



NORTHWAY
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

First Sunday after Christmas Day



“The Unexpected Demands of Christmas”

Matthew 2:13-23

GOD CALLS US

PRELUDE—*Theme and Variations on Noel Nouvelet* (M. Burkhardt)

Sungyun Kim

WELCOME

Rev. Megan Turner

*** LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

Rev. Megan Turner

Leader: Christ is with us;
People: **Christ is in our midst.**

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Megan Turner

One: We who knelt in the stable—
All: Let us come and kneel in the temple!
One: Let our hearts give thanks, and our hands rejoice!
All: Let our spirits sing, and our bodies dance!
One: O children, enter the house of the Lord!
All: Enter God's presence, and be reborn!

* Please rise, in body or in spirit.

* **OPENING HYMN**—#167 *Go Tell It On The Mountain* (vs. 1-3)

Refrain

*Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.*

*While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens there shown a holy light. Refrain*

*The shepherds feared and trembled, when lo! Above the earth,
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed the Savior's birth. Refrain*

*Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. Refrain*

MORNING PRAYER

Rev. Megan Turner

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rev. Megan Turner

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Rev. Dr. Ken Crawford

OFFERING

Rev. Dr. Ken Crawford

* **DOXOLOGY**—#46 *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

* **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Rev. Dr. Ken Crawford

GOD SPEAKS TO US

SCRIPTURE READING—Matthew 2:13-23

Jerry Hickman

ANTHEM—*There's a Spirit of Love in This Place* (Mark Miller)

THE MORNING MESSAGE —*The Unexpected Demands of Christmas*

Rev. Caesar Rentie

GOD RENEWS US

PASSING THE PEACE

Rev. Virzola Law

As part of our Table-centered spirituality, the “peace of Christ” is offered as a sign of our reconciliation to God and neighbor. It is a visible symbol of our being “a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world,” preparing us to “welcome all to the Lord’s Table as God has welcomed us.”

COMMUNION HYMN—*As We Gather At Your Table* (vs. 1,3)

*As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word,
Help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own;
Teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's victory known.
Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast
Where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy blind us nor will pride our peace destroy,
As we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Rev. Virzola Law

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

Ted Brown, Donna Schmidt

Leader: The Body of Christ was given for us.
Leader: The Blood of Christ was poured out for us.

People: Amen
People: Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

Rev. Virzola Law

We believe in "open communion" as a church, which means that we do not require you to be a member of Northway in order to participate in the service of the Lord's Supper. Remember what God has done for you in Christ and respond by faith. You don't have to have it all figured out or recite a creed; it is not a requirement of the head, but an invitation addressed to your heart.

Committed to our value of an Open Table—inviting
all to the table where our diversity finds unity in Christ.

GOD SENDS US BACK INTO THE WORLD TO WITNESS AND SERVE

INVITATION

Rev. Virzola Law

* INVITATION HYMN—#164 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* (vs. 1, 3)

*Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!
Listen now to what we say: News! News! Jesus Christ is born today.
Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!*

*Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!
Now you need not fear the grave: Peace! Peace! Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and call you all, to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!*

* BENEDICTION

Rev. Caesar Rentie

POSTLUDE—*Go Tell It On The Mountain* (R. Elliot)

Sungyun Kim

OUR GUEST: REV. CAESAR RENTIE

Today, we welcome Rev. Caesar Rentie to the pulpit. He currently serves as Vice President of Pastoral Services for Methodist Health System. Pastor Rentie's journey has taken him from playing football at the University of Oklahoma to being an offensive lineman in the NFL - having played for the Chicago Bears and other pro teams - to a call to ministry in the United Methodist Church. He and his wife, Cynthia, have a blended family that includes his two daughters and her son.

WELCOME

We are glad you have chosen to worship with us today!

Northway's mission is to Share Christ with those seeking meaning and purpose. That's why, in addition to worship, we also provide ways for you to discover the God we know in Jesus Christ, to connect with one another, and serve others from our front doorsteps to the ends of the earth. We would love to help you take the next step in your own search for...a church home...deeper engagement with scripture...meaningful relationships...meaning and purpose in your life.

Do you have questions about Northway? To learn more about our beliefs, history, staff, and opportunities, please visit the Welcome Center, located at the main entrance off the Northwest Hwy. parking lot. If you would prefer to speak to a staff member Monday through Friday,

A LOOK AHEAD AT UPCOMING EVENTS:

Event Date	Event Name	Start Time	Location
Sunday, Dec. 26, 2021	Juliette Fowler Worship Service	2:30 PM	Juliette Fowler Communities
Monday, Dec. 27—31, 2021	Church Office Closed		
Wednesday, Dec. 29, 2021	Midweek Transformation Prayer	12:00 PM	Conference Call
Sunday, Jan. 2, 2022	Intergenerational New Year's Gathering all Sunday School Classes	9:00 AM	F-101
	Worship Service (<i>note new start time</i>)	10:30 AM	Sanctuary
Sunday, Jan. 9, 2022	Sunday School Classes	9:00 AM	
	Fellowship	10:00 AM	
	Worship Service (<i>note new start time</i>)	10:30 AM	Sanctuary

**PLEASE REGISTER
YOUR ATTENDANCE HERE:**



NORTHWAY
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Learn more about Northway at www.northwaychristian.org
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