

Welcome to
Northbrook Presbyterian Church

December 18, 2016



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

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

Grant Burnham

In the beginning, when it was very dark, God said: 'Let there be light,' and there was light.
God's light goes on shining in the darkness and the darkness has never put it out.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING:

Terri and Owen Hurbis

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.
A candle burns, the sign of your love.
God of Mary and Joseph, come to us again this Advent.

**All: May the light of your love be born anew in us
and move through us to light up the world.**

* GATHERING SONG 85—*Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah*



1 Light one can - dle to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the
 2 Light two can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the
 3 Light three can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the
 4 Light four can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the



light ban - ish dark - ness. He shall bring sal -
 light ban - ish dark - ness. He shall feed the
 light ban - ish dark - ness. Lift your heads and
 light ban - ish dark - ness. He is com - ing;



va - tion to Is - rael, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
 flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.
 lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.
 tell the glad ti - dings. Let your light be shin - ing.

CENTERING PRAYER FOR ADVENT

One: We pray not only *Come, O Lord*, but move us to let you in,
 for you already stand at the door and knock, and your presence is immediate, urgent and powerful.

**All: We pray not simply, *Be with us, Lord*,
 but let us feel your presence always, for you are always here.**

One: We pray not so much *Hear our prayer*,
 but give us words that resonate with the energy of your love,
 for you are the eternal listener of our souls' song.

**All: We pray not always *Help us*,
 but teach us to see you working in our lives.**

One: We pray not just *Give to us*,
 but help us to give to others, that we may experience your generosity from the inside out.

**All: We pray not just *Protect us*,
 but fill us with courage to love and live and learn to follow
 the compelling power of your wild Spirit.**

One: We pray not merely *Save us*,
 but help us understand that in the vastness of your universe you surround us
 always and completely.

**All: We pray always *Come, Lord Jesus*, that we may meet you now.
 Amen.**

SONG 119—*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

**1 Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king.
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"**

**2 Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"**

**3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"**

SONG 147—*The First Nowell, v. 1-3*

***The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.***

Refrain: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

***They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. (Refrain)***

***And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. (Refrain)***

SCRIPTURE READING—1 John 1:1-5

NT p. 238

SONG 110—*Love Has Come (tune: Bring a Torch)*

**1 Love has come: a light in the darkness!
Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;
hear how their song of joy arises:
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!
Love! Love! Glory to God on high.**

**2 Love is born! Come, share in the wonder.
Love is God now asleep in the hay.
See the glow in the eyes of his mother;
what is the name her heart is saying?
Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers.
Love! Love! Jesus, Emmanuel.**

**3 Love has come and never will leave us!
Love is life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us.
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas.
Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!**

MEDITATION—*Light in the Darkness*
John 1:1-14

Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi

WE BRING OUR GIFTS FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST

ANTHEM—*The Little Drummer Boy*
Chancel Choir

arr. Jay Althouse

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

CAROL MEDLEY 145—*What Child Is This*, v. 1 and 3

1 *What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!*

3 *So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high. The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!*

151—*We Three Kings of Orient Are*, v. 1 and 5

**We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.**

**Refrain: O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!**

**Glorious now, behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;
Allelujah, Allelujah! Sounds through the earth and skies. (Refrain)**

136—*Go Tell It on the Mountain*, v. 1 and 3

**Refrain:
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!**

1 *While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. (Refrain)*

3 *Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain)*

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE—*Deck the Halls*

**Deck the halls with boughs of holly, fa-la-la-la-la...la-la-la-la
'Tis the season to be jolly, fa-la-la-la-la...la-la-la-la
Don we now our gay apparel, fa-la-la-la-la...la-la-la-la
Troll the ancient Yuletide carol, fa-la-la-la-la...la-la-la-la**

**See the blazing Yule before us, fa-la-la-la-la...la-la-la-la
Strike the harp and join the chorus, fa-la-la-la-la...la-la-la-la
Follow me in merry measure, fa-la-la-la-la...la-la-la-la
While I tell of Yuletide treasure, fa-la-la-la-la...la-la-la-la**

**Fast away the old year passes, fa-la-la-la-la...la-la-la-la
Hail the new, ye lads and lasses, fa-la-la-la-la...la-la-la-la
Sing we joyous, all together, fa-la-la-la-la...la-la-la-la
Heedless of the wind and weather, fa-la-la-la-la...la-la-la-la
Fa – la – la – la – lah... la – la – la – laaaaaahhh!**

* Please stand if you are able.

LEADING YOU IN WORSHIP TODAY ARE:

Liturgist: Grant Burnham

Director of Music: Angel Gippert

Praise Band: Dan Gross as leader, percussion, guitar, Pete Zajicek on piano

Greeters: Amy Annett, Don & Lee Anne Hemberg

PRAYER REQUESTS: Tracey Parker, Karen Keier, Marilyn Nesbitt, Dorene Adams, Vera McBride, Dick & Alma Ross, Al & Mary Alice Shrosbree, Nancy Schaefer, Ruth Krebs, Georgania Keoleian, Margaret Babb, Seglinda Kelle-Pritchard, 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 M and for safe travels for college students traveling home.

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.

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 29 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.

REMINDER FOR 2016 AND 2017 GIVING

The Finance Committee reminds you to submit your tithes and offerings for the remainder of 2016 before year-end. We are on track to achieve our budget for the year, but that can't happen if your financial commitment is forgotten amid all the preparations and excitement of the Christmas season! Your 2017 pledges are needed, too. We've heard from about 85% of pledging households so far, but those missing commitments leave a big gap in our ability to plan accurately. So, if you haven't already done so, please take a moment to ensure that your 2016 giving is up-to-date and to submit your 2017 pledge. Thank you for your faithful stewardship.

GIVING ENVELOPES

The 2017 Giving Envelopes have arrived and are available for pick up at the church.

JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Due to the holidays and office closures, you will find the January edition of the Northbrook newsletter in early January.

SENIOR SOUPER SUPPER

Senior Souper Supper will resume on Thursday, January 12 at 5:30 p.m.

MEN'S CONNECTION

Men's Connection will resume on Thursday, January 5 at 8:00 a.m.

THANK YOU

To My Northbrook Family,

My heartfelt thank you for your prayers, cards, hugs and caring as my family and I grieve the loss of our beloved James. He is forever in our hearts and we treasure the happy memories as we celebrate God's gift to us this Christmas season. With love and gratitude,

Edna Gadsby

Northbrook Calendar

SUNDAY, December 18

- 10:15 a.m. Cookies & Carols Worship in Fellowship Hall
- 4:00 p.m. Mid Highs Christmas Party
- 6:00 p.m. Senior Highs Christmas Party

MONDAY, December 19

- 8:00 p.m. AA Meeting—Men's Group

TUESDAY, December 20

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

WEDNESDAY, December 21

- 10:00 a.m. Advent Bible Study
- 7:00 p.m. Advent Bible Study

THURSDAY, December 22

- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

SATURDAY, December 24

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

SUNDAY, December 25

- 10:15 a.m. Worship

Other Important Dates

MONDAY & TUESDAY, December 26 & December 27—Office Closed

MONDAY, January 2—Office Closed

Office Hours

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

Friday: 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

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