

NORTHPARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Christmas Eve
December 24, 2025
5:00 & 7:00 p.m.



“Terrifying, Joyous News” by Lauren Wright Pittman
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PRELUDE	Carols of Christmas	Gretchen, Paul, and Campbell Lewis
WELCOME		Rev. Nicole Bates, Pastor
One:	The Lord be with you.	
All:	And also with you.	
INTROIT	Celtic Nativity Song Sanctuary Choir Tinsley Silcox, Director	Jay Rouse

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay. The child even so humble was born to be king. He came down from heaven, salvation to bring. A gift from his father in heaven above; bow down and adore him and give him your love.

CANDLE LIGHTING

Hofeditz Family (5:00); Knotts/Hall Family (7:00)

One: In a fearful world,
where do we see the presence of God?
**All: We see God in the beauty of the stars.
We see God in the love of this community.
We see God in the dreams we hold for a better world.
Even in a fearful world, God is all around us.**
One: On this holy night, we light the Christ Candle
as a reminder of this good news.
May this flicker help us remember –
even in a fearful world, God's love burns bright.

✠HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

✠PRAYER OF CONFESSION (together)

Katy Evans, Pastoral Intern

**God of angel choruses,
you hang the stars in the sky,
but we do not always see them.
You fill the night with angelic voices,
but we do not always hear them.
You send shepherds to tell the good news,
but we do not always believe them.
You birth love and joy into the world,
but we do not always seek them.
Quiet our fears that
minimize and distract from the good news.
Tune our hearts back to your song.
With hope we pray. Amen.**

✠Please rise as you are able.

✠PROMISE OF GRACE

One: To fearful shepherds, the angels said:
"Do not be afraid. We bring good news!"

All: **This good news is love freely given,
grace radically extended,
welcome always offered,
belonging never restricted.**

One: Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.

✠CAROL

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?
This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary!

LOVE IS BORN

Luke 2:1-7

CAROL

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king,
and peace to all on earth.

LOVE IS ANNOUNCED

Luke 2:8-14

CAROLS

The First Nowell; Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king.
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

LOVE CANNOT BE SILENCED

Luke 2:15-20

CAROL

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! 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 the gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you! Christ the babe was born for you!

SERMON

Good News Is Louder than Fear

SHARING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY Christmas Child

John Rutter

Bells ring out in the winter's stillness, bearing news of a promised birth, bringing light to a world in darkness, God's own son revealed on earth. Christmas child, lying at Bethlehem, gift of God, given this day. Hear the bells ringing out their message: Christus natus hodie. Bright the star in the night sky shining over Bethlehem where he lies, born to live and to die a mortal, yet as King of Kings to rise. Christmas child, lying at Bethlehem, gift of God, given this day; hear the bells ringing out their message: Christus natus hodie. Shepherds kneeling in adoration humbly worship the newborn king; angel voices in tuneful chorus joyful alleluias sing. Christmas child, lying at Bethlehem, gift of God, given this day. Hear the bells ringing out their message: Christus natus hodie. Sing, rejoice at our Savior's coming, church bells ring, merry organs play. Gloria in excelsis Deo! Christus natus hodie.

CHRISTMAS PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Amy Moore, Parish Associate

**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.**

SHARING THE LIGHT

Pass the light to those next to you - holding the lit candle upright, tilting the unlit candle toward it.

SOLO

**O Holy Night
Scotty Hague, Tenor**

Adolphe Adam

CAROL

Silent Night

**Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
'round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia:
Christ the Savior is born;
Christ the Savior is born!"**

**Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

**Silent night, holy night!
Wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King:
Christ the Savior is born;
Christ the Savior is born.**

✠BENEDICTION

Please extinguish candles after the Benediction.

Carry the light in your hearts, knowing the blessings of Emmanuel, God with us.

At the end of worship, candles will be collected at the exits.

✠RESPONSE

Joy to the World!

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.**

POSTLUDE Carillon Sortie
 Louis Walker, Organist

H. Mulet

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WELCOME TO NORTHPARK

WELCOME

Merry Christmas and welcome to NorthPark! Hearing-assisted devices are available from an usher. Between services, join us for wassail and cookies in the foyer.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

Worship bags to keep little hands busy are available on tables in the foyer. Battery-operated candles are available for children, as are angel costumes to wear during worship. Childcare is available for infants - Kindergarten in Room 50. Ask an usher to show you the way.

UPCOMING WORSHIP

On December 28, there is one worship service at 11:00 a.m. We return to our regular worship schedule (8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.) on January 4. The 11:00 a.m. services are livestreamed.

ALL-CHURCH MISSION PROJECT

On January 4, in lieu of Sunday School, join us at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall for Rise Against Hunger, a meaningful event where we will pack 15,000 meals for those in need. This effort welcomes all ages and abilities. Meals will be shipped around the globe to support school feeding programs and crisis relief efforts.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

This special offering supports Presbyterian schools equipping communities of color, and provides assistance to retired church workers. Envelopes are in pew racks, or scan the QR code below.

PAPER FOR WATER

Select an origami ornament from the tree in the foyer to help bring water to the thirsty. The donation amount is listed on each ornament.

HOW TO GIVE



NorthPark relies on your generosity to support the mission and ministry of the church. Blue offering envelopes are found in the pew racks. Online gifts may be given by scanning the QR code with your phone camera. Checks may be mailed to NPPC; P.O. Box 515454; Dallas, TX 75251-5454.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS AND IVY

IN HONOR OF

NorthPark staff
Nicole Bates & Trey Angel; Louis Walker; Kristen West & family;
the congregation for their love and support
NorthPark pastors & staff

GIFTED BY

Nicole Bates
Beth & Ed Bull

Catharina & Craig Haynes

IN HONOR OF

Stanley & Archie Christensen; Connor & Caleb Hofeditz
Baby Howeth (coming February 6)
NorthPark angels
To the glory of God
Immigrant neighbors
Children Deborah & Greg; grandchildren Grayson & Sapirse
JW, Hayley, Bruce, & Clark Peters; Will, Rachel, & Lily Guyman;
people who have served as liturgists
My parents Maria Bellantoni & Ed Gunsalus
Our family, friends
NorthPark Sanctuary & Bell Choirs
NorthPark pastors, staff, musicians; Beth & Ed Bull;
Gretchen, Paul, & Campbell Lewis; Liz Williams
To the glory of God

IN MEMORY OF

Betty & Andy Reaves; Goli & Reza Afkhami
Wayne Anderson
Charlie Angel; Helen Bates; Evelyn Richardson; Mary Jo Schneider
Robert G. Haring; Robert E. Haring; Wini Kinkele
Mary Lou Bookhout
Thawon Towong
Rosanna Stanley; Sam & Lee McManus
Steve Cunningham
Wayne Anderson; Sally Brown; Judy Evans; Kathryn Sims;
Craig Wadsworth; Jean & Harry Wood
Our parents
Evelyn & Stanley Hazen; Cleo & Clarence Hofeditz
Vella Jo & Roy Howeth
Jerry Lee
Wanda & Jim Stanley
Dr. Franklin Lewis; Jennifer Lewis
Berta Mauricio
Our parents
Margaret & Lowell Whitlach; Marion & James Peters
R.E. & Dorothy Blackwood; Charles & Jean Smith; Tom Blackwood
Rod Steele, Sr.
Craig Wadsworth; Randy Dunlap
Bertha Walker; Charles Walker; Dana Walker
Our parents

GIFTED BY

Patricia & Kevin Hofeditz
Madi & Clayton Howeth
Mary Jo & Jack Lincicome
Kathy & Mike McNeill
Amy & David Moore
Linda & Bill Perry
Carol & Larry Peters

Gina Price
Kris & Guy Reed
Anne Thomas
Louis Walker

Liz Williams

GIFTED BY

Andrea & Kambiz Afkhami
Kris, Ben, & Ann Anderson
Trey & Chase Angel; Nicole Bates
Susan & Chris Arends
Nicole Bates
Nui Canfield
Holly, Chuck, Cuinn, & Kait Cornwell
Cheryl Cunningham
Monta & Vic Darrough

Catharina & Craig Haynes
Patricia & Kevin Hofeditz
Lisa & Jeff Howeth
Leo C. Lee
Alison & Larry Lee
The Lewis family
Debbie & William Mauricio
Amy & David Moore
Carol & Larry Peters
Mimi & Mark Smith
Rodman Steele
Ruth Wadsworth; Ruth Dunlap
Louis Walker
Donna & Larry Zacharias