

The Communion Anthem

In the Bleak Midwinter

Gustav Holst
arr. Gwyneth Walker

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan. Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone. Snow had fallen, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter long ago. Heaven cannot hold Him, nor can earth sustain. Heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign. In the bleak midwinter, a stable warm sufficed. Our Lord God almighty, our Savior Jesus Christ. Angels and arch angels may have gathered there. Cherubim and seraphim thronged the evening air. But His mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved child with a tender kiss. What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would give a lamb. If I were a wise one, I would do my part. But what can I give Him? I would give my heart.

- Text: Christina Rossetti

*The Communion Response

VENI EMMANUEL

***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.***

Departing to Respond to God's Love

*The Closing Hymn No. 132

Joy to the World!
ANTIOCH

*The Benediction

*The Postlude and Recessional *As Lately We Watched* Austrian Carol, arr. Sally DeFord



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

(Following the Choir's recession, you may quietly follow or be seated until the conclusion of the postlude)

2701 Lamy Lane | Monroe, LA 71201 | 318-388-3717 | www.northmin.org



The Worship of God First Sunday of Advent – "HOPE" Hanging of the Greens November 30, 2025

Welcome to our service at Northminster Church. We believe that true worship is an active experience for each worshipper. 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.

Gathering for Worship

- The Preludes 10:45 a.m.
Sleepers Awake, Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring, and Come, Savior of the Nations – J.S. Bach
Prelude on DIVINUM MYSTERIUM - Frederick Candlyn
- The Chiming of the Hour 11:00 a.m.
- The Welcome and Opportunities Rev. Jillian Hankamer
- The Lighting of the Advent Candle Kimble-Keen Family
 - One: On Sunday mornings and Mondays,
 - Many: on good days and bad days,**
 - One: early in the morning and very late at night,
 - Many: here in this room, out in the world, God, we long for you to break in.**
 - One: Meet us in this space.
 - Many: Surprise us with your presence.**
 - One: Fill this room with your good news.
 - All: With hope, we sing, we pray, we worship. Amen!**

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

*The Response to the Candle Lighting (See Insert)

Light the Advent Candle
ADVENT CANDLE SONG

The Meaning of the Service

Rev. Hankamer

The Processional and Hymn No. 102

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

O How Shall I Receive You
ST. THEODULPH

The Scripture Reading

One: A reminder not to fear.

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

Lamentations 3: 55-57

Christmas in America

The Voluntary

Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL, arr. Ian Good

The Bells of Christmas

The Carol

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day
Justin Havard, baritone

Johnny Marks, arr. DHC

The Poinsettia

The Carol

Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming

ES IST EIN' ROS

The Christmas Tree

The Carol

O Tannenbaum!
(O Christmas Tree!)

Traditional German Carol

The Paraments and Advent Colors

Christmas Caroling

The Gifts of Christmas

*The Gospel Acclamation

VENI EMMANUEL

Arr. D.H. Clark

O Come, O Come Emmanuel. Let hope spring forth from your word. Glory be to you, O Christ.

*The Gospel Reading

Luke 1:5-12

One: The Gospel of our Lord.

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

Choir: *Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel has come, bringing hope through the word of God. Praise be to You, O Christ.*

The Homily

We Long for God to Break In

Rev. Hankamer

The Carol

The First Noel

Dan Forrest

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"*)

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 either partake of the common cup containing wine or you may choose to take one of the individual cups containing grape juice. If you wish to take communion using intinction (dipping the bread), please use the individual cups.

**Please rise, if able.*