys and Concerns (Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer)

Pastoral Prayer and Prayer of Illumination

Meditation

“Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light”

JS BACH

First Reading

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 60:1-6

Leader: Hear now what The Spirit is saying to The Church

People: Thanks be to God

Second Reading

New Testament Lesson

Matthew 2:1-12

Leader: Hear now what The Spirit is saying to The Church

People: Thanks be to God

Sermon

Rev. Dwight McCormick

Responding to the Word

Stewardship Reminder (Offering plate is outside the sanctuary on the table by door)

***Doxology (sung)**

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

Affirmation of Faith (from A Brief Statement of Faith)

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Hymn (sung) "O Little Town of Bethlehem" Glory to God

Benediction

Closing Chorus "Go Now in Peace" BESIG

Postlude "Quem Pastores" WALCHA
(Come Your Hearts and Voices Raising)

*Those who are able are invited to stand

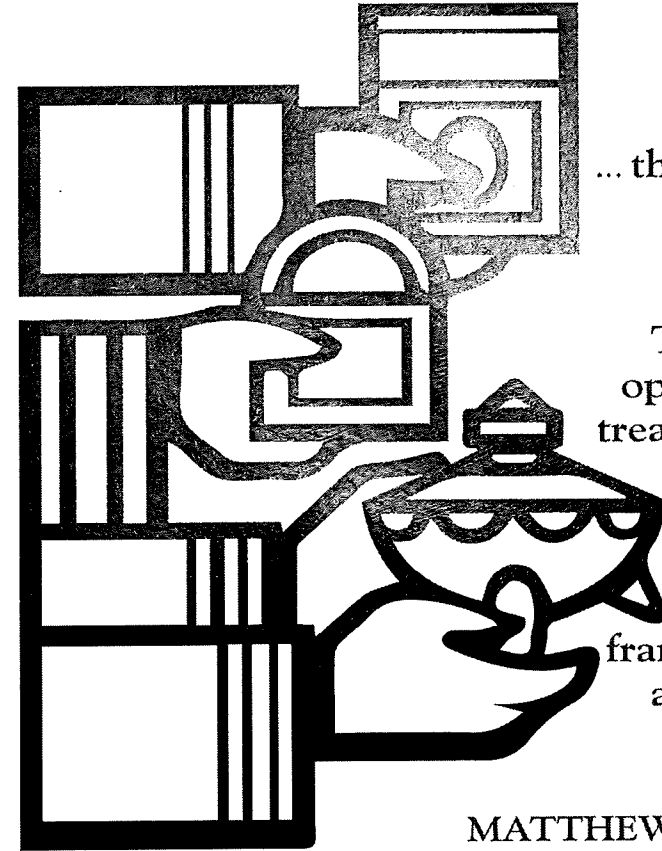
Thank you to David Hapner and Dawn White for leading us in song

Today's liturgy is provided by
Rev. Tom Shuman from lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com

Please visit these links as we continue to be the Body of Christ in new ways:
www.northminsterspringfield.org

www.facebook.com/northminsterpresbyterianspringfieldohio

EPIPHANY



... they bowed
down and
worshiped
him.
Then they
opened their
treasures and
presented
him
with gifts
of gold,
frankincense
and myrrh.

MATTHEW 2:11, NIV

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