



Lessons & Carols

 **NORTHWAY**
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sunday, December 14, 2025

Third Sunday of Advent: JOY

Lessons & Carols

PRELUDE — *Prepare the Way* (Becki Stagle Mayo)

Northway Children's Choir

WELCOME

Neil Moseley

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Leader: Christ is with us;

People: Christ is in our midst.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING — #128 *One Candle is Lit* (v. 3)

Dianne Lester and Cathy Dozier

*Come festively sing while awaiting the birth,
join angels in dancing from heaven to earth.
Wave banners of good news, lift high thankful praise.
One candle is lit for the joy of these days.*

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (based on Isaiah 2:2-5)

One: In days to come, the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills;

Many: all the nations shall stream to it.

One: Many peoples shall come and say,

Many: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths."

One: For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

Many: He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples;

One: they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks;

Many: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

One: O house of Jacob, come,

All: let us walk in the light of the Lord!

***CAROL** — *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (vv. 1-4)

(see adjoining page)

THE FIRST LESSON — Isaiah 11:1-10

CAROL — *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* (arr. Richard Proulx)

Northway Chancel Choir



Please register your attendance here:

Connect to **NCC Guest** Wi-Fi with password: **BeOurGuest!**

* Please rise, in body or in spirit.

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

ADESTE FIDELES *

Setting by Robert J. Powell



All 1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri -
 All 2. God of God, Light of
 Choir 3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul -
 All 4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py



um - phant, O come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 Light, Lo! He comes forth from the Vir - gin's womb.
 ta - tion, Sing, O ye 'cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove!
 morn - ing, Je - sus, to thee be all glo - ry giv'n;



Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels; O
 Our ver - y God, be - got - ten not cre - at - ed, O
 Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est; O
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing; O



come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, O



come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

* Original tune and Latin text by John F. Wade (c. 1711–1786). English translation by Frederick Oakeley (1802–1880), alt.

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THE SECOND LESSON — Isaiah 9:2; 6-7

*CAROL — #153 *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* (vv. 1, 3-4)

*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 all, from heaven’s all gracious King.”
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.*

*And you beneath life’s crushing load whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way, with painful steps and slow,
look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing;
O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing!*

*For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold;
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.*

THE THIRD LESSON — Matthew 1:1-17

CAROL — *There Shall a Star from Jacob Come Forth* (F. Mendelssohn)

Northway Chancel Choir

PASSING THE PEACE

Rev. Chesna Barcroft

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 — *What Feast of Love* (vv. 1, 3)

*What feast of love is offered here, what banquet come from heaven?
What food of everlasting life, what gracious gift is given?
This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the manna given!*

*What wine of love is offered here, what crimson drink from heaven?
What stream of everlasting life, what precious blood is given?
This, this is Christ the king, the sweetest wine of heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is given!*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Rev. Chesna Barcroft

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

Jerry Hickman and Rod Fisher

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.

Leader: The Body of Christ was given for us.

People: Amen

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

People: Amen

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

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.

THE FOURTH LESSON — Luke 1:26-38

CAROL — *Nova, Nova, Ave Fit ex Eva* (arr. Edward Eicker)

Northway Chancel Choir

THE FIFTH LESSON — Luke 1:39-58

CAROL — *Song of Mary: Magnificat* (Liturgical Folk)

Chrissy Lasater, soloist

THE SIXTH LESSON — Matthew 1:18-25

CAROL — *Nativity Carol* (John Rutter)

Northway Chancel Choir

MORNING PRAYER

Neil Moseley

THE SEVENTH LESSON — Luke 2:1-7

*CAROL — #144 *O Little Town of Bethlehem* (vv. 1-4)

*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.*

*For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth.
Your voices raise to God in praise; and peace to all on earth.*

*How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the joys of highest heaven.
No ear may hear Christ coming, but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.*

*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 God, Emmanuel.*

THE EIGHTH LESSON — Luke 2:8-20

CAROL — *Shepherd’s Pipe Carol* (John Rutter)

Northway Chancel Choir



*The flowers on the chancel are in loving memory of her husband, Rev. Ed Dowell,
given by Cindy Dowell.*

THE NINTH LESSON — Matthew 2:1-12

OFFERTORY

CAROL — #151 *The First Noel* (vv. 1-5)

*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.*

Refrain: *Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.*

*They looked up and saw a star shining in the east, beyond them far,
and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.* Refrain

*And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went.* Refrain

*This star drew nigh to the northwest, o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay, right over the place where Jesus lay.* Refrain

*Then entered in those wise men three, full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there, in his presence, their gold and myrrh and frankincense.* Refrain

*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. Chesna Barcroft

Following the Prayer of Dedication, children are invited to their own kid-friendly worship experience, *Worship Rocks*.

Preschool—K aged children will be escorted to the Nursery. Children in 1st—3rd Grade will be escorted to F-102.

Following the worship service, your children will be waiting for you in the hallway outside the Sanctuary.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (based on John 1:1-14)

One: In the beginning was the Word,
Many: **and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**
One: He was in the beginning with God.
Many: **All things came into being through him,
and without him not one thing came into being.**
One: What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.
Many: **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.**
One: There was a man sent from God whose name was John.
He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.
Many: **He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.**
One: The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.
All: **He was in the world, and the world came into being through him,
yet the world did not know him.**
One: He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him.
But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power
to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh
or of the will of man, but of God.
All: **And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory,
the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.**

***INVITATION**

***CLOSING HYMN** — #150 *Hark, the Herald Angels Sing* (vv. 1-3)

*Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"*

*Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"*

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

*Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.*

*Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.*

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn 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 newborn King!"

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Chesna Barcroft

POSTLUDE

Scott Ayers

Following the worship service, an Elder will remain at the front
of the sanctuary to speak or pray with congregants.

GUEST MUSICIANS

VIOLIN I

Dmitrii Tabala

Minhee Bae

VIOLA

Bella Markham

Hannah Martineau

BASS

P. Kellach Waddle

BASSOON

Ralph Morgan

VIOLIN II

Daria Oleinik

Alexa Birt

CELLO

Esther Rothwell

Kyungjin Yoo

FLUTE

Heidi Kay Begay

OBOE

Donna Schmidt



BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE | Wednesday, December 17

In Fellowship Hall and online at worship.northwaychristian.org

Join us for a pre-service meal at 5:30 pm, followed by a service of comfort and hope at 6:30 pm.

ADVENT JAZZ VESPERS | Saturday, December 20

at 5:00 pm in the Sanctuary

Featuring jazz trio: Scott Ayers on piano, Stockton Helbing on drums, and James Driscoll on double bass.

"Love is All Around Us" is an extraordinary experience of live jazz music, readings, and songs of the season.

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE | Wednesday, December 24

at 3:30 pm in Fellowship Hall and online at worship.northwaychristian.org

This impromptu Christmas pageant including live animals, is always a holiday favorite!

CANDLELIGHT, CAROLS, COMMUNION SERVICE | Wednesday, December 24

at 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary and online at worship.northwaychristian.org

Usher in Christmas during this beautiful, traditional candlelight service.

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS | Available online through Dec 31

Give a thoughtful gift by contributing to one or more agencies in honor or remembrance of a family member or friend. Visit "events" at northwaychristian.org for details.

NORTHWAY WORSHIP LEADERS:

Rev. Virzola Law—Senior Minister

Rev. Chesna Barcroft—Minister to Children,
Youth, and Families

Leanne Seabright—Director of Music and Worship

Scott Ayers—Organist and Collaborative Pianist

Dawn Ziesmer—Children's Ministry Coordinator

Noelle Rivera—Youth Ministry Coordinator

Neil Moseley—Director of Community Engagement

Donna Schmidt—Children's Music Director

GIVING OPTIONS:

Online giving is available at northwaychristian.org
or by texting NORTHWAY to 73256.

Gifts may also be mailed to the church office at
7202 W. Northwest Hwy., Dallas, TX 75225



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 want to help you take the next step in your own search for: a church home...deeper engagement with scripture... meaningful relationships...purpose in your life. To learn more about our beliefs, history, staff, and opportunities, please visit the Welcome Center, located at the main entrance.



Learn more about Northway at www.northwaychristian.org
7202 W. Northwest Hwy., Dallas, TX 75225 | 214.361.6641 (ext 101)