



NORTHSIDE CHURCH
A UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

*Christmas Parables:
The Christmas Pageant*

December 7, 2025



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Second Sunday of Advent

There is a place for you at Northside Church to know the love of God,
to grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ, and to go into the world to serve others.

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

THE CHIMING OF THE HOUR

THE PRELUDE

8:30AM | O Come, Emmanuel & Pat-a-pan | arr. Susan Davis

Susan Schreer Davis, flute & Joshua McClure

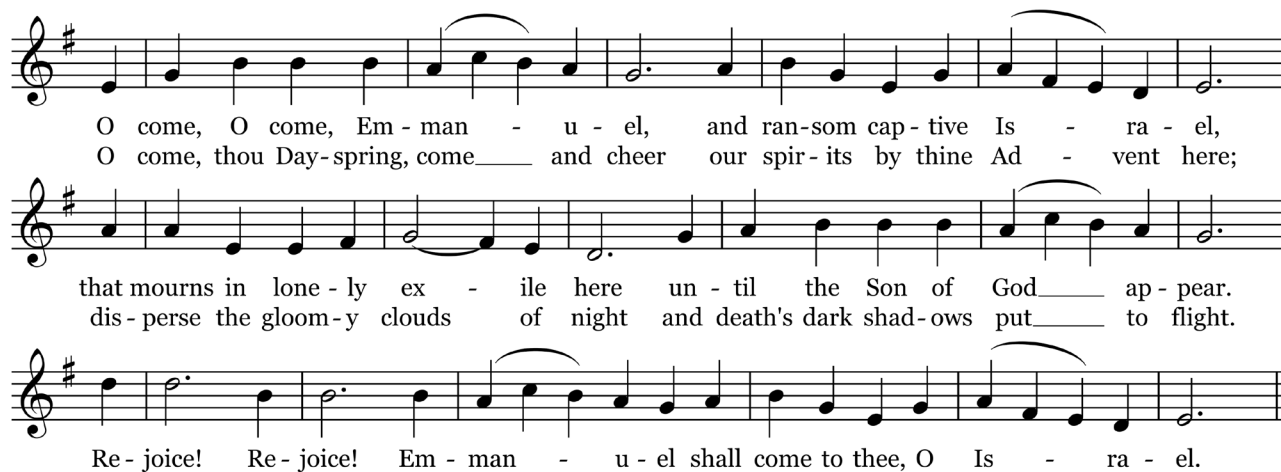
11:15AM | Carol of the Bells

Children's Bells

THE ADVENT GREETING

Nathan Schreer

THE HYMN OF ADVENT | Hymn 211: stanzas 1 & 6 | O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran-som cap - tive Is - ra - el,
O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer our spir - its by thine Ad - vent here;
that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night and death's dark shad - ows put to flight.
Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

Text: 9th century Latin & Music: copyright 1940, 1943, renewed 1981 The Church Pension Fund.

THE WELCOME

Rev. Catherine Boothe Olson

† THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Boothe Olson

Pastor: "Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel."
We come this Advent to worship, Emmanuel — our peace
and our light, who dwells among us.

People: **We gather in this season of waiting and watching for the coming of our Lord.**

Pastor: We come to lift our voices, to open our hearts, to prepare the way of Christ among us.

People: **We proclaim, "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;" Praise be to God. Amen.**

† THE HYMN OF ADORATION | Hymn 234: stanzas 1 & 3 | O Come, All Ye Faithful

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand
of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

† THE GLORIA PATRI | Hymn 70

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was
in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

† THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Boothe Olson

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

THE ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

8:30AM | The Buis Family
11:15AM | The Goodwin Family

Leader: The angel greeted Mary with words of peace—
People: **“Do not be afraid, for God is with you.”**
Leader: In stillness and trust, she said yes to God’s call—
People: **And peace took root in a troubled world.**
Leader: We gather to receive that same holy peace. We light the Candle of Peace.
People: **Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

THE CHILDREN'S OFFERING OF PRAISE | Night of Silence | *arr. John Ferguson* | 11:15AM

K–5th Choir

Cold are the people, winter of life, we tremble in shadows this cold endless night,
Frozen in the snow lie roses sleeping, flowers that will echo the sunrise,
Fire of hope is our only warmth, weary its flame will be dying soon.

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.

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT | 11:15AM

Mary Bingham

We invite all children to come to the chancel steps for a special message.

THE GIVING OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

Rev. Boothe Olson

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

THE OFFERTORY | Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus | *arr. Hal Hopson*

Chancel Choir;
Susan Schreer Davis, flute

Come, thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in thee.

By thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all sufficient merit
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

—*Charles Wesley*

† 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 INVITATION, CONFESSION, AND PARDON

Rev. Boothe Olson

Pastor: Christ our Lord, invites to his table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace
with one another. Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

People: **Merciful God,
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will,
we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love,
we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Pastor: Hear the good news:
Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
that proves God's love toward us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

Congregation: **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.**

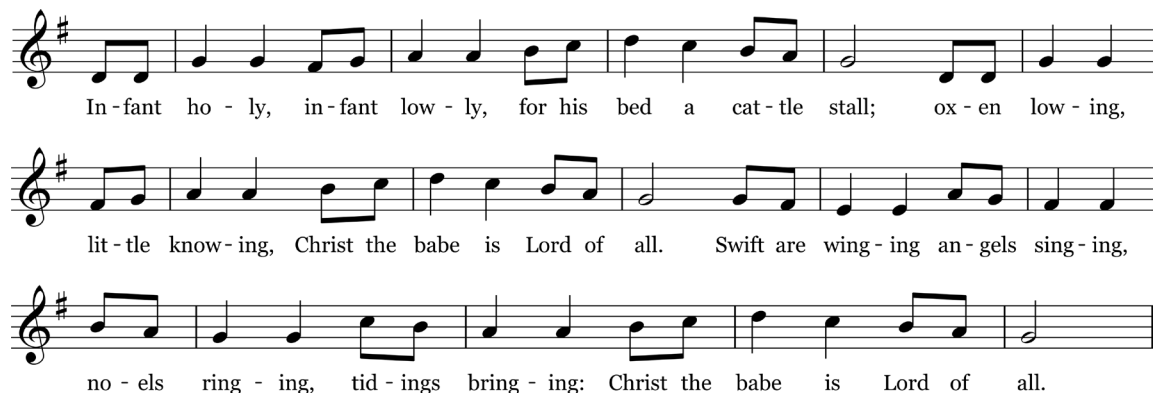
People: **Glory to God. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 OF PREPARATION | Hymn 229: stanza 1 | Infant Holy, Infant Lowly



† THE SCRIPTURE | Luke 1:26–38 | Pew Bible, pg. 1457

Dr. Bill Burch

Pastor: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE SERMON | “Christmas Parables: The Christmas Pageant”

Dr. Burch

THE INSTRUCTIONS TO HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Boothe Olson

Today, we celebrate Communion. When directed, walk down the center aisle to receive the elements. We will serve by intinction, which means you will be handed bread and dip it in juice. You are then invited to pray at the altar rail or at your seat. If you are not able to come forward, please let a Sunday Servant know so that the elements may be brought to you.

The Communion table is open to all. There is also a gluten-free option available. Any money that is left on the altar rail during Communion will go to people experiencing financial need.

The Lord's Supper is a holy meal of bread and juice that symbolizes the body and blood of Christ. By sharing this meal, we give thanks for Jesus' sacrifice for our sins, we recall the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, and we celebrate the unity of all the members of God's family.

THE LITURGY OF HOLY COMMUNION

8:30AM | Rev. Boothe Olson

11:15AM | Dr. Burch

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.
And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

People:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might. Heav - en and earth are
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Pastor: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: On the night in which he gave himself up for us,
Jesus took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,
gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body
which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People:

Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain.

THE PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT

Pastor: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.
By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory,
and we feast at his heavenly banquet.
Through your Son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND SHARING OF THE CUP

THE COMMUNION MUSIC | Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world.

grant us peace, grant us peace.

THE COMMUNION MUSIC | Sweet Little Jesus Boy | *arr. Susan Davis*

Susan Schreer Davis, flute

† THE COMMUNION HYMN | Hymn 250: stanzas 3 & 4 | Once in Royal David's City

Je - sus is our child - hood's pat - tern; day by day, like us he grew; he was
And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love; for that

lit - tle, weak, and help - less, tears and smiles like us he knew; and he
child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heaven a - bove; and he

feel - eth for our sad - ness, and he shar - eth in our glad - ness.
leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.

† THE BENEDICTION

8:30AM | Rev. Boothe Olson
11:15AM | Dr. Burch

† THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE | Hymn 251: refrain | Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Go, tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and ev - ery - where,

go, tell it on the moun - tain, that Je - sus Christ is born.

Adapt. and arr. 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

THE POSTLUDE | O Come, All Ye Faithful | *arr. Hal Hopson*

Joshua McClure

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

In memory of Joe McDonald, honoring his December birthday, by his wife, Joanna.

CLERGY

Dr. Bill Burch, *Senior Pastor* • Rev. Catherine Boothe Olson, *Associate Pastor*
Rev. Angela House, *Associate Pastor*

AFFILIATED CLERGY

Dr. G. Gil Watson, *Pastor Emeritus* • Dr. Ann Brightwell McCord, *Retired*
Rev. Nancy Yarnell, *Retired* • Rev. Douglas Herlong • Rev. Jennifer Hansen

TRADITIONAL MUSIC MINISTRY

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