

Connect Card

Please place completed form
in offering plate

Welcome! Whether you are a visitor or a member, you can always learn more at North Church. Let us know how we can help you.

- I need to update my contact information.
- I'd like to receive North Church's e-newsletter.
- I'm interested in speaking with someone about North.
- I'd like to speak to a Pastor about a personal concern.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

I am interested in learning more about:

- Children's Ministries
- Youth Ministries
- Young Adult Ministries
- Small Groups
- Music Ministries
- Outreach and Missions
- Care and Nurture Ministries
- Hospitality Ministries
- Green Team
- Reconciling Ministries
- United Methodist Women
- Justice & Advocacy

Other/Comments

Sundays at North

Sunday Morning Hospitality

All are welcome

- 8:30-10:15: Community Room
- Following 11:00 service: Community Room

Childcare During Worship

Provided for infants-4 year olds during both worship services & Sunday School

- Infant/Toddlers: Room 103
- Preschool: Room 102

Sunday School (9:45-10:45):

Adult Sunday School

- On Being: Club Room
- Affirming Group: Room 202
- Sojourners: Room 005
- Usual Suspects: Room 004
- Amazing Grace: Conference Room
- Power & Light: Room 205

Children Sunday School

- Toddlers: Room 103
- Preschool: Room 102
- Kindergarten – 101
- 1st & 2nd Grade – 104
- 3rd Grade – 204
- 4th & 5th Grade – 203

Youth Sunday School

- Middle School: Room 207
- High School: Room 008

Music

(Following 11:00am service)

- Joyful Noise: Room 101
- Carolers: Conference Room
- Choristers: Room 004
- Cathedral Ringers: Room 007

The Happenings

Details can be found in the weekly eNews, social media, bulletin boards or the Fall Book

- **December 24:** Christmas Eve Worship
 - 5pm: Children & Family Service – Special music by children's choirs & the meaning of Christmas re-imagined through a North Church original drama production performed by children & youth (no childcare). Diapers & wipes will be collected to donate to Coburn Place.
 - 7:30pm: Celebration of Holy Communion – Pastor Darren preaching (no childcare).
 - 10:30pm: Festival of Lessons & Carols – Pastor Darren preaching (no childcare). Prelude music begins at 10:30pm.
- **December 31:** New Year's Eve Service – 11am; One combined worship service that renews our commitment to Christ for the New Year.
- **January 5:** Young Adult Game Night – 5pm-12am, Meredith Weir's home; Anyone age 18-30 (and out of high school) can come & enjoy food, games, & fellowship as they get to know other young adults in the congregation & reconnect with old friends. Register at the Hospitality Desk.
- **January 7:**
 - Youth Group Resumes – 5:30-7:30pm, Club Room
 - Three Kings Party – 5-7pm; Celebrate the Kings coming to see baby Jesus with songs, games, crafts, a Kings Cake, & a crown for everyone. Register to the Hospitality Desk by January 3.
- **January 14:** ELEVATION – 4-6pm, Room 203
- **January 15:** MLK Day Worship Service – 11am, Chapel; In honor of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with coffee & refreshments afterwards.
- **January 21:**
 - United Methodist Women (UMW) Sunday - Learn about the reach of United Methodist Women with voices from around the world as we celebrate a legacy of 149 years of mission for women, children and youth both near and far. Romans 8:28-39 guides us in love and work. The theme for Sunday is "Common Threads".
 - Deadline to Register for North's Night with the Pacers - 7pm; Pacers will take on the Atlanta Hawks on February 23. Tickets are \$18 and includes a food voucher (hot dog, chips, drink), a Pacers hat, and you can shoot a free throw on the main floor after the game. Purchase your tickets at the Hospitality Desk no later than January 21.
- **January 21-February 11 (Sundays):** Making Sense of Paul's Egalitarianism: A Study with Perry Kea – 9:45am; Paul's famous words (Galatians 3:28) give expression to an early Christian ideal of equality. Perry Kea leads this study which is open to all Sunday School classes and any adult not currently in a Sunday School class.
- **January 24:**
 - North Church Board Meeting – 5:30pm, Parlor
 - UMW Women of Lydia – 7pm, Club Room
- **January 25:** UMW Miriam Circle – 12pm, Parlor
- **January 28:** Taize Worship Service – 5pm, Chapel
- **January 31 & February 7:** An American Conscience: The Reinhold Niebuhr Story – 6:30pm; Niebuhr was the most influential theologian in 20th century America. This 2-part series led by Pastor Darren features a new documentary on the first Wednesday and a discussion of his selected writing on the second Wednesday.



December 24, 2017
4th Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* arr. J. Schaffner

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Darren Cushman Wood

*PASSING THE PEACE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God has done great things for us!

People: Holy is God's name!

Leader: God's mercy extends from generation to generation.

People: Let us glorify the Lord!

*OPENING HYMN #234 *O Come, All Ye Faithful* v. 1-4

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**As scripture is read,
and as your truth is proclaimed,
speak to us, Gracious God.
Speak to us in the waiting,
the watching,
the hoping,
and ultimately in the rejoicing. Amen.**

*Please stand as you are able.

FIRST LESSON 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 Pew Bible, OT, pg. 268

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CAROLERS' ANTHEM

Ain'a That Good News & Go Tell It on the Mountain

arr. C. Curry

Cat Cuomo, soloist; Jim Caraher, piano; Denise Caraher, director

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

The Case Family

Congregational Refrain

Lift up your eyes and see the light sur-round you;
with ra-diant hope, il-lu-mi-nate the night.
Lift up your voice and sing, let earth and heav-en ring,
lift up your eyes and see the ev-er-last-ing light.

Leader: During Advent,

we remember the light that shines in the darkness,
but the darkness has not overcome it.

People: **Though sorrow may last for the night,
joy comes in the morning.**

Leader: For all who face the sting of loss, God's word speaks:

People: **Though sorrow may last for the night,
joy comes in the morning.**

Leader: For all who wrestle with the unknown of tomorrow,
God's word speaks:

People: **Though sorrow may last for the night,
joy comes in the morning.**

Leader: For all who battle the questions that arise in the silence,
God's word speaks:

People: **Though sorrow may last for the night,
joy comes in the morning.**

Congregational Refrain (repeat)

HYMN OF PRAYER #230 *O Little Town of Bethlehem* v.1-2

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Leader: God, in your mercy . . .

People: **Hear our prayer.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Hymnal pg. 895

HYMN OF PRAYER #230

O Little Town of Bethlehem v.3-4

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Ronnie Bell

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

A Hymn to the Virgin B. Britten

Of one that is so fair and bright *velut maris stella [like a star of the sea]*
Brighter than the day is light, *parens et puella: [both parent and yet a girl]*
I cry to thee, thou see to me, Lady, pray thy Son for me, *tam pia [so loving]*
That I may come to thee. *Maria! [Mary!]*
All this world was forlorn *Eva peccatrice, [due to Eve's sin]*
Till our Lord was yborn *de te genetrice. [you became the mother].*
With ave it went away darkest night, and comes the day *Salutaris; [of salvation];*
The well springeth out of thee. *Virtutis. [by virtue.]*
Lady, flower of everything, *Rosa sine spina, [Rose without a thorn],*
Thou bare Jesu, Heaven's King, *Gratia divina: [by grace divine]:*
Of all thou bearest the prize, Lady, queen of paradise *Electa: [chosen by God]:*
Maid, mild, mother es Effecta. *Effecta. [you were made].*

*DOXOLOGY #94 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

*GOSPEL LESSON Luke 1:46b-55 Pew Bible, NT, pg. 53

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *Advent Practices: Remembering God's Mercy* Ronnie Bell

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #245 *The First Noel*

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDE *I Saw Three Ships* arr. R. Elliott

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Spiritual Practice for Advent Four:

"Sing with Mary"

Luke 1:38

"Here am I, the servant of
the Lord; let it be with me
according to your word."

The focus of this day is on
rejoicing for the coming of the
Messiah. Mary is our role
model and guide for
courageous joy as we prepare
for Christmas.

Accessibility

- Wheelchair(s) located in west entry
- Wheelchair and elevator access in the west and southwest entries
- Pew cutouts in Sanctuary for wheelchairs
- Hearing enhancement devices available at welcome desk in west entry and tables in east entry of Sanctuary
- Large print hymnals and bulletins available from ushers

Children

We love children to join us in worship. If you prefer, childcare is available for infants-4 year olds in rooms on the main floor. Worship bags are available for all kids in the east entry.

Meditation Exercise:

Today and tomorrow, read Luke 1:46-55. Then, sing your favorite Christmas carol. Repeat this pattern several times over the next 48 hours.

This week's worship leaders:

Darren Cushman Wood

Senior Pastor

Ronnie Bell

Pastor of Mission & Outreach

Mark Gilgallon

Director of Music

Heather Hinton

Organist