



*Christmas Eve*



**PRELUDE**

Scott Ayers

**WELCOME**

**ADVENT/CHRIST CANDLE LIGHTING** — #128 *One Candle is Lit* (v. 5) Amelie, Anika, and Lilly Engels

*Come, listen, the sounds of God-with-us ring clear,  
and signs of a cross in the distance appear.  
The Word once made flesh, yet the Word ever near.  
One candle is lit for the Christ-birthday here.*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: On this holy night, we come,

Many: **dazzled and awe-struck, ready to sing alongside the angels.**

One: On this holy night, we come,

Many: **eager and hopeful, ready to journey alongside the shepherds.**

One: On this holy night, we come,

Many: **quietly and tenderly, ready to worship alongside Mary.**

One: On this holy night, we come,

Many: **singing, trusting, believing, proclaiming: good news is louder than fear.**

All: Let us worship our good news, with-us God.

**\*OPENING 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.”*

*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.”*



Please register your attendance here:

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

\* Please rise, in body or in spirit.

**FIRST READING** — Isaiah 9:2-8

Reader: The people walking in darkness are seeing a brilliant light —  
**All:** **upon those who dwell in a land of deep shadows light is shining!**  
Reader: God, you have made the nation greater — you have brought them abundant joy!  
**All:** **They celebrate in your presence as with the harvest celebrations...**  
Reader: For a child is born to us, an heir is given us,  
**All:** **upon whose shoulders dominion will rest.**  
Reader: This One shall be called:  
**All:** **Wonderful Counselor, the Strength of God, Eternal Protector,  
Champion of Peace.**  
Reader: This dominion, and this peace, will grow without end,  
**All:** **with David's throne and realm sustained with justice and fairness,  
now and forever.**

**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.*  
*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.*

**GOSPEL READING** — Luke 2: 1-7

**ULLABY CAROL** — #147 *Away in a Manger* (vv. 1-2)

*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.  
The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.  
I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky, and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.*

**GOSPEL READING** — Luke 2: 8-14

**CAROL OF THE ANGELS** — #155 *Angels We Have Heard on High* (vv. 1-3)

*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!*

*Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song? Refrain*  
*Come to Bethlehem and see Christ, who comes in lowly birth.  
Come adore on bended knee Jesus, joy of heav'n and earth. Refrain*

**GOSPEL READING** — Luke 2: 15-20

**CHRISTMAS MEDITATION**

Rev. Chesna Barcroft

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### \*PASSING THE PEACE

Rev. Virzola Law-Allen

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.”

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION — INTINCTION

Worshipers are invited to take a piece of bread,  
dip it into the cup of juice, and then eat the bread.

Then, we invite you to take a candle out of the basket and form a circle as guided.

## PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

### 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 — *O Holy Night* (Adolphe Adam)

Johnny Brown

### \*CLOSING CAROL — #145 *Silent Night, Holy Night* (vv. 1, 3)

*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.*

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*SUNG POSTLUDE — #143 *Joy to the World* (vv. 1, 3)

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



#### **NORTHWAY WORSHIP LEADERS:**

Rev. Virzola Law-Allen—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

#### **GIVING OPTIONS:**

Online giving is available at [northwaychristian.org](http://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.



**NORTHWAY**  
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Learn more about Northway at [www.northwaychristian.org](http://www.northwaychristian.org)  
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