

Welcome to

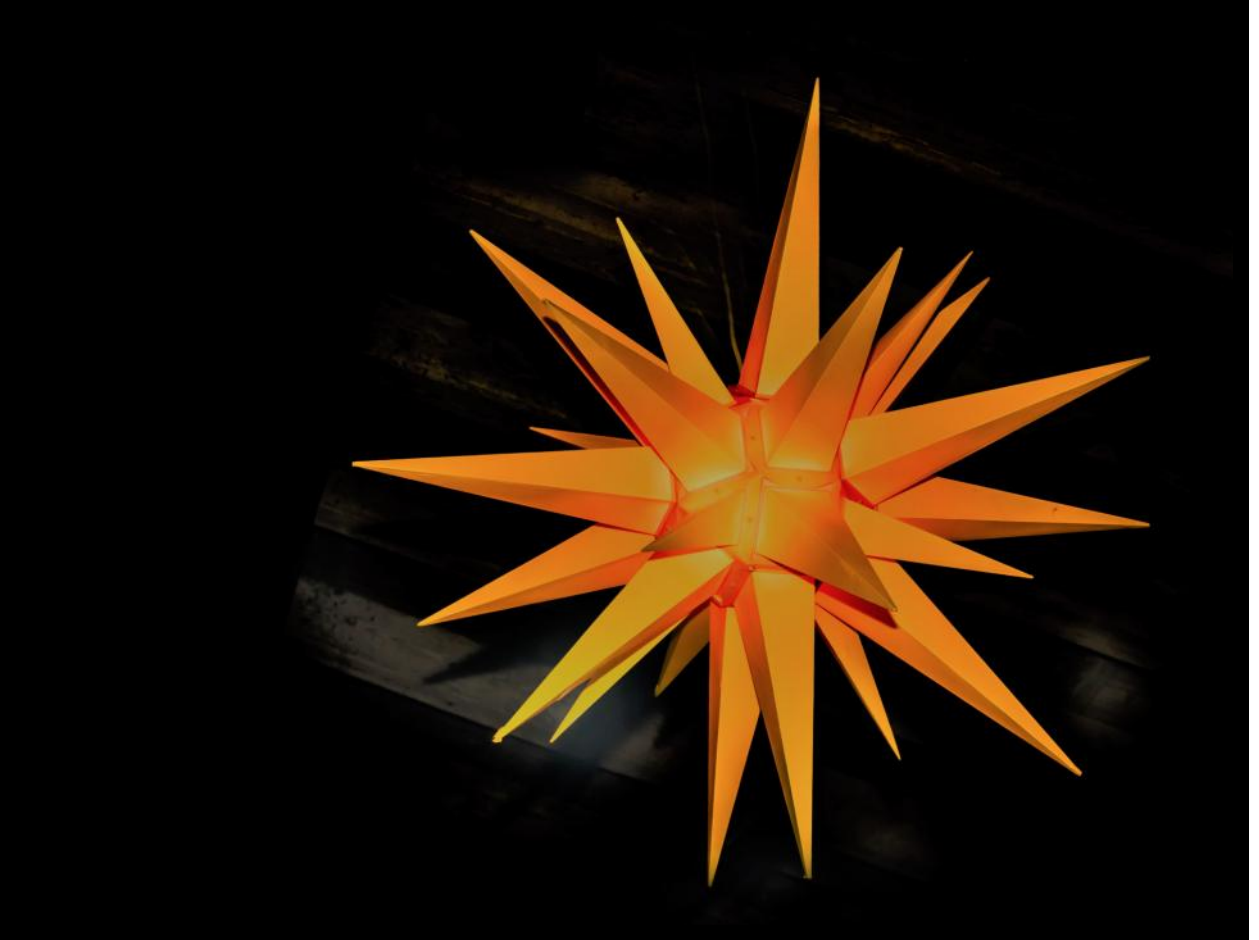
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*Northbrook Presbyterian Church*

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December 23, 2018

Calm & Bright: Fourth Sunday of Advent



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*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*

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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.*

*Singing:*

Soloist: It was the night when hope was born

**ALL: Silent Night**

And just as now the world was torn

**Holy Night**

But all was calm and all was bright

**Silent Night**

The star above gave out its light

**Holy Night**

**ALL: Dear people all around the world**

**Let us unite and we will show**

**How hope can change us,**

**How hope can help us grow.**

*Spoken:*

One: On this final Sunday of Advent, we continue our commemoration of the 200th anniversary of "Silent Night, Holy Night," let us speak the fourth verse together:

**Silent night! Holy night!  
Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
With the angels let us sing,  
"Alleluia" to our king:  
"Christ the Savior is born!  
Christ the Savior is born!"**

*Singing:*

So let your hope shine in the night

**Silent Night**

And let your life burn warm and bright

**Holy Night**

This hope we give the world is balm

**Silent Night**

And in this truth we find our calm

**Holy Night!**

THE LIGHT ENTERS

Peggie Schiller

One: The season of waiting is almost over. We light the fourth candle, anticipating the coming light of the star that shone over Bethlehem for all to see. Let us pray:

God of our future,  
we open ourselves to hear your call today—  
the call to keep hope alive no matter the troubles we face.  
Help us to never lose hope and to offer hope to all around us—  
making our lives, our families, our communities, and our world a brighter place.

**All: Fill us with your peace and light, make the world so calm and bright.**

\* OPENING SONG 79—*Light Dawns on a Weary World*

Hymnal

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

One: Let us prepare the way of the Lord by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.

*Silence for self-examination*

**All: God of all time,  
We confess that we have not put our complete hope in you. We have not prepared for your merciful reign among us.  
We often look past our neighbors in need and fall short in your call to work toward justice and peace.  
In your mercy forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.**

One: Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.  
In Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven and all things are made new.  
Rejoice in this good news!  
Let all of God's people say, **Amen.**

SONG 314—*Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness (v. 5)*

Hymnal

\* THE PEACE

*As we are reconciled to God and to one another, share a sign of Christ's peace and hope with your neighbor.*

\* SONG 121—*O Little Town of Bethlehem (v. 1)*

Hymnal

*The children are invited forward for a special message.*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE READING—Isaiah 9:6 (CEB)

SERMON—*Let Us Sing*

Rev. Jacqueline Spycher

Matthew 2:1-12

NT p.2

WE BRING OUR GIFTS FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST

OFFERTORY HYMN—*Advent Help: When will Messiah Come?*

Joseph Martin

Chancel Choir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

\* SENDING SONG 100—*My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout*

Hymnal

\* BENEDICTION

*Spoken:*

**Go with God into this day  
May the Spirit guide your way  
Offer hope to all you greet  
Like Christ, see God in all you meet.**

*Sung:*

**We need a silent night in here.  
We need your presence to be near.  
Give us the hope we need  
and the peace we seek.  
We need a silent night in here.**

**Give us the hope we need  
and the peace we seek.  
We need a silent night,  
we need a silent night,  
we need a silent night in here.**



## KIDS' CONNECTION

KIDS' Connection will take a break today and December 30 and resume again on January 6th. However, nursery care will still be available.

## HAT AND MITTEN TREE

The Hat and Mitten tree is now up in the main hallway and will remain up until Sunday, January 6. Please consider donating new winter hats and gloves and mittens to the tree. Items on the tree will be donated to those in need following Christmas.

## TABLE WORSHIP IN FELLOWSHIP HALL—SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

Have you ever felt the tug to stay home on Sunday and enjoy a warm breakfast verses heading to church for worship? On Sunday, January 6, we will be hosting a creative form of worship combining breakfast, communion and Sunday worship. Join us for this unique time to praise God and share a meal with your church family. We will be gathering in Fellowship Hall at 10:15 a.m.

## CHRISTMAS CLEAN-UP—SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

Please plan on staying after worship on January 6 to help us take down and put away the Christmas decorations. Many hands make light (and fun) work!

## STONE SOUP & MOVIE NIGHT—FRIDAY, JANUARY 11

Join us on Friday, January 11 at 6:30 p.m. for a stone soup dinner and viewing of "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" Soup will be provided, but others are encouraged to bring whatever they have to share for the meal. If you don't have the time or energy to bring something, just bring yourself or a friend. We'll enjoy a fun meal and a viewing of the critically acclaimed film about everyone's favorite neighbor, Fred Rogers. You may want to bring a lawn chair or blanket for comfortable viewing in Fellowship Hall. Contact Pastor Jackie with questions at [jacqueline@northbrookpc.org](mailto:jacqueline@northbrookpc.org).

## YEAR-ROUND SHOPPING VIA SERRV.COM BENEFITS NORTHBROOK'S MISSION FUND

Do you like to shop online and purchase lovely gifts that support Fair Trade and make a positive difference in the world? We now have our own Northbrook custom link to the SERRV website which allows you and your friends, colleagues and family to purchase items year round from SERRV's entire line of over 1000 wonderful items. Purchases made via Northbrook's custom link will allow Northbrook's Mission Fund to earn 20% of the total sales. This means you will be bringing joy to your gift recipient; providing economic support, relief, and empowerment to those in need in the U.S. and around the world, and also contributing to the mission work done by our congregation. We have a number of catalogs on hand at church. **Share our link** with friends and family, and our Mission Fund can earn funds throughout the year while we support SERRV partners! **Here is our link which you have to use in order for Northbrook Mission to earn the extra funds:** <http://serrv.org/?a=Northbrook> Sign in as a guest or create your own log-in. For assistance with questions or ordering, contact Winnie Davies-Hancock at [winsomeann@aol.com](mailto:winsomeann@aol.com) or (248)593-8035.

### KNIT WITS—WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

Knit Wits will take a break in December and meet again on Wednesday, January 23. All skill levels are welcome.

### SENIOR SOUPER LUNCH—JANUARY 10 AND JANUARY 24

Make a New Year's resolution to join us at 1 p.m. in the Library on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month for a delicious soup lunch. Invite your friends and neighbors.

### NORTHBROOK BOOK CLUB MEETING—MONDAY, JANUARY 14

The Northbrook Book Club will meet on Monday, January 14 at 7 p.m. in the Library to discuss *The Testament of Mary* by Colm Toibin. All are welcome.

### MEN'S CONNECTION

Men's Connection will kick off the new year on Thursday, January 3. Men's Connection meets on Thursday mornings at 8 a.m. in the Library. All men of the church are welcome to attend.

### SOWING SEEDS FOR GROWING IN GOD

A whole-hearted THANK YOU to all who have made their 2019 pledges to Northbrook! If you haven't yet pledged, please let us know your intentions by placing your pledge in the offering plate or returning it to the church office. Everyone's gift, no matter the size, makes a difference. Thank you.

## This Week at Northbrook

SUNDAY, December 23

10:15 a.m. Worship

MONDAY, December 24

5:00 p.m. Christmas Service

8:00 p.m. AA Meeting—Men's Group

TUESDAY, December 25—*Merry Christmas*

Office Closed

WEDNESDAY, December 26

Office Closed

12:00 p.m. AA Meeting

SUNDAY, December 30

10:15 a.m. Worship

MONDAY, December 31

Office Closed

TUESDAY, January 1—Happy New Year

Office Closed

## *Northbrook Presbyterian Church*

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Rev. Jacqueline Spycher, Assistant Pastor of Outreach Ministries

### 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](http://www.northbrookpc.org)