

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
- Advent in Narnia: Club 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 17:** Christmas Story Lab – 6pm; Hear poetry & stories from Mariah Ivey, John Drake & local storytellers & artists responding to the question, “What Does Christmas Mean To You?” A sign-up sheet will be available for all to participate & share their stories (time-permitting).
- **Through December 24 (Sundays):** *Advent in Narnia* Book Study – 9:45am; Led by Becky Wolfe, this unique study of 28 devotions will alternate between Scripture & passages from C.S. Lewis' novel, *The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe*, to prompt meditation on Advent themes. Contact the Hospitality Desk for more information.
- **Through December 24 (Sundays):** Advent Study – *All Earth is Waiting* – 9:45am; Explore the Advent themes of hope, preparation, joy & peace with the heavens & earth in mind. Books are available in Room 005.
- **December 20:**
 - Mid-North Shepherd's Center – 10am: White Elephant Gift Exchange; 11am: Holiday Concert by the Shepherd Singers
 - North Church Board Meeting – 5:30pm, Parlor
- **December 21:** The Longest Night Service – 5pm; A simple service of silence & song, scripture & prayer will acknowledge the gift of letting go & celebrate the gift of holding fast to hope.
- **December 24:** Christmas Eve Worship
 - 11am: One combined morning worship service
 - 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 and enjoy food, games, and fellowship as they get to know other young adults in the congregation & reconnect with old friends. Come & go, or stay however long you like. 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 15:** MLK Day Worship Service – 11am, Chapel; this service is in honor of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with coffee & refreshments served afterwards. All are welcome.



December 17, 2017
3rd Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE *Do You Hear What I Hear?* arr. B. Ingram
Cathedral Ringers

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Cory Unthank

*PASSING THE PEACE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Lift up your heads, O gates, and be lifted up, O ancient doors!

**People: The portals of our hearts are open
that the Ruler of glory may come in.**

Leader: See! The Savior of the world shall come bringing love and joy.

*OPENING HYMN #213 *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Jim McDonald

**Holy One,
Giver of life and light,
as your word is read and proclaimed,
illuminate our hearts and minds,
that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
our lives may reflect God's glory. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 Pew Bible, OT, pg. 650

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

People: Thanks be to God.

*Please stand as you are able.

ANTHEM 8:30 Adam Lay Ybounden B. Ord
15th Century text Chancel Quartet

Adam lay ybounden, bounden in a bond; four thousand winter thought he not too long. And all was for an apple, an apple that he took, as clerkes finden written in their book. Ne had the apple taken been, ne had never our lady a been heavene queen. Blessed be the time that apple taken was, therefore we moun singen, Deo gracias!

ANTHEM 11:00 A Midnight Clear G. Grier & L. Everson
Choristers & Dads; Rosie Jordan, director
Becky Wolfe, piano; Kelley Warbinton, flute

It came upon a midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold. "Peace on the earth, goodwill to all from heaven's all-gracious King!" The world in peaceful stillness lay to hear the angels sing. Still through the parted skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled. And still their heavenly music floats over all the weary world. Above the high and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing, and ever over its babel sounds, the blessed angels sing. *Alleluia! O hear the angels sing!*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES The O'Neil Family
Congregational Refrain

Lift up your eyes and see the light sur - round you;
with ra - dant 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: In a world torn asunder by violence, Jesus says, "No more."

**People: "As it is written, a new command I give,
'Love one another as I have loved you'."**

Leader: In a world where hurting people are too often neglected, Jesus says, "No more."

**People: "As it is written, a new command I give,
'Love one another as I have loved you'."**

Leader: In a world where another's needs are too often overlooked, Jesus says, "No more."

**People: "As it is written, a new command I give,
'Love one another as I have loved you'."**

Congregational Refrain (repeat)

HYMN OF PRAYER #217 Away in a Manger v.1


PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION Ronnie Bell

Leader: God, in your mercy . . .

People: Hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER Hymnal pg. 895

HYMN OF PRAYER #217 Away in a Manger v.2-3

 11:00 a.m. As the Hymn begins, Kindergarten – 3rd grade are invited to Alternative Worship; please follow the banner leader.

OFFERTORY PRAYER Cory Unthank

OFFERTORY ANTHEM This is the Record of John O. Gibbons

This is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou? And he confessed, and denied not; and said plainly, I am not the Christ.

And they asked him, What art thou then? Art thou Elias? And he said, I am not.

Art thou the prophet? And he answered, No.

Then said they unto him, What art thou? that we may give an answer unto them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself? And he said, I am the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, make straight the way of the Lord, as the prophet Isaiah said.

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

*GOSPEL LESSON John 1:6-8, 19-28 Pew Bible, NT, pg. 86

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

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON Practicing Advent: Gratitude Darren Cushman Wood

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #238 Angels We Have Heard on High

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDE Go Tell it on the Mountain arr. D. Howland
Cathedral Ringers

*The flowers on the altar today are given for the glory of God
and in honor of Martha Benedict.*

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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.

This week's worship leaders:

Darren Cushman Wood
Senior Pastor
Jim McDonald
Liturgist
Ronnie Bell
Pastor of Mission & Outreach
Cory Unthank
Minister of Youth & Young Adults
Mark Gilgallon
Director of Music
Heather Hinton
Organist

Spiritual Practice for Advent Three:

"Thank the
Messenger"

John 1:8

"He came to testify
to the light"

The focus of the third week of Advent is on the *messenger* who prepares the way for Christ. God sends various people into our lives who are messengers that share the hope and love of Christ with us.

Meditation Exercise:

At the beginning of this week make a list of every person who has been God's messenger to you. These people showed you the love of Christ and helped you develop your faith.

Throughout the week, express your gratitude to them. For example, send them a note.

If they are deceased, share your reflections of them with others or use social media to tell their story.