



Christmas Eve

Northside Church • 2024

Welcome to Worship at Northside!

We are so glad you are here! If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to speak to one of our pastors following the service, or contact Rev. Douglas Herlong at DouglasH@NorthsideUMC.org. We seek to make Northside inclusive and accessible. For additional accommodations, please contact Rev. Catherine Boothe Olson at CatherineB@NorthsideUMC.org.

We believe there is a place for you at Northside to know the love of God, to grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ, and to go into the world to serve others. Thank you for joining us!

We understand and embrace the wonder and excitement children bring everywhere they go. For those moments when a changing table, or feeding area is needed, there are accommodations on the main floor and in the nursery on the first floor. The services are streaming on screens in the Narthex and in the Chapel, if needed. Nursery care is available for children 8 weeks to preschool age for our Traditional service. Please ask one of our greeters or staff members, and we will be more than happy to assist you.



NORTHSIDE CHURCH A UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

Clergy

Dr. Bill Burch, *Senior Pastor* • Rev. Catherine Boothe Olson, *Associate Pastor*
Rev. Douglas Herlong, *Associate Pastor* • Rev. Angela House, *Associate Pastor*
Rev. Sara Maughan, *Pastor of Children's Ministry*

Affiliated Clergy

Dr. G. Gil Watson, *Pastor Emeritus* • Dr. Ann Brightwell McCord, *Retired*

Traditional Music Ministries

Joshua McClure, *Director of Worship & Organist* • Nathan Schreer, *Director of Music*

2799 Northside Drive NW · Atlanta, Georgia 30305 · 404.355.6475 · www.NorthsideUMC.org

The poinsettias on the altar are given to the Glory of God:

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. William C. Warren III and Mr. and Mrs. H. D. McCondichie,
and in celebration of the birth of Christ, given by Mr. and Mrs. Glenn D. Warren.

Photography Notice

We love taking pictures of our church family! It's our way of highlighting and celebrating all the wonderful things God is doing in the life of Northside. If you have any concerns at all, please let us or the photographer know, and we will do our best to respect your privacy.



***Please follow the QR code to
note your attendance today.***

A Service of Carols & Candlelight

December 24, 2024 • Six o'clock in the Evening

† Please rise in body or spirit when you see this symbol,
and join in singing or reading aloud text in **bold**.

THE PRELUDE | O Come, All Ye Faithful | *arr. John A. Behnke*

Mr. Joshua McClure

THE CHIMING OF THE HOUR

THE CHORAL INTROIT | A Star Carol | *John Rutter*

Chancel Choir

Sing this night for a boy is born in Bethlehem, Christ our Lord in a lowly manger lies;
Bring your gifts, come and worship at his cradle, Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary!

Angels bright, come from heaven's highest glory, Bear the news with its message of good cheer:
"Sing, rejoice, for a King is come to save us, Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary!"

Refrain: See his star shining bright in the sky this Christmas Night!
Follow me joyfully; Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary!

See, he lies in his mother's tender keeping; Jesus Christ in her loving arms asleep.
Shepherds poor, come to worship and adore him, Offer their humble gifts before the son of Mary. [*Refrain*]

Let us all pay our homage at the manger, Sing his praise on this joyful Christmas Night;
Christ is come, bringing promise of salvation; Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary! [*Refrain*]

THE WELCOME

Rev. Catherine Boothe Olson

† THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Boothe Olson

Pastor: Let us go with the shepherds and wise ones.

People: **Let us go to find the Savior, God's promise, born for us!**

Pastor: Let us go with the poor and humble.

People: **Let us go to find our King, born in a lowly manger.**

Pastor: Let us go with all the world, to worship the babe who will redeem the world.

People: **Come, let us worship; come let us adore him: Christ the Lord. Amen.**

† THE HYMN OF ADORATION | Hymn 234: stanzas 1, 5 & 3 | 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;**

Refrain: **O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

**Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger, we would embrace thee with love and awe.
Who would not love thee, loving us so dearly? [*Refrain*]**

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation; O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest; [*Refrain*]**

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Rev. Boothe Olson

Pastor: We have watched and waited. Now our redemption draws near.

People: **We light the Christ candle.**

Pastor: We hear the words of Scripture: "The people who walked in darkness have seen
a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined."

People: **Glory to the newborn king! Alleluia. Amen.**

THE HYMN | Hymn 238: stanzas 1 & 3 | Angels We Have Heard on High

**Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.**

Refrain: **Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

**Come to Bethlehem and see Christ whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.** [*Refrain*]

THE PROMISE | Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Rev. Angela House

THE HYMN | Hymn 230: stanzas 1 & 4 | 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.**

**O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!**

† THE ANNOUNCEMENT | Luke 2:8-14

Rev. Douglas Herlong

† THE HYMN | Hymn 218: stanzas 1 & 2 | It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

**It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.**

**Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains, they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.**

† THE ADORATION | Luke 2:15-20

Rev. Boothe Olson

† THE HYMN | The First Noel

**The first Noel 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.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.**

**Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heav'nly Lord
That hath made Heaven and earth of nought, and with His blood mankind hath bought:
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.**

THE GIVING OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

Rev. Boothe Olson

Give online at www.NorthsideUMC.org/donate or text Northside.ATL to 73256.

THE OFFERTORY | Before the Marvel of this Night | *Carl Schalk*

Chancel Choir

Before the marvel of this night, adoring, fold your wings and bow,
Then tear the sky apart with light and with your news the world endow.
Proclaim the birth of Christ and peace, that fear and death and sorrow cease: Sing gift of peace.

Awake the sleeping world with song, this is the day the Lord has made.
Assemble here, celestial throng, in royal splendor come arrayed.
Give earth a glimpse of heavenly bliss, a teasing taste of what they miss: Sing endless bliss!

The love that we have always known, our constant joy and endless light,
Now to the loveless world be shown, now break upon its deathly night.
Into one song compress the love, that rules our universe above: Sing God is love!

—Jaroslav J. Vajda

† THE DOXOLOGY | *Tune:* The First Noel

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.**

THE PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Boothe Olson

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

† THE HYMN | Hymn 240: stanzas 1 & 3 | Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

**Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"**

**Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"**

THE SERMON | "The Manger Scene"

Dr. Bill Burch

THE SOLO | O Holy Night

Ms. Tiffany Uzoije

THE INCARNATION | John 1:1–5, 14

Dr. Burch

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Dr. Burch

*As you share the Christ-light, please hold your lit candle upright
for the person next to you, and take care to avoid dripping wax.*

THE HYMN | Hymn 239: stanzas 1, 3 & 4 | Silent Night, Holy 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, 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!**

THE BENEDICTION

Dr. Burch

THE POSTLUDE | Joy to the World | *arr. Albin C. Whitworth*

Mr. McClure

THERE IS A PLACE FOR YOU AT NORTHSIDE CHURCH...

to know the love of God, to grow as a disciple of Jesus, and to go into the world to serve others.

Visit our website at www.NorthsideUMC.org/events to see a full schedule of events.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE & COMBINED WORSHIP

Please note the church building will be closed December 25–26 for the holiday. If an emergency occurs during that time, call us at 404.355.6475 and press “8” to leave a message. The Pastor on Call will contact you. Also, we will have combined worship on Sunday, December 29 at 10:00AM in the Sanctuary for Traditional Worship. There will be no Sunday school or childcare.

2024 END-OF-YEAR DONATIONS

As 2024 draws to a close, we wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your gifts and remind you that, to be counted, 2024 donations must be received or postmarked by midnight on December 31. If you would like to drop off a year-end contribution, the Business Office will be open Monday, December 30 and Tuesday, December 31 from 8:00AM to 4:00PM. Contributions may also be made online at www.NorthsideUMC.org/give (stock contribution information is also available on this page) or via text by sending “NorthsideATL” to 73256 and following the prompts. **For more information, contact Ken Snell, our Executive Director, at KenS@NorthsideUMC.org.**

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER & ACTIVITIES

Our regular Wednesday night schedule will resume January 8. We’ll serve dinner from 5:00 to 6:45PM and have Bible studies, sports, music, and fellowship for all ages. Join us as we “know, grow, and go” in the new year!

SPORTS & RECREATION MINISTRY

Looking for great activities for your kids? Our Sports & Rec Ministry has a variety of afterschool classes for preschoolers this winter and spring. Getting kids involved will help build their physical, mental, and social skills in a fun, Christ-centered environment. Afterschool classes are starting this week! **For more information and a full class listing, visit our website at www.SportsAndRec.NorthsideUMC.org.**

WEEKLY ADULT BIBLE STUDIES

After Jesus was born, the Bible tells us that he grew in wisdom, stature, and favor with God and humanity (Luke 2:52). There’s no better way to engage God’s Word and grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ than by studying the Bible. We do that on a weekly basis in our Bible Study with Dr. J classes. We cover everything from the Wisdom Literature to Paul’s Letter to the Romans and much more — it’s the perfect place to get plugged in and learn. Come join us! Classes are Sunday 10:10AM (Sunday school), Monday 10:30AM, Wednesday (for men) 7:20AM, and Wednesday 10:30AM. **Contact Dr. James Johnson, our Director of Adult Discipleship, at JamesJ@NorthsideUMC.org.**

WOMEN’S MINISTRY WINTER/SPRING CLASSES

Women’s Ministry welcomes you into a variety of weekly classes, soulful monthly gatherings, and a life-giving Women’s Retreat. Hosting small groups mornings, afternoons, and evenings, we offer Bible studies, book studies, and social gatherings. Visit www.NorthsideUMC.org/womensministry to browse our class descriptions and register. New offerings begin in January. **For questions, contact Christa Groves, our Program Coordinator, at ChristaG@NorthsideUMC.org.**

STUDENTS’ ROMANS & CHRISTIANS EVENT

As a special event, our youth group will experience Romans and Christians on January 5 from 5:30 to 7:30PM. We will enjoy pizza and explain the rules prior to the event. After experiencing the conflict of the early Romans and Christians, we will hear a message on “Why Violence Happens in the World.” Youth group is free and open to all 6th–12th grade students. **Contact Daniel Moye, our Student Ministry Director, at DanielM@NorthsideUMC.org.**

NORTHSIDE CARES

As siblings in Christ, we are called to serve. You are invited to serve God and your community with Northside on January 25, February 8, and March 8. Northside will be serving in the Adamsville community on each of these dates 7:30AM–3:00PM. Participants must be 6th grade and older. **Registration is required via www.NorthsideUMC.org/Adamsville.**

3RD GRADE BIBLES & BIBLE BOOTCAMP

All 3rd graders are invited to receive their Bible presented by Dr. Bill on Sunday, January 26 at the 9:00 and 11:15AM services. Each child will be called by name to receive their Bible. Then on Friday, January 31, join us for a fun evening of activities and learning how to use your Bible at our Bible Bootcamp! Cost is \$15 per child. Don’t forget to bring your Bible, and bring along some friends! **Register for both events at www.NorthsideUMC.org/registrations.**

JOIN FESTIVAL CHOIR

The Northside Festival Choir sings twice a year around Christmas and Holy Week. With only 6–8 rehearsals largely on weekends, this choir is an excellent choice to accommodate those with busy schedules. Spring Festival Choir rehearsals will start in early February 2025, and this year we will lead in worship on Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025. We’d love to add your voice to our ranks! **Contact Nathan Schreer, our Director of Music, at NathanS@NorthsideUMC.org.**

FIRST WORDS OF JESUS

Jesus' first words reveal red-letter principles of heaven's kingdom.

49 "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" 50 But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

51 Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. 52 And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

WE HOPE YOU WILL JOIN US ON
SUNDAYS IN 2025

8:30 & 11:15AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

9:00AM CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

10:10AM SUNDAY SCHOOL

JANUARY 5

First Words: **LUKE**

JANUARY 12

First Words: **MATTHEW**

JANUARY 19

First Words: **MARK**

JANUARY 26

First Words: **JOHN**

