

## The Words of Institution

*The service of holy communion is a celebration of the presence of God and Christ among us and a feast of bounty for all. In this place, all are welcome to partake. You will be directed, row by row, to come forward. The server will place the bread in your open palms. Gluten free wafers are available. You are invited to take your own cup.*

## \*The Communion Anthem

*Wexford Carol*  
Naomi Kilpatrick, Contralto

Traditional Irish Carol

## \*The Communion Response

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise Christ, all creatures here below.  
Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter,  
One God Triune, whom we adore.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel. Amen.*

VENI EMMANUEL

## Departing to Respond to God's Love

## \*The Congregational Carol Sing and Recessional

(See Insert)

## \*The Benediction

## The Postlude

*Gloria Patri from Magnificat*

J. S. Bach

***The floral offering is given to the  
Glory of God  
And in loving memory of Welton Gaddy  
And with love, in honor of Judy Gaddy  
By D.H. Clark and Craig Henry***

## At Northminster, Everyone Is a Minister Our Equipping Ministers

**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Jillian Hankamer

**Director of Music:** Rev. Dr. Deborah Chandler

**Organist/Musician in Residence:** Rev. Dr. D.H. Clark

**Music Associate:** Mr. Justin Havard

**Choral Intern:** Miss Naomi Kilpatrick

**Admin. Assistant:** Ms. Renee Decker

**In Memoriam** Rev. Dr. C. Welton Gaddy, Senior Pastor 1992-2016

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Do Justice, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly with God. MICAH 6:8

# NORTHMINSTER

Celebrating  
35 years of Ministry  
1989-2024

# Church



## The Worship of God

December 22, 2024

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

## The Sunday of Love

Welcome to our service at Northminster Church. We believe that true worship is an active experience for each worshipper. As we become aware of the presence of those seated near us let us enter into the realization that this hour provides us with an opportunity to encounter the Holy. At this time, please silence all electronic devices. Then, please sign and pass the attendance register on the inside aisle of each row so we can know of your presence with us.

## Gathering for Worship

10:45 a.m.

Fugues on the Magnificat – Johann Pachelbel  
Serenade to the Holy Family – Hector Berlioz  
A Spotless Rose – Herbert Howells  
A Hymn to the Virgin – Benjamin Britten

## The Preludes

## The Chiming of the Hour

11:00 a.m.

## The Welcome and Opportunities

Rev. Jillian Hankamer

\*Please rise, if able, in body or in spirit.

## The Lighting of the Advent Candle

One: In a weary and worn world, how do we begin again? Where do we start?

**Many:** Let us begin with tenderness. Let us begin with our hearts on our sleeve. Let us begin from a place of vulnerability and hope. Let us begin with love.

One: Yes, let us start with love. Today we light the candles of hope, peace, joy, and love.

**Many:** May the warmth of these lights be our cornerstone. May the truth of these lights help us begin again.

One: May it be so! Amen!

## The Response to the Candle Lighting (See Insert)

### *Light the Advent Candle* ADVENT CANDLE SONG

## The Processional

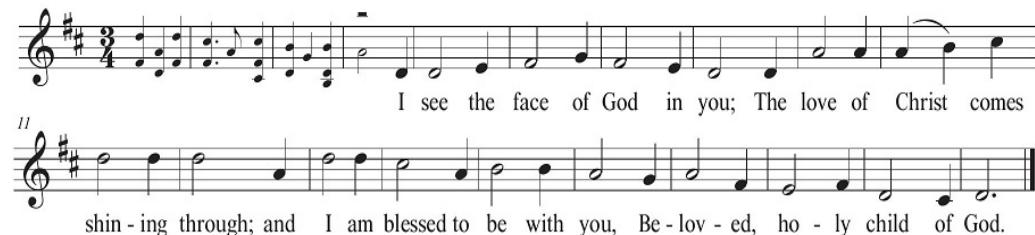
(Please rise in body or in spirit as the processional cross passes your row)

## \*The Opening Hymn (See insert)

### *My Heart Sings Out with Joyful Praise* ELLACOMBE CMD

## The Children's Message and Blessing

Rev. Hankamer



I see the face of God in you; The love of Christ comes  
shin-ing through; and I am blessed to be with you, Be-lov-ed, ho-ly child of God.

## Listening for God in Word and Prayer

## The Voluntary

### *Low How A Rose e'er Blooming*

Johannes Brahms

## The Pastoral Prayer

## \*The Hymn No. 165

### *Love Came Down at Christmas* WHITNEY

Rev. Hankamer

Rev. Hankamer

## The King Family

## \*The Gospel Acclamation

*The incarnation of pure love! Glory be to you, O Christ.*

D. H. Clark

## \*The Gospel Lesson

One: The Song of Mary.

**Many:** Thanks be to God.

Luke 1:46-55

One: The Gospel of our Lord.

**Many:** Thanks be to God.

Matthew 1:18-25

*Choir: Praise be to God, the God of love! Praise be to you, O Christ.*

## The Sermon

## *Hope is Worth the Risk*

Rev. Hankamer

## The Anthem

## *Song of Mary*

GREENSLEEVES

arr. D.H. Clark

*My soul magnifies the Lord, I rejoice and sing to my Savior God, whose countenance was set on me, a lowly humble servant maid. Forever all generations shall say that I have been truly blessed, great things my God has done, and One whose name is Holy. God's mercy flows to all creation, whose arm great deeds performs day by day. The proud are scattered in their thoughts, the mighty brought down from their highest thrones. God lifts the humble up and fills the hungry with good things. Rich folk are sent away, their worldly goods become nothing. God helps us, servants, Israel, and tender mercies always gives to Abraham and all his kin, as was promised us from the days of old. Glory be to God and Christ and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is and shall be, forevermore, world without end. Amen.*

~Text adapted from Luke 1

## Dedicating Gifts to God

*The Offertory is a time of personal devotion and reflection on the day's teaching, and an opportunity to present silently before God what we can give of ourselves. Monetary gifts, which are an important part of our worship and commitment to our church, may be made privately in the offering plate located in the aisle at the back of the sanctuary or via PayPal by scanning the QR Code found on the insert.*

## Sharing Holy Communion

## The Invitation to Communion

The Prayer of Jesus (Using "Father" or "God"; using "trespasses")

\*Please rise, if able.