

Northminster Presbyterian Church

Welcomes You to Worship

November 27, 2022

1st Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m.

Ministers: Everyone in the Congregation

The Reverend Dwight McCormick II, Pastor

Prelude

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Hymn Tune

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

Jim Griffin

Leader: I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord!”

People: **Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

Leader: Jerusalem — built as a city that is bound firmly together.

People: **To it the tribes go up, and the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.**

Leader: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “May they prosper who love you.

People: **Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers.**

Hymn No. 108

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

Glory to God

Call to Confession

Jim Griffin

Unison Prayer of Confession

Holy God, remind us that you have formed us with your own hands, made us in your own image, and placed us in this world to be stewards of your good creation. Made for generous relationships, we have retreated into ourselves. Created for the purpose of making your goodness known, we allow lesser tasks to occupy our time. Forgive our failure to live in the way you made us to live. Renew within us the knowledge of your love so that we may live joyfully and gratefully, sharing what we have. For we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who offered himself for us, and opens to us the way of eternal life.

Silence is kept for individual confession of sins

Leader: Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Jim Griffin

Leader: With the coming of Christ, God has given us the gift of forgiveness, even seventy times seven. God reaches out to offer us new life, a new day, a chance to begin again — loved and beautiful, even as on the first day of creation. Believe the promise of the Gospel:

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

*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 (Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer)

Jim Griffin

Lighting of the First Advent Candle: Hope

Jim and Julie Griffin

Leader: Watch and wait for Christ’s coming! Light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer.

Hear God’s promise of hope from Isaiah 2:2-4:

In days to come

the mountain of the Lord’s house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,

and shall be raised above the hills;

all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,

‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,

to the house of the God of Jacob;

that he may teach us his ways

and that we may walk in his paths.’

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,

and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,

and shall arbitrate for many peoples;

they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,

and their spears into pruning-hooks;

nation shall not lift up sword against nation,

neither shall they learn war any more.

Leader: Let us pray: Faithful God, out of war’s chaos, you bring the order of peace. Renew us in hope, that we may work toward Christ’s advent of peace among all nations.

People: **God of promise, God of hope, into our darkness come.**

ALL: **He came down that we may have hope, he came down that we may have hope, he came down that we may have hope, hallelujah forever more.**

Pastoral Prayer and Prayer of Illumination

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.

Meditation

“Larghetto”

BACH

First Reading

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 2:1-5

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

People: Thanks be to God**Second Reading**

New Testament Lesson

Matthew 24:36-44

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**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 The Confession of 1967)**

In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all. The risen Christ is the Savior of all humanity. Those joined to him by faith are set right with God and commissioned to serve as his reconciling community. Christ is head of this community, the church, which begins with the apostles and continues through all generations. God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals his love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinners. The power of God's love to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of his love.

Hymn No. 110

"Love Has Come"

Glory to God

Benediction**Closing Chorus**

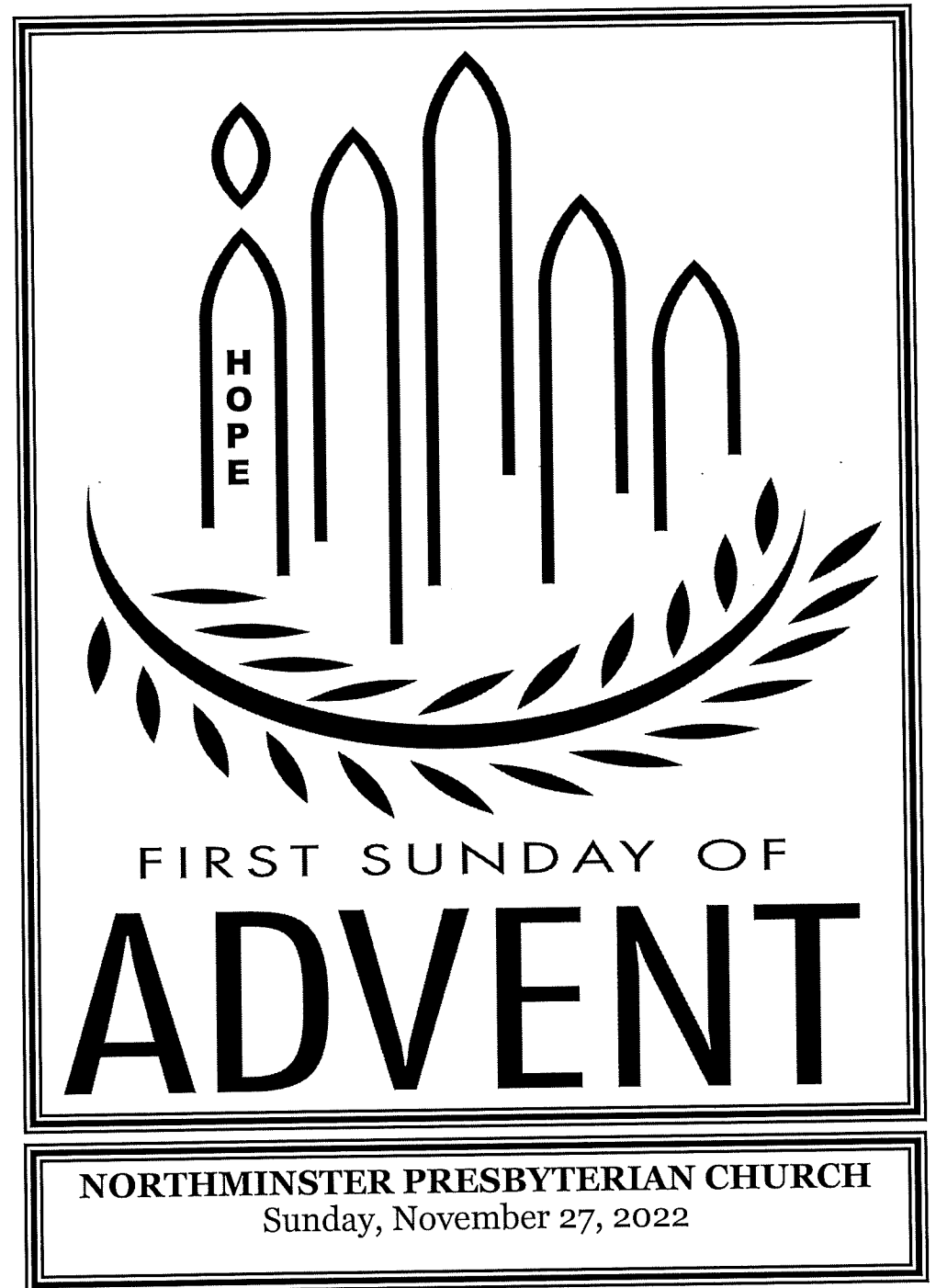
"Go Now in Peace"

BESIG

Postlude

"Awake! Awake! and Greet the New Morn"

Those who are able are invited to stand
 Thank you to David Hapner for leading us in song
 Today's liturgy is provided by Barbara Chaapel
 and The Presbyterian Outlook

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