

NORTHMINSTER PRAYER CONCERNS – *New or updated this week in **BOLD** type.*

Tina East – Knee Replacement after Christmas, prayer for successful surgery and healing

Sue R. – being treated for pancreatic cancer

Kelly H. – Is home now after recent operation – prayers for her recovery

Dr. Mark DeGalen – Back in the hospital prayers for continued recovery

Robert D. – House burned down and Leg removed, prayers for good overall recovery

Sandy – Nerve issues from a back surgery

Ted & Chris Fines - Chis has an antibiotic resistant infection from a surgery and Ted's prostate cancer has moved into his spine

Our Homebound: *Nancy Curtis, Ann Pittman, Scott Tannehill, Jeannine Swaffield, Micki Williams, Charlie Mossgrove*

NORTHMINSTER NOTES

- Today's Liturgist: **Dee Downerd**; Usher: **Mike Jacobsen**; Counters: **Dennis Yoder**
- **Card Signing** – December 21 after worship in Parlor
- **No Fellowship Hour this month**
- **Christmas Eve Service** – Wednesday December 24 at 7:00 pm
- **Stark County Joint Service** – December 28 at 10:30 am at Christ Presbyterian – no worship service at Northminster
- **Please welcome Jake McQuaid, Flutist**, who is currently in the Masters Program at The Cleveland Institute of Music, for our Special Music today.



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Ken Krause – Pastor
Monday – Thursday / 9:00 am – 2:00 PM
Pastor's Phone – (234) 322-6949

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 21st, 2025
Worship Service – 10:30 a.m.

Welcome to all as we come together to worship our Lord on this blessed Sunday morning.
Please sign the attendance register in the pew.

PRELUDE “Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” Johann Schop Arr. Hayes

GREETING, WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT “Sing Noel” Taylor

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God-with-us, Immanuel,
People: comes to give us our own Holy Family,
Leader: here with the body of Christ this day.
People: Rejoice and be glad!
All: Amen!

Lighting of the Advent Candle
Fourth week of Advent

*HYMN # 8 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates TRURO

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION – *Unison*

Shepherd of Israel, God of hosts, we have turned away from you, neglecting the welfare of your creation, ignoring the plight of your people, trampling on the creatures and the plants you have

made, taking from Earth what we cannot give back. We have not helped our neighbors in need, kept peace within our families, or tended the vine you have planted in our own lives.

(Silent Personal Confession Time)

Forgive us and lead us to a more gracious life. In your compassion, turn us to your way. Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: "You are called to belong to Jesus Christ." For the sake of the One God promised to send, named as God's Son, who died, was raised, and through whom we receive grace, God forgives you all your sins. You are God's beloved, called to be saints. Grace to you and peace.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*GLORIA PATRI #579

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING **Isaiah 7:10-16** p. 636 / LP p.776

SPECIAL MUSIC "Prayer" Music From Jake McQuaid, Flutist

GOSPEL READING: **Matthew 1:18-25** p. 1 / LP p. 1-2

Sermon "*Advent Doesn't Always Go As Expected*" Pastor Ken

*HYMN #23 Angels We Have Heard on High GLORIA

ADVENT STATEMENT OF FAITH – See insert

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER
Our Father...

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY See Amid the Winter's Snow

Hymn 51

*DOXOLOGY

"**These Gifts**" (tune of "What Child Is This?")

***These gifts we joyfully bring to you,
To fill the world with meaning;
Our hearts and minds are longing for
The life of which you are dreaming.***

***This this our gift we bring,
Our lives we share, your praise we sing;
Show us your vision, Lord,
For hope and peace, and caring.***

(TEXT: Rev. Scott Cervas, Meadowthorpe Presbyterian Church Lexington, KY)

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION – *Unison*

Holy God, you bless us with many gifts, you retrieve us from despair and fear, you visit us with surprising proclamations, and you intend for us good things. We thank you for your steadfast love, for sending signs of assurance, and for the gift of faith.

Use our gifts to bring comfort and justice to those in need, reforming the ways of our world for the sake of new life. Amen.

*HYMN #309 Of the Father's Love Begotten

DIVINUM MUSTERIUM

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE "Go, Rejoicing"

Butler

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

POSTLUDE

**Please stand if you are able.*