

seek, serve and embrace

1660 Kessler Boulevard, East Drive

Indianapolis, IN 46220

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Northminster Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Nov 27 2011

9 and 11 a.m.

APPROACHING GOD

** Those who are able please stand.*

Silence your cell phone before worship begins.

Congregation responds in bold.

CENTERING THOUGHT

Waiting is something full bodied. Perhaps waiting isn't even a good word for it. Pregnant is better. You've worked on something for a while. You are excited by it, even happy, but you are wise and step back. You take a walk, but this walk isn't to avoid the writing on your desk. It is a walk full of your writing. It is also full of the trees you pass, the river, the sky. You are letting writing work on you.

Natalie Goldberg, *Wild Mind: Living the Writer's Life*.

WELCOME

Teri Thomas

PRELUDE “Lo, Jesus Comes With Clouds Descending”
Clarice Stegall, Organ

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Teri Thomas

A child’s eyes light up as he imagines a dancing,
laughing time, far in the future.

Boys and Men:

*An old person dreams of a day when infirmity
and anxiety will cease.*

Girls and Women:

**A wise person reflects on the untapped
potential within humanity – the potential to
build a world where joy and sharing prevail.**

All:

**And we, gathered in the name of Christ, catch a
glimpse of Advent hope.**

***HYMN NO. 2** “Come Now Long Expected Jesus”
*(Children may come forward during the final verse of
hymn for the wreath lighting.)*

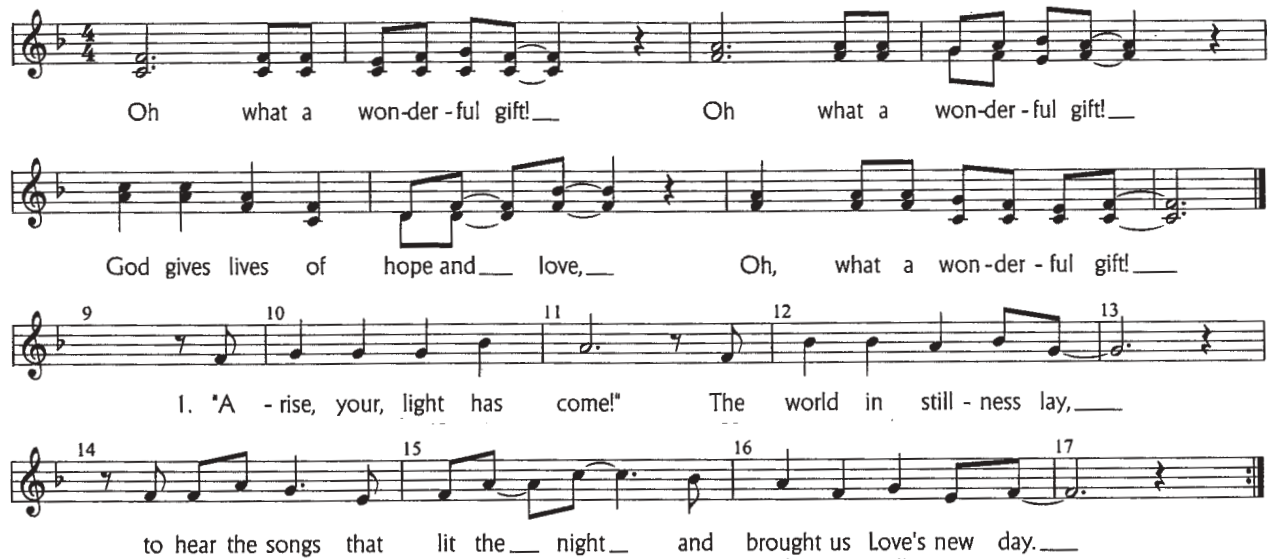
LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

CHILDREN’S TIME

Michael Boris

*RESPONSE

"Oh, What a Wonderful Gift"



Oh what a won-der - ful gift! ___ Oh what a won-der - ful gift! ___

God gives lives of hope and ___ love, ___ Oh, what a won-der - ful gift! ___

9 10 11 12 13
1. "A - rise, your, light has come!" The world in still - ness lay, ___

14 15 16 17
to hear the songs that lit the ___ night ___ and brought us Love's new day. ___

(Children dismissed for Children's Church.)

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord God, we praise you for sending light into this world. We confess that we live as though the light never defeated darkness. We confess that we ignore the Savior you sent to be among us and to live in us. We've kept the birth of your Son confined to the Christmas season and do not yearn for his coming each moment in our waiting hearts. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Help us rejoice in the light so that your grace can illuminate the darkened places of our hearts.

*SILENT CONFESSION

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

The living God frees us and refreshes us.

Let us experience the peaceful energy of God's forgiveness and presence. Glory to God in the highest!

*GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST



Glo - ry to God in the high -



est and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to God's



peo - ple on earth

earth.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

(Greet one another with words of Christ's peace.)

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

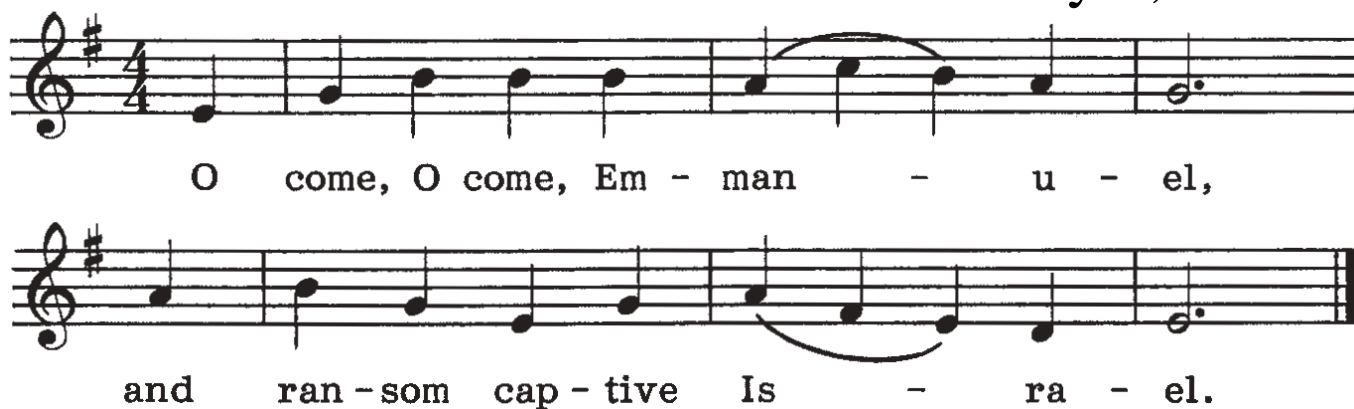
(9 am) "This is my Prayer" Celebration Choir
(11 am) "Living Word of God Eternal" Chancel Choir

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 64: 1 – 9

PSALM 80: 1 – 7

Gavin Hayes, Cantor



O come, O come, Em - man - u - el,
and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the psalm, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

EPISTLE LESSON

1 Corinthians 1: 3 – 9

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"The Gift of Presence"

Teri Thomas

SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

ANTHEM

"People, Look East"

(9 am) Section Leaders (11 am) Chancel Choir

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

(9 am) Barbara Meriweather

(11 am) Sharon Hunt and Jesse and Alicia Noneman

*RESPONSE “Thank Our God for Sisters, Brothers”



1 Thank our God for sis - ters, broth - ers, one by grace, in har - mo - ny,



Join - ing heart to heart with oth - ers, mak - ing strong com - mu - ni - ty.



With the cross of Christ our stan - dard, let us sing as with one voice,



Glo - ry, glo - ry, yours the prom - ise: we who are the church re - joice.



RESPONDING TO GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Ruth Chadwick Moore

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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
debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

OFFERING

(Sign the pew pad and pass it to your neighbor.)

OFFERTORY “Savior of the Nations, Come”

*DOXOLOGY

OLD 100TH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God,
whom we adore. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

GOING FORTH

***HYMN**

“Clear out the Cluttered Heart”

ST. THOMAS

Clear out the cluttered heart, lest like the crowded inn, there is no room, no way to part a path to let Christ in. Then use the opened space for faith, for hope, for prayer, for nurturing a life of grace toward strangers needing care. An unexpected guest, arriving late at night, whom you provide with food and rest, will fill your heart with light. And with that light comes more, a gift that can't be priced: the joy of learning through your door you welcomed in the Christ.

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE “O Savior, Throw the Heavens Wide”

Clarice Stegall, Organ

NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

THE FLOWERS DECORATING THE CHANCEL

today are given by John and Mary Lisher, in honor and in memory fo their parents.

GREET OUR NEW MEMBERS

Welcome our new members after each worship service today in the Gathering Place.

NORTHMINSTER'S MUSIC MINISTRY PRESENTS *Christmas Lite* at 1pm, Sun., 12/4. Hear our choirs perform secular songs of the season. Our special guest, from Atlanta, Georgia, is jazz musician, Max Wellman. The show is free and there may be a visit from someone in red. Before the show enjoy the all-church lunch at noon in Calvin Hall, PWNC Bake Sale and Alternative Gift Market in the Gathering Place.

CALLING ALL BAKERS!

The PWCN Bake Sale is Sun. 12/4, 10 am - 1 pm in the Gathering Place. Bring your baked items to church on Sat., 12/3 by 3 pm or Sunday morning, 12/4! Contact Norma Arend at 251-1549 with questions.

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS MARKET

Shoppers should be prepared to **pay wth cash or a check**, no credit/debit cards accepted. Packets are available today for you to read about the organizations prior to Sun, 12/4.

J.O.Y. GRP. CHRISTMAS LUNCH, 12/8

Tammany Harding will play the piano and lead us in Carols. Maureen Purcell will read a story she wrote entitled the “Stolen Christmas Tree”. **Bring a “White Reindeer” gift** (aka White Elephant gift) to share.

CLOTHE-A-CHILD DATE CHANGED! NOW ON 12/1

Clothe-A-Child is now Thurs., 12/1 at 10 am at Sears/Castleton Square. **Financial donations and volunteer shoppers are needed.** Make checks payable to NPC with Clothe-A-Child noted. Specially marked Clothe-A-Child envelopes are available in your annual giving envelopes, the pews, and the church office. Sign up sheet for volunteer shoppers is located across from the Choir Room. Please consider donating your time, money, or both for this very important traditional Christmastime outreach.

CHRISTMAS LITE IS SUNDAY, 12/4

WITH SPECIAL MUSICAL GUEST, MAX WELLMAN

On Sunday, 12/4, don't miss:

Alternative Gift Market & PW Bake Sale, 10am - 1pm;

All-church lunch in Calvin Hall at Noon

Christmas Lite with special musical guest, jazz singer & pianist, Max Wellman at 1pm

MUSIC IN WORSHIP

The anthem "People, Look East" is an arrangement of a merry French carol, text written by the English poet Eleanor Farjeon (1881 – 1965). The carol expresses the hope and excited expectation of Christ's coming. Christ is called Love, Guest, Rose, Star, and Lord. This particular arrangement is by the British composer, organist, and conductor Malcolm Archer (born 1949). Archer is Director of Chapel Music at Winchester College, England, where he trains and conducts choirs and teaches organ and composition. Previously, he has served in churches at Norwich, Bristol, and St. Paul's Cathedral.