

# THE CHURCH DIRECTORY

Office Telephone 214-827-5521

office@northridgepc.org

## The Church Staff

### *\*Pastor*

Rev. Elizabeth Lyles Swetenburg  
betsys@northridgepc.org

### *\*Director of Music*

Bryan Page  
bryanp@northridgepc.org

### *\*Director of Faith Formation*

Emily Cox  
emilyc@northridgepc.org

### *Executive Assistant*

Lynn Ward  
office@northridgepc.org

### *Soundboard Operator*

Rebecca Jones

### *\*Dickson Pastoral Resident*

Savannah Shivers  
savannahs@northridgepc.org

### *\*Organist*

Destin Wernicke  
destinw@northridgepc.org

### *\*Director of Communications*

Sarah Bennett  
sarahb@northridgepc.org

### *\*Facilities Manager*

Mark Burns  
markb@northridgepc.org

### *Northridge Child Development Center Director*

Heather Kolodzieg  
ncdcoffice@northridgepc.org

**Please note** that Staff who work Sundays\* are off on Fridays.  
The church office remains open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### *Moderator*

Rev. Betsy Swetenburg

### *Treasurer*

Allan Tepera  
treasurer@northridgepc.org

### *Clerk*

Bill Swart

### *Pastor Emeritus*

Rev. Dr. Roger Quillin

### *Clerk Emerita*

Darrell Kerr

## The Session Elders

### *Class of 2022*

\*Brent Christopher—Human Resources  
Doug Gill—Property  
Mike Marcotte—Faith Formation  
\*Anne Raymond—Administration

### *Class of 2023*

\*Cory Barnard—Worship  
Brenna Buchanan—Faith Formation  
\*Ray Chavez—Mission  
Cindy George—NCDC Board  
\*Laird Johnson—Property  
\*Kathy Watson—Engagement & Connection

### *Class of 2024*

\*Natalia Brownfield—Faith Formation  
Jeff Chauza—Mission  
Ken Slack—Administration  
Brandy Treadway—Human Resources

\*indicates committee chair

## Board of Deacons

deacons@northridgepc.org

Easy Ezell—Chair  
Pam Barker  
Sandra Barron  
Susan Roe Jernigan  
Barbara Rader

Ali Barnard  
Linda Hale Buchanan  
Kay Cox  
John Karnowski  
Nancy Singer  
Jill Vigil



**Northridge Presbyterian Church**  
**December 24, 2022 5:30 p.m.**  
**Christmas Eve**

## GATHERING

Chiming of the Hour  
Introit  
Welcome

*I Will Light Candles This Christmas*

Kim André Arnesen

## PREPARING FOR GOD'S WORD

✦ *indicates an invitation to rise in body or spirit*

### ✦ Call to Worship

*We count it in mere hours now. Soon the first pains of labor will be felt.*

**Soon the Light will shine in the darkness; soon the baby will be born.**

*Soon God will once again break into our lives,*

**coming in a way that is expected yet unusual, challenging our expectations and calling us to see life differently.**

*In this time of song and prayer and silence,*

**reawaken in us the awe of Christmas.**

*As we hear again the story of a young woman and a surprising visitor,*

**remind us that we are called to respond to you in unexpected ways.**

*And when we leave this place,*

**may we be willing to sing praises for a young woman who said YES and the birth that we prepare to celebrate. Amen.**

### ✦ Lighting the Christ Candle

### ✦ Gathering Hymn #133

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

ADESTE FIDELES

### Prayer of Confession

**God, we confess that ours is still a world in which Herod seems to rule: the powerful are revered, the visions of the wise are ignored, the poor are afflicted and the innocent are killed.**

**You show us that salvation comes in the vulnerability of a child, yet we hunger for the “security” of weapons and walls.**

**You teach us that freedom comes in love of service, yet we trample on others in our efforts to be “free.”**

**Forgive us, God, when we look to the palace instead of the stable, when we heed politicians more than prophets.**

**Renew us with the spirit of Bethlehem that we may be better prepared for your coming. Amen.**

### Assurance of Pardon

### ✦ Passing the Peace

*The peace of Christ be with you.*

**And also with you.**

### ✦ Veni Emmanuel

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:1-7

N.T. p.58

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Place

Rev. Dr. George Mason

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

### ✦ Hymn of Affirmation #134

*Joy to the World*

ANTIOCH

Invitation to the Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

*The Lord be with you.*

**And also with you.**

*Lift up your hearts.*

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

*Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Communion of the Lord's Supper

Post-Communion Prayer

Call To Give

(To give via text, send a text message to [1-844-958-4345](tel:1-844-958-4345) with the amount of the gift.

If you pledge, this offering will be applied to your pledge.)

Offertory

*Christmas Candle*

K. Lee Scott

### ✦ Prayer of Dedication

## SENDING

### ✦ Charge and Benediction

**Go out into God's world in peace; have courage; hold on to what is good;  
return to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted;  
support the weak; help the suffering; honor all persons;  
love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.**

### ✦ Sending Hymn #122

*Silent Night, Holy Night!*

STILLE NACHT

#### Leading worship today:

Rev. Dr. George Mason, Guest Preacher

Rev. Betsy Swetenburg, Pastor

Bryan Page, Music Director

Destin Wernicke, Organist

Monty Watson and Jacob Cox, Candle Lighters

Anne Raymond, Lay Reader

Sarah Bennett, Director of Communications

Rebecca Jones, Soundboard Operator

We welcome The Rev. Dr. George Mason to our pulpit this evening.

Rev. Dr. George Mason retired from his role of senior pastor at Wilshire Baptist Church last May. He had served in that position since August 1989. He is the lead advisor for the Baptist House of Studies at Perkins School of Theology (SMU) and is a frequent op-ed contributor to *The Dallas Morning News*. He is the founder and president of Faith Commons, a multifaith organization committed to “bringing faith to life.” He is the author of *Preparing the Pastors We Need: Reclaiming the Congregation's Role in Training Clergy*, published by Alban Press in 2012. He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from University of Miami (1978); and a Master of Divinity (1982) and Doctor of Philosophy (1987) from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. We welcome him to the pulpit this Christmas Eve!

#### Visitors, we'd like to get to know you better!

Scan this QR code for more information so we can be in touch. We believe the church is a gift that everyone deserves to enjoy. It's a community of people committed to doing life together—enduring heartaches, celebrating joys, seeking out laughter, pursuing a more just world, and following the path Jesus set out for us. If you think Northridge may be right for you, please reach out to Rev. Betsy Swetenburg at [betsys@northridgepc.org](mailto:betsys@northridgepc.org).



#### Christmas Day & New Year's Day

Worship on Sunday, December 25 and Sunday, January 1 will be offered virtually.

Stream the services on our YouTube channel by visiting

[www.youtube.com/c/NorthridgePresbyterian](http://www.youtube.com/c/NorthridgePresbyterian), or by visiting

the "Worship Online" tab of our website at [www.northridgepc.org/worship-online/](http://www.northridgepc.org/worship-online/).

### ✦ Veni Emmanuel



O come, O come, Em-man - u - el, and ran-som cap-tive Is - ra - el, that  
mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
Re - joice! Re - joice! Em-man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.