

Welcome to

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*Northbrook Presbyterian Church*

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December 31, 2017 ~ Angels Among Us



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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.*

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi

$\text{♩} = 70$

The musical score is written in G minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 70. The score includes lyrics and performance directions such as *rit.* (ritardando) and *a tempo*. The lyrics are: "There are an - gels a-mong us that may not meet the eye. There are mess - a - ges of life com - ing from a choir on high. But don't just look up; — for the way God works is to plant more life right here on earth just like it was at Je - sus birth. — There are an - gels a-mong us, — there are an - gels a-mong us. — There are an - gels a-mong us, — there are an - gels a-mong us bring - ing life on earth". The score changes to 3/4 time starting at measure 9.

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PRAYER

Jacqueline Spycher

Holy Living God, Blessed Jesus, Guiding Spirit,  
**alight within us your flame of life this day.**

Grant us openness to hear your message.

**Grant us courage to be your messengers in the world,  
creating more life in the midst of fear.**

And with the angel messengers above us, among us and within us, we sing...

\* SONG—*Do Not Be Afraid*

Marcia McFee and Chuck Bell

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the song "Do Not Be Afraid". The first staff is in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5. There are two asterisks above the first and fourth measures. The lyrics "Do not be a - fraid. Do not be a - fraid." are written below the notes. The second staff is identical to the first, starting with a measure rest (marked '5') before the first note. It also has two asterisks above the first and fourth measures. The lyrics "Do not be a - fraid. Do not be a - fraid." are written below the notes.

\* OPENING HYMN 177—*I Will Come to You*

Hymnal

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

Gracious God, we would like to be among those who saw the coming of the Christ Child, those who dropped all that they were doing and traveled to worship the coming of God's love into this world. And yet, we must recognize all the times we are more like Herod— whenever we find our own need for control more compelling than the needs of others; whenever we cling to the security of our privilege rather than standing up for the rights of the oppressed; whenever we are complicit in the harming people for the sake of profit or power.

**Loving God, we confess our sins against you and one another, and pray that you will fill us with your light, that we may live our lives as true disciples in your name, without counting the cost. In the name of Christ, the one who showed us the way, we pray. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God's light is present in this world.

Present in the Christ child, born to lead us out of darkness.

Present in the star, in all that guides us to love.

**God's light is in the world and the darkness did not overcome it.**

**God's grace is in the world and our missteps will not overcome it.**

**We are loved, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.**

THE PEACE

*I invite you to pass the peace of Christ with your neighbors, for each time we connect with one another, we are given more peace, more hope, more joy, and more love.*

*—All children are invited to come forward for a special message.—*

SONG—*Surely the Presence of the Lord Is in this Place*

Lanny Wolfe

The musical score is written in 3/4 time and consists of four staves. The first staff (measures 1-4) has chords C, Em7, Eø7, A7, and Dm. The second staff (measures 5-8) has chords Dm7, G7, C, and F. The third staff (measures 9-12) has chords C, Em7, Eø7, A7, and Dm. The fourth staff (measures 13-16) has chords Dm7, G7, Dm7, G7, and C. The lyrics are: 1. Sure - ly the Pre - sence of the Lord is in this place. I can feel His might - y pow - er and His grace. I can feel the brush of An - gels' wings, I see joy on each face. Sure - ly the Pre - sence of the Lord is in this place.

YOUNG MESSENGERS OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi

SCRIPTURE READING—*Matthew 2:1-23*

The Voice Translation

\* SONG 154—*Jesus Entered Egypt*

Hymnal

SERMON—*More Life*

Jacqueline Spycher

WE BRING OUR GIFTS FOR THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST

\* OFFERTORY SONG 749—*Come! Live in the Light!*

Hymnal

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In this moment, we pray for all those who are in need of new life.

\* SENDING SONG 295—*Go to the World!*

Hymnal

\* SPREAD #MORÉLIFE

\* BENEDICTION

Do not be a - fraid. Do not be a - fraid.

5 Do not be a - fraid. Do not be a - fraid.

POSTLUDE

\*Please stand in body or spirit.

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#AngelsAmongUs Liturgy by Marcia McFee. © WorshipDesignStudio.com

## ANGELS AMONG US: #DONOTBEAFRAID

Flying in the Fear at Advent

The angels that appear in the story of Jesus' birth would have been very comfortable with our world of tweets and hashtags. Their messages were often short and to the point, their favorite line being #DoNotBeAfraid. As we look at the stories of these winged messengers to Zechariah, Mary, Joseph and the Shepherds, we'll explore what messages we can offer that will fly in the face of a culture of fear and bring more hope, more peace, more joy and more love to the world.

During worship, we invite you to silence your phones but keep them handy. Take photos if you want, send out messages and tweets of things you hear and experience in worship with the hashtag #DoNotBeAfraid or #morelife. Like the angels of the Gospel story, we, too, can be carriers of God's message of Good News!



LEADING YOU IN WORSHIP TODAY ARE:

PASTOR: Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi

PASTORAL ASSISTANT: Jacqueline Spycher

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Angel Gippert

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

READERS: Messenger-Doug Joppie; Wise Ones: Dan Gross, Hunter Tengler; King Herod: Karen Vander Weide; Scribe: Joyce Vander Weide; Joseph: Ken Stetson

SOUND: Dave Vander Weide

VISUALS: Bill Jordan

PRAYER REQUESTS: The family and friends of Lucille McLeod who died on December 15, the family and friends of Mary Clark who died on December 19, Tracey Parker, Dick Keier, Amy Annett, Michael Campion, Bob Miller, Roger McGuineas, Margaret Babb, Al & Mary Alice Shrosbree, Georgenia Keoleian, Seglinda Kelle-Pritchard

The Board of Deacons also requests prayers for: Church members whose last names begin with the letter L and people experiencing loneliness.

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.

90TH BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATION—SUNDAY, JANUARY 7 FOLLOWING WORSHIP

Let's celebrate it again! The 90th birthdays have passed for Edna Gadsby, Mary Lou Harrison and Dick Forbush, and we have held off on a proper Northbrook celebration until the completion of the renovations to Fellowship Hall. So, let's get together after the worship service on January 7 and wish these three great people a belated wonderful 90th birthday and a super 91st year!

SENIOR SOUPER LUNCH

Senior Souper Lunch will resume in January on Thursdays, January 11 and January 25 at 1:00 p.m. in the Library.

KNIT WITS

Please join the Knit Wits on Wednesday, January 24 at 1:00 p.m. in the Library.

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM—THURSDAY, JANUARY 11

On Thursday, January 11, the Adult Education Committee is hosting a favorite speaker, Pat Ochodnický. Pat first traveled to the Holy Land in 2007 with a group from the Southeast Michigan Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. As she traveled, she was profoundly moved by the devastating impact of the Israeli occupation on the daily life of the Palestinians. She became a member of the Ecumenical Accompaniment Program in Palestine and Israel through the World Council of Churches in Geneva, Switzerland. In 2009, she spent 3 months as an accompanier/observer in a small village in Palestine, Yanoun. She has returned many times, most recently in the fall of 2017. Pat will be sharing with us the current status of life in the Holy Land at 11:30 a.m. preceding the Senior Souper Lunch in the Library.

## MEN'S CONNECTION

Men's Connection will take a break between Christmas and New Year's Day and resume on Thursday, January 4 at 8:00 a.m. in the Library.

## NORTHBROOK BOOK CLUB

The next meeting of the Northbrook Book Club will be on Monday, January 8 at 7 p.m. in the Library. They will be discussing *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr. All are welcome.

## HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURE

The church office will be closed on Monday, January 1 and resume regular business hours on January 2.

### THE SEASON OF GIVING—**LAST DAY FOR THE FUNDRAISER MARKETPLACE!**

As part of a matching gift fundraising challenge, many members of Northbrook have come forward to offer their time and talents to serve one another and raise money for our ministries in the process. Each dollar spent in the FUNdraising Market will be matched, up to a total of \$10,000.

In the Narthex, you'll find a selection of experiences and gifts your fellow Northbrook members are offering. All you need to do is find the experience or gift you'd like to enjoy, collect the tag and write YOUR name and phone number in the blank space. Check out with the cashier who will note your purchase and acknowledge your payment. Payments can be made by cash, credit card or check payable to Northbrook Presbyterian Church, Memo: *FUNdraiser*. Give the bottom half of your tag to the donor and arrange a time to receive the service/gift/event that you have purchased. May this season of giving and receiving multiply the Love of Jesus Christ that truly is our greatest gift!

*NOTE: Today is the **last day** of the Season of Giving FUNdraiser Marketplace. In order to count toward your charitable giving for 2017, all payments must be made on or before December 31.*

## This Week at Northbrook

SUNDAY, December 31

10:15 a.m. Worship

MONDAY, January 1—*Happy New Year!*

OFFICE CLOSED

8:00 p.m. AA Meeting—Men's Group

WEDNESDAY, January 3

5:00 p.m. LOGOS

THURSDAY, January 4

8:00 a.m. Men's Connection

SUNDAY, January 7

10:15 a.m. Worship & Communion

11:15 a.m. Kids' Connection

11:15 a.m. 90s Birthday Coffee Hour

### Office Hours

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

### Northbrook Presbyterian Church

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Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi, Pastor

Jacqueline Spycher, Pastoral Assistant