

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Call to the Table

The Communion Litany

Pastor: On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples and said, "Take, eat: This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

People: **Thanks be to God for the broken bread.**

Pastor: After supper, he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

People: **Thanks be to God for the cup.**

Pastor: Thanks be to God for the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus.

All: **Thanks be to God for the table of communion.**

The Bread

Worshippers will come forward by the center aisle. Receive the bread and, having received it, return to your seat by the outside aisle.

The Cup

Worshippers will be served the cup seated in the pews. Take the cup, a symbol of your willingness to receive the Grace of God. Once all have been served, drink the cup together

COMMITMENT

Northminster is an open fellowship that wants to share its gift of life and ministry with others. During the Time of Response, this church extends to you an invitation to membership by your request for baptism, by letter from a sister church, or by statement of your Christian experience in another denomination. If you would like to unite with this covenant community, please express this desire by coming forward at this point of the service.

TIME OF RESPONSE

God does not want us to put our heads in the sand like ostriches; instead, God commands us to face reality as it is and to make a truthful and definite decision.

-Dietrich Bonhoeffer

*The Recessional Hymn No. 271: "Christ Is Coming! Let Creation" *CWM RHONDDA*

*The Benediction *Charles Poole*

*The Postlude "Prepare the Way, O Zion" *Manz*

***The congregation will please stand.**

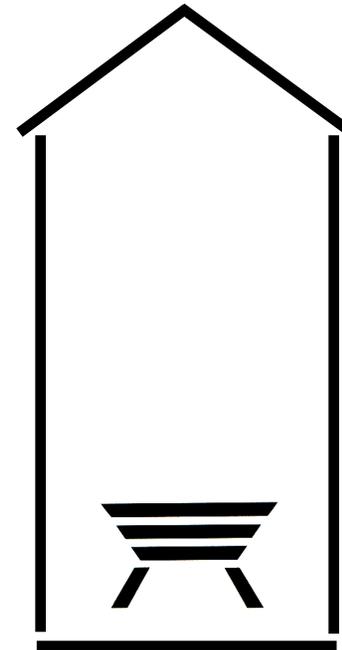
The Lectionary passages for December 1 are found on the following pages in the Pew Bible:

Isaiah 2:1-5 ~ page 550

Psalm 122 ~ page 498

Romans 13:11-14 ~ page 923

Matthew 24:36-44 ~ page 806



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Let all, with heart and voice
Before God's throne rejoice;
Praise is God's gracious choice.
Alleluia! Amen!

-Christian H. Bateman, adapted

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2019
Ten-thirty o'clock

PREPARATION AND PRAISE

The worship of God begins this morning as you enter the Sanctuary. You are encouraged to use these moments for meditation, reflection and prayer. Following the service, greet our visitors and share your fellowship with those around you.

The Meditation of Preparation

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which God has called you, the riches of God's glorious inheritance in his holy people.

-Ephesians 1:18, adapted

The Prelude "Awake, Awake for Night Is Flying" Bach

The Call to Worship "Advent Message" How

Come, Lord Jesus, come, Lord, quickly come!
The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness:
Prepare ye the way of the Lord;
Make straight in the desert a highway for our God!
Come, Lord Jesus, O come quickly. *Amen.*

*The Processional Hymn No. 135: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" *HYFRYDOL*

*The Advent Banner Mary Elise Byrd

*The Lighting of the First Advent Candle: Hope Cole Mahaffey

*The Litany of Praise Mary Lee

Leader: The Lord be with you;

People: And also with you.

Leader: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:

People: May those who love you be secure.

Leader: May there be peace within your walls,

People: And security within your citadels.

Leader: For the sake of family and friends,

All: We will say, "Peace be within you."

-Psalm 122, adapted

*The Gloria Patri No. 807: "Glory Be to the Father" *MEINEKE*

*The Prayer of Invocation Mary Lee

The Greeting Major Treadway

The Lessons Psalm 122
Romans 13:11-14

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

The night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.

-Romans 13:12

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Lesley Ratcliff

INTERCESSION AND DEDICATION

*The Offertory Hymn No.678: "In the Bulb There Is a Flower"

PROMISE

*The Offertory Prayer

Mary Lee

The Offertory "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

Held

*The Doxology

OLD HUNDREDDTH

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Gospel

Matthew 24:36-44

Charles Poole

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Anthem

"There Shall a Star from Jacob Come Forth"

Mendelssohn

There shall a star come out of Jacob,
and a sceptre shall rise out of Israel,
With might destroying princes and cities,
As bright the star of morning gleams,
So Jesus shedeth glorious beams,
Of light and consolation.

Thy Word O Lord, Radiance darting,
Truth imparting, Gives salvation;
Thine be praised and adoration!

The Sermon

"One Will Be Taken, One Will Be Left"

Charles Poole