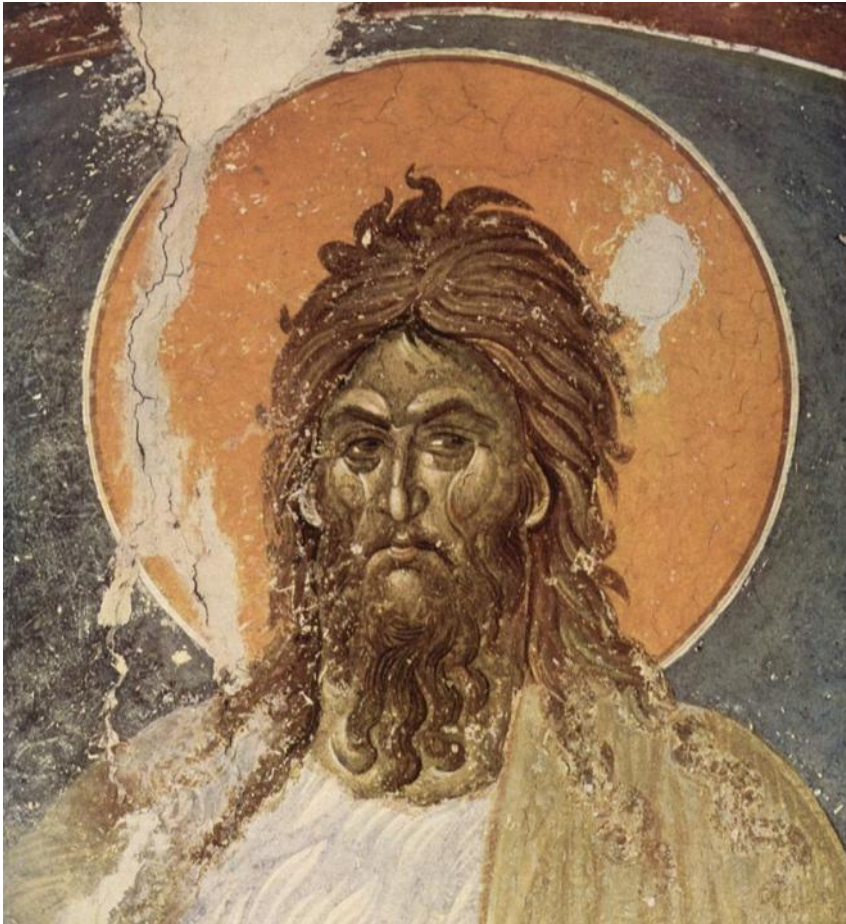


Welcome to

Northbrook Presbyterian Church

December 11, 2016



LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH

Please sign and pass the Welcome Register along your row and back. Please note joys and concerns on the Prayer Request Cards and place them in the offering.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Peggie Schiller

One: Someone is shouting:

All: Get ready for God!

One: Someone is whispering:

All: Get ready for God.

One: Someone is singing:

All: Get ready for God! God is coming soon!

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Mary Beth and Jim Parks

One: A candle burns, the sign of our hope.
A candle burns, the sign of our love.
A candle burns, the sign of our joy.
God of Baptizing One, come to us again this Advent.

**All: May we have a faith that renews our lives
and empowers us to live joyfully in the light of your promise.**

* OPENING SONG 106—*Prepare the Way, O Zion*

Hymnal

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**With John the Baptist and all your saints, we ask this grace:
that we may know repentance for our sins that is true and heartfelt.
Let us prepare the way of the Lord and make his paths straight.
With John the Baptist and all your saints, we ask this grace:
that our nation may be turned around to the values of God's kingdom.
Let us prepare the way of the Lord and make his paths straight.
With John the Baptists and all your saints, we ask this grace:
that your church may be renewed by the fire of your Spirit.
Let us prepare the way of the Lord and make his paths straight.**

—*Silent Reflection*—

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

* THE PEACE

*As we are reconciled to God and to one another, share a sign of Christ's peace with your neighbor.
—Children are invited to go to KIDS' Connection at this time—*

* SONG 95—*Prepare the Way of the Lord*

Hymnal

SCRIPTURE READING—*Romans 13:1-12*

NT. p. 162

SONG 96—*On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

Hymnal

SERMON—*Prepare the Way*

Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi

Matthew 3:1-12

WE BRING OUR GIFTS FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST

OFFERING ANTHEM—*To Believe*

Evancho/Sorenson

Chancel Choir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

* SENDING SONG 94—*Now the Heavens Start to Whisper*

Hymnal

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

* Please stand if you are able.

CCLI license: 1018801

Cover Art: *John the Baptist*. Fresco in Gracanica monastery, Serbia, XIII c. commons.wikimedia.org.

Liturgy adapted from *Candles and Conifers*, Wild Goose Worship, Glasgow, Scotland. 2005.

*We are glad you're here and thankful for the opportunity to worship with you
and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.*

*We seek to be an open, rational and compassionate people,
learning each week what it means to live the love of Jesus Christ in worship and work, in word and deed.
"Everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." ~ John 13:35*

LEADING YOU IN WORSHIP TODAY ARE:

LITURGIST: Peggie Schiller

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Angel Gippert

PRaise BAND: Dan Gross as leader, percussion, guitar & Pete Zajicek on piano

SOUND: Michael Bauhof

VISUALS: Bozenna Johnson

CENTER DOOR GREETER: Nancy Best

SANCTUARY DOOR GREETERS: Tim & Sue Boese

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS: The LaSota family and the Willey family

CHANCEL FLOWERS: Placed by Marilyn Dean and family in memory of Cliff Dean

PRAYER REQUESTS: Edna Gadsby & family, Bill & Connie Jordan & family, Tracey Parker, Karen Keier, Marilyn Nesbitt, Dorene Adams, Vera McBride, Dick & Alma Ross, Al & Mary Alice Shrosbree, Nancy Schaefer, Ruth Krebs, Georgenia Keoleian, Seglinda Kelle-Pritchard, Margaret Babb, Tom Sandercock, Dick Forbush, Keith & Celia Metcalf

Please continue to pray for those with health or personal issues. If a member's name has been inadvertently left off this list, please notify the church office. Also, let the church know when a member is entering the hospital or might like a supportive phone call.

The Board of Deacons also requests prayers for: Church members whose last names begin with the letter L, for people experiencing loneliness and for widows and widowers grieving the loss of their spouses.

ALTERNATIVE GIFT MINI MARKET TODAY

We will hold a "Mini" Market today following worship. If you are able to volunteer to help with the market for about an hour or so, please touch base with Winnie Davies-Hancock in Fellowship Hall.

Thank you, Northbrook, for your support as volunteers and shoppers at our 10th Annual Alternative Gift Market last Sunday. The individuals, families, and organizations who benefit from our purchases and donations truly appreciate our support.

FAVORITE THINGS PARTY—FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16

Northbrook's Favorite Things Party will take place this year on Friday, December 16 from 6:30-9:00 p.m. at the clubhouse of Bingham Woods Condominiums located at 30730 River Crossing Rd in Bingham Farms (just east of Telegraph, south off of 13 Mile Rd). Please bring an appetizer, dessert or drink, a \$3-5 donation per person for rental costs, and a wrapped gift valued at \$25 or less plus. The gift should be something that you love so much that you want someone else to have one just like it! You are not actually giving away your own favorite thing. You are giving away one that you have purchased. We really hope you can be there this year. RSVP in Fellowship Hall during Coffee Hour or contact Nancy Best at (248)514-2624 or email her at nancyjbest@gmail.com.

COOKIES & CAROLS—SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

This popular annual worship service will be held on Sunday, December 18. Join us in Fellowship Hall as we share worship, sing carols and enjoy cookies. Dust off your favorite cookie recipes and fill a plate to share with the congregation after the service.

BLUE CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE – TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20 AT 7PM

This year, Northbrook will be offering a special worship service on Tuesday, December 20 at 7 p.m. for all who are dealing with sadness at this time of year. It is a pre-Christmas service called *Blue Christmas* for those needing a light in the darkness. It is intended to give people who are grieving or otherwise in distress at Christmas a chance to step away from the endless drumbeat in our culture about the “most wonderful time of the year.” *Blue Christmas* will be a different kind of worship, one of comfort, of loss and of hope.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

The Christmas Eve service will be at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 24th. Come and experience the wonder of that very first Christmas Eve in a special family-friendly celebration of faith.

SENIOR SOUPER SUPPER

Senior Souper Supper will resume in January.

MEN'S CONNECTION

Men's Connection will meet at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 15 and then resume on Thursday, January 5.

HAT AND MITTEN TREE

Please bring in new winter hats and mittens for our Hat & Mitten Tree. Place the items on the tree in the main hallway. Thank you!

FORT STREET OPEN DOOR

Join us for a mission trip to Fort Street Open Door in Detroit. We will meet at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 19 in the church parking lot and travel either by van or car. After working, we'll stop for lunch before returning to the church. Please contact Seglinda Kelle-Pritchard at (248)626-6514 for questions.

NOTES

This Week at Northbrook

SUNDAY, December 11

- 10:15 a.m. Worship
- 10:15 a.m. KIDS' Connection
- 11:15 a.m. Blood Pressure Screening
- 11:30 a.m. Deacons' Meeting

MONDAY, December 12

- 8:00 p.m. AA Meeting—Men's Group

TUESDAY, December 13

- 6:30 p.m. Zumba
- 6:30 p.m. Congregational Life Committee Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Building & Grounds Committee Meeting

WEDNESDAY, December 14

- 10:00 a.m. Advent Bible Study
- 5:00 p.m. LOGOS
- 7:00 p.m. Advent Bible Study
- 7:00 p.m. Knit Wits

THURSDAY, December 15

- 8:00 a.m. Men's Connection
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- January Newsletter Deadline

FRIDAY, December 16

- 6:30 p.m. Favorite Things Party

SUNDAY, December 18

- 10:15 a.m. Cookies & Carols Worship in Fellowship Hall
- 10:15 a.m. KIDS' Connection
- 5:00 p.m. Mid & Senior Highs Christmas Party

Other Important December Dates

TUESDAY, December 20

- 7:00 p.m. Blue Christmas Worship Service

SATURDAY, December 24

- 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship Service

SUNDAY, December 25

- 10:15 a.m. Worship

MONDAY & TUESDAY, December 26 & December 27

Office Closed

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Friday: 9:00 a.m.—Noon

Worship: Sundays at 10:15 a.m.

More news and calendar information can be found online at www.northbrookpc.org

Northbrook Presbyterian Church

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Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi, Pastor