

Northeastern Presbyterian Church
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November 20, 2016
10:00 a.m. Worship Service

The Rev. Nancy E. Thornton, Pastor
The Rev. Sara Varnado, Parish Associate

Northeastern Presbyterian Church

May
God Bless You
ON YOUR JOURNEY

Reign of Christ

*We know not always how God comes, but God comes – this we know:
in an obscure stable, in splashing waters, in the breaking of bread,
and often, our friends, incarnate in each of you; for God, we believe, still comes in the flesh, in
people. Now and always, may the Christ in you keep you a sign of living love, and love living
among us. Welcome to Northeastern Presbyterian Church!*

****We stand with our hearts or our postures**

‡Do Not Enter

SOZ refers to the “Songs of Zion” hymnal

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE IN PRAISE AND PRAYER

Prelude

Introit *"God Is A Spirit"* - McIntyre The Chancel Choir

Greetings

****Invocation**

****Call to Worship**

One: O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good,
Many: For God's steadfast love endures forever.
One: Who alone does great wonders,
Many: For God's steadfast love endures forever.
One: Who spread out the earth on the waters,
Many: For God's steadfast love endures forever.
One: Who gives food to all creatures
Many: For God's steadfast love endures forever.
One: O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good,

Many: For God's steadfast love endures forever. Amen.

***Hymn** # Insert

"Majesty"

🕊️Prayer of Confession

God of Eternity, we confess that we have lived in one part of time and not another. We have either lived in the now, or we have lived in the past, or we have lived in the future. We have lived to have pleasure and satisfaction now. We have longed for the good days of the past. We have saved away everything for a future we do not hold yet. Forgive us for not living present in all times, in thankfulness for the past or in gladness that the past is gone. Forgive us for not living in mindfulness in this time of our neighbors around us, or the repercussions of our actions in the future. Forgive us for putting all our hope into the future instead of seeing the beauty that is around us now. Help us to live as eternal people, Your children, who belong to heaven and earth, past, future, and present. In the name of Jesus, who was and who is and who is to come, the Almighty, Redeemer, and Sovereign of All, we pray. Amen.

Silent confession.....

🕊️God's Good News

One: Jesus will not forget you. Jesus has loved you from before you were, and loves us long after we have walked this earth. God is the God of Abraham and Sarah, of Rebekah and Isaac, of Jacob and Rachel and Leah. God is the God of the Living, the one who spoke to Moses through the burning bush and danced with Miriam after the people crossed the Red Sea. God is the God who speaks hope through the prophets, and loves through the person of Jesus. You are loved. You are forgiven, and You are part of the reign of God, now and throughout eternity.

Many: Thank you, Lord. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

****PASSING THE PEACE** #153, Hymnal

"He is King of Kings"

One: May the peace of Christ be with you!

Many: And also with you!

WE EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD

ALL
OF GOD'S
CHILDREN



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

RESPONSE #304, Hymnal

“Jesus Loves Me!”

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

With gratitude, let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

OFFERTORY *“I Thank You Jesus”* - Kenneth Morris The Chancel Choir

****DOXOLOGY** #592, Hymnal ***“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”***

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Holy God, you have looked upon your people with mercy, generosity, and love. You have granted your favor to your people, offering them redemption, salvation, and wisdom. And so we offer these gifts for your hurting and broken world. May they be multiplied to do your service. May we be strengthened to do your work. In the name of Jesus the Christ, who multiplied small gifts and fed multitudes. Amen.

ANTHEM: ***“Gloria In Excelsis”*** – Mozart The Chancel Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, through the generations you have spoken to us. You have sent voices crying out in the wilderness. You have sent the words of an overjoyed new father and an expectant mother. You have sent the assurance of a condemned man on a cross. Quiet in us any voice but your own that, by the power of your Spirit, we might hear the words you speak to us today. Amen.

Scripture Readings: Jeremiah 23:1-6, p. 633, Pew Bible
Colossians 1:11-20, p. 956, Pew Bible

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God!

Sermonic Selection

Keith Craig

Message

“Reflections on the Journey”

Rev. Nancy Thornton

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

***Affirmation of Faith** (Confession of 1967, 9.54 – 9.55)

**Biblical visions and images of the rule of Christ,
such as a heavenly city,
a father’s house,
a new heaven and earth,
a marriage feast,
and an unending day**

culminate in the image of the kingdom.
The kingdom represents the triumph of God
over all that resists God's will and disrupts God's creation.
Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world,
stirring hope in us
and preparing the world
to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption.
With an urgency born of this hope,
the church applies itself to present tasks
and strives for a better world.
It does not identify limited progress
with the kingdom of God on earth,
nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat.
In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement
to the final triumph of God.

Prayers of the People

The Prayer Jesus Taught, p 16, Hymnal

WE GO FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR

****Hymn** #142, Hymnal *"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"*

Choral Benediction *"God Be In My Head"* – Rutter

****Charge and Blessing**

(Please Be Seated Until After the Postlude Ends)

Postlude: *"Now Thank We All Our God"* - arr. Fred Bock

LECTIONARY: JEREMIAH 23:1-6; LUKE 1:68-79; COLOSSIANS: 1:11-20; LUKE 23:33-43
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Liturgist: Elder Valerie McCray
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Greeter: Shirley Dodson and Doretha Elmore

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PECAN FOR SALE: If you would like to order Pecans (Chocolate covered or plain) at the cost of \$12.00 for this year please place your orders with Angela Hemphill: phone # 240-643-3856. Email: rnahemp@gmail.com.

LITERARY CLUB --Please join our discussion of Diane McKinney-Whetstone's latest novel "*Lazaretto*" on Dec. 4th in the Jamison Lounge after service.

INTERPRETATION AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE (GGC):

During this time of year we start thinking about traditional holidays such as the power of "Thanksgiving". It increases our experience of praise and being generous. If you have not pledged for 2017 please do so today because your **TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE (Finance)** is needed to help with mission giving while we move through the holidays with thankfulness.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Please join us in the study of II Peter on Tuesday morning. Peter wrote this Book because he was concerned about false teachers who were infiltrating the churches. He called on Christians to become strong in their faith so that the truth that they knew-- which came from God-- would guide them.

CHURCH DONATIONS: 2017 is quickly approaching. All donations and offerings for 2016 must be received by, Saturday, December 31, 2016.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: The period for volunteering or nominating someone for positions on the session, the boards of deacons and trustees, and the nominating committee ended on November 6, 2016. We thank God for those who responded willingly. Northeastern will be a better church because of their positive responses. There were too few volunteers. Members of the committee must contact you personally until there are enough candidates for the vacancies. We have prayed and we ask you to pray seeking guidance our Lord and Savior, the founder of the church. Please help the committee have candidate for the available positions. Any one off for a year is eligible to return and if you have never served, new blood is always needed. Please support Northeastern.

Elder Clarence W. R. Wade

DIRECTORY PICTURES: December 8th, 12:00 noon 8:00 p.m. has been added for taking pictures. Please contact the church office if you wish to make an appointment.

ADDRESS UPDATES If your address has changed within the last five years please submit your new information to the church office for the new directory as soon as possible. Thank you!

NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES @ NORTHEASTERN

- Nov. 20 **Sunday Morning Worship Service**, 10 a.m.
Church School for All Ages, 9:00 a.m.
Usher Board Mtg.
Deacon Board Mtg.
- Nov. 21 AARP General Mtg., Auditorium, 10a
- Nov. 22 Bible Study, 11 a.m., Jamison
Prayer Service, Noon, Chapel
Celestial Choir Rehearsal, 7:30p
- Nov. 23 Classical Conversation, 2nd floor, 8:30a
- Nov. 24 Thanksgiving – Church closed
- Nov. 27 **Sunday Morning Worship Service**, 10 a.m.
Church School for All Ages, 9:00 a.m.
Trustee Meeting
- Nov. 29 Bible Study, 11 a.m., Jamison
Prayer Service, Noon, Chapel
- Nov. 30 Classical Conversation, 2nd floor, 8:30a
Session Mtg.





1-Arnica Downing, 3-Thelma Jones, 4-Iris Burnell, Mozella Harris,
8-Edna Hymes, 9-Katrin Jones, Felicia Lightfoot, 14-Elizabeth
Fleming, 21-Patricia Young, 23-Faye Waters, 28-Harold Henderson
30-Wyman Jones

Christ the King/ Reign of Christ

The festival of Christ the King (or Reign of Christ) ends our marking of Ordinary Time after the Day of Pentecost, and moves us to the threshold of Advent, the season of hope for Christ's coming again at the end of time.

The day centers on the crucified and risen Christ, whom God exalted to rule over the whole universe. The celebration of the lordship of Christ thus looks back to Ascension, Easter, and Transfiguration, and points ahead to the appearing in glory of the King of kings and Lord of lords. Christ reigns supreme. Christ's truth judges falsehood. As the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, Christ is the center of the universe, the ruler of all history, the judge of all people. In Christ all things began, and in Christ all things will be fulfilled. In the end, Christ will triumph over the forces of evil.

Such concepts as these cluster around the affirmation that Christ is King or Christ reigns! As sovereign ruler, Christ calls us to a loyalty that transcends every earthly claim on the human heart. To Christ alone belongs the supreme allegiance in our lives. Christ calls us to stand with those who in every age confessed, "Jesus Christ is Lord!" In every generation, demagogues emerge to claim an allegiance that belongs only to God. But Christ alone has the right to claim our highest loyalty. The blood of martyrs, past and present, witnesses to this truth.

Behold the glory of the eternal Christ! From the beginning of time to its ending, Christ rules above all earthly powers!

