

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

“Holy Spirit, Truth Divine, dawn upon this soul of mine;
Voice of God and inward light, wake my spirit, clear my sight.”

-The Worshiping Church

*The Recessional Hymn No. 146: “Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come” *ANTIOCH*

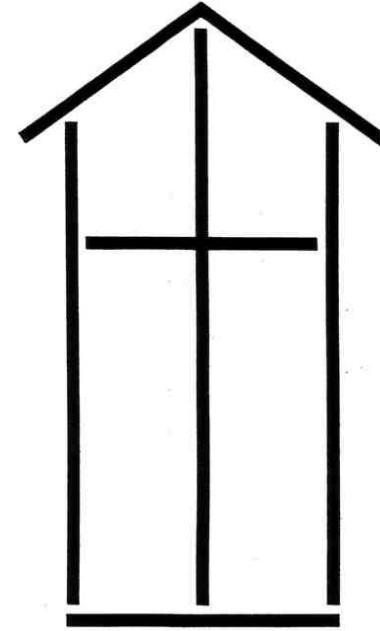
*The Benediction *Charles Poole*

*The Postlude “Tell Out My Soul” *Manz*

**The congregation will please stand.*

The Lectionary passages for January 5 are found on the following pages in the Pew Bible:

Jeremiah 31:7-14 ~ page 641
Psalm 147:12-20 ~ pages 507-508
Ephesians 1:3-14 ~ page 949
John 1:10-18 ~ page 862



“For the law was given by Moses, but
grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.”

-John 1:17

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Second Sunday of Christmastide

January 5, 2020
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

Having celebrated the birth of Christ with gifts given in love, we pause now to consider the gift we have been given. The human nature of Christ was of God's making, not ours. In the face of Christ, the glory of God is seen, the fullness of grace and truth. "And the word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth."

Prelude "As with Gladness Men of Old" Burkhardt
"Creator of the Stars of Night" Held

The Spoken Call to Worship Charles Poole

*The Processional Hymn No. 157: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" *INDULCIJUBILO*

*The Christmas Banner Cole Mahaffey

*The Litany of Praise Merle Dean

Leader: The Lord be with you;

People: And also with you.

Leader: We are the people of God;

People: As God's people we have gathered to give our worship to God, who gave us life and redeemed us in Christ.

Leader: We are the people of God;

People: We give to God our skills, our service, and our money, that we may help those in need.

All: Lord, show us all what you want us to do, in your church and throughout the world, reminding us that what we do for others, we do for you.

Amen.

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

*The Prayer of Invocation Merle Dean

The Greeting Major Treadway

The Lessons Jeremiah 31:7-14
Ephesians 1:3-14

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

We come to you, O God, in awe, with an inquisitive nature yearning for answers; with feelings of guilt that need forgiveness; and, some, with a sense of not belonging, seeking your face.

Laying all of this before you, we ask for guidance, forgiveness, and a strong feeling of your presence in our lives.

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer Lesley Ratcliff

INTERCESSION AND DEDICATION

*The Offertory Hymn No. 155: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" *ST. LOUIS*

*The Offertory Prayer Merle Dean

The Offertory "Hail the Day So Rich in Cheer" Manz

*The Doxology *OLD HUNDREDTH*

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Gospel John 1:10-18 Charles Poole

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Anthem "Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head" Niles
Jack Edwards, *bass*

The Sermon "Concerning Kindness and Clarity" Charles Poole

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Call to the Table Charles Poole

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

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

The Cup

Worshipers 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.