



January 1, 2023 – Livestream
New Year's Day

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Amy Sell

PRELUDE

In Thee Is Gladness

J.S. Bach

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We'll walk in the light, beautiful light.

People: Come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright.

Leader: Oh, shine all around us by day and by night.

People: Jesus, the light of the world.

*OPENING HYMN #240

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

***Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"***

Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

***Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th' incarnate Deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. [Refrain]***

***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. [Refrain]***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O Fire Divine, go through my heart.

O Light Eternal, illuminate my soul.

Reveal the peace and power of Christ

in our singing and our silence

so that we can bear witness

to the hope of heaven here on earth. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 63:7-9

⁷ I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,
the praiseworthy acts of God,
because of all that the Lord has done for us,
and the great favor to the house of Israel
that has been shown to them according to God's mercy,
according to the abundance of God's steadfast love.

⁸ For the Lord said, 'Surely they are my people,
children who will not deal falsely';
and the Lord became their savior
⁹ in all their distress.

It was no messenger or angel
but God's own presence that saved them;
with love and pity they were redeemed,
lifted up and carried all the days of old.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN #229

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

***Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing, Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all.***

***Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you.***

*GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 2:13-23

¹³ Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' ¹⁴Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, 'Out of Egypt I have called my son.'

¹⁶ When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸ 'A voice was heard in Ramah,
wailing and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.'

¹⁹ When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰'Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead.' ²¹Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, 'He will be called a Nazorean.'

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

People: Thanks be to God.

*HYMN #219

What Child Is This

***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?***

***Refrain: This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.***

***Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. [Refrain]***

***So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him. [Refrain]***

PRAYER FOR THE WORLD

Brandon Wallace

INVITATION, CONFESSION AND PARDON

Leader: Let us prepare for the Christmas feast by confessing our sin before God and one another:

**People: God of grace and truth,
in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness.
We confess that we have not welcomed the light,
or trusted good news to be good.
We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst,
expecting little, and hoping for less.
Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope,
so that we may receive the fullness of your grace,
and live in the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.**

Leader: The true light that gives light to everyone has come into the world.
To all who receive him, he gives power to become children of God.
This is Christ's gracious word: "Your sins are forgiven."

People: Amen. Thanks be to God.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*I was Touched and I Believe*arr. L. Larson
Ron Berry, soloist

So long I lived in shadow's length awaiting the Messiah's strength. God sent Love from above; I was touched and I believe. Tidings of the Savior's birth resound in corners of the earth. A tiny spark lit the dark; I was touched and I believe. I have seen and I believe. I was changed and I believe. I was blessed and I believe. I was touched and I believe.

God in glory came to earth, a promise kept in Jesus' birth. His words of peace all doubts release. I was touched and I believe. With joy I bless His holy name, Redeemer, who through mercy came to fill my soul and make me whole. I was touched and I believe. I have seen and I believe. I was changed and I believe. I was blessed and I believe. I was touched and I believe.

My heart was heavy with the years of waiting, hopes and tears. But then I heard God's holy word! It is said the heavenly music rang, the skies shone bright, the angels sang. But I just heard God's holy Word! I have seen and I believe. I was changed and I believe. I was blessed and I believe. I was touched and I believe.

*CHRISTMAS DOXOLOGY

tune: *United Methodist Hymnal #229*

***Glo-ry be to God the Fa-ther, glo-ry be to Christ the Son,
glo-ry to the Ho-ly Spir- it, glo-ry to the Three in One.
Here we of-fer to you glad-ly all the gifts that you im-part,
as we glo-ry in your Pre-sence, giv-ing from a grate-ful heart.***

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Sunil Kotian

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God...
And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ....

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here and on these gifts of bread and cup....
Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
All honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

*THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

*BREAKING THE BREAD

RECEIVING THE BLESSING

As persons are sharing the bread and cup in the sanctuary, extend your hands to receive the blessing of the Holy Spirit. If you would like to receive communion from today's service please contact the church to schedule for a pastor to bring it to your home this week, nricketts@northchurchindy.com

COMMUNION HYMN #254

We Three Kings

***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 light, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.***

***Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign. [Refrain]***

**Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a Deity nigh;
prayer and praising, voices raising, worshipping God on high. [Refrain]**

**Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb. [Refrain]**

**Glorious now behold him arise; King and God and sacrifice:
Alleluia, Alleluia, sounds through the earth and skies. [Refrain]**

PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #251

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

v. 1

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

**While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold throughout the heavens there shown a holy light. [Refrain]**

*THE CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

J. Rutter

*The flowers on the altar are given for the glory of God by the family of Rita Marie Schilling and
in grateful celebration of Rita's 90th birthday on December 27.*

This week's worship leaders

Sunil Kotian, *Pastor of Mission & Outreach*
Amy Sell, *Minister of Discipleship & Formation*
Brandon Wallace, *Minister of Youth & Young Adults*
John Hague and Eric Russell, *Audio Visual*
Kathleen Custer, *Guest Organist*

Upcoming Events

Jan 6, 5:30-7:30pm — Epiphany Party
Celebrate Epiphany with dinner, king cake, and fun activities and games.

Jan 15, 11:00am — MLK Sunday
Guest preacher will be Rev. Dr. Frank A. Thomas, Christian Theological Seminary

Jan 15, 5:00pm — Forum on the eviction crisis

Tuesdays from Jan 24-Feb 28, 6-7:30pm — "6 Ways We Encounter God,"
A study led by Pastor Sunil (in person and online).

Jan 28, 5-6:30pm — "The Working Hungry," a film by Indy Hunger Network

Feb 21, 5:30-7pm — Mardi Gras