

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

People: It is right to give thanks and praise.

Leader: It is truly right...

And with our loved ones, separate from us now, who yet in this mystery are close to us, we join in the song of your unending greatness.

Sanctus *Sanctus* (Hymn 581)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Acclamation

Leader: You are holy, O God of majesty...Great is the mystery of faith.

People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

The Lord's Prayer

Communion of the People

(The congregation is invited to receive the Lord's Supper at table. As you are seated, please receive the elements from your neighbor, and once you have been fed and are ready, return to your seats via the side aisle. During the serving, the congregation is invited to remain seated singing carols until a seat becomes available at the table. Gluten-free wafers are available upon indication.)

THE CAROLS DURING COMMUNION *(please sing all verses except for the first hymn)*

Hymn 61 (soloists only)

Hymn 25 *Away in a Manger*

Hymn 47 *Still, Still, Still*

Hymn 53 *What Child is This*

Hymn 27 *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*

Hymn 48 *Lo, How a Rose E'er blooming*

THE PRAYER AFTER THE MEAL

***THE HYMN 56**

The First Nowell
Verses 1, 2, 4 and 6

THE FIRST NOWELL

***THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***THE POSTLUDE**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Jonathan Crutchfield



December 25, 2016
10 a.m. Worship

1411 North Morningside Drive, NE, Atlanta, GA 30306
TEL 404.876.7396; Preschool 404.685.8758
EMAIL office@morningsidepc.org; WEB morningsidepc.org

Thank you for making sure your cell phone is off during the worship hour.

THE GATHERING

Beth Waltemath

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

THE PRELUDE*On December Five and Twenty*

Richard Lind

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

People: **“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom God favors!” Let us worship God, our creator, redeemer and sustainer, Amen.**

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN 28Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

IN DULCI JUBILO

THE CALL TO CONFESSION**THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of love, you made us for love. You reached to us from across our sin to make known to us the depth of your love for us. And yet, despite these profuse declarations, we live as though you did not love us. We live as though we were not created for love. We sin, and our hearts are not right within us. Forgive us, we pray, turn our hearts and change us into the loving disciples you call us to be. We pray this in the name of love incarnate, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

A MOMENT OF SILENCE *(for examination of conscience and personal prayers of confession)*

* *(The asterisk indicates parts of the worship when the congregation is invited to stand as they are able.)*

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: What has come into being in Christ was life, and the life was the light of all people.

People: **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.**

Leader: Believe the promise of the gospel:

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

- John 1:3b-5

***THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

(Hymn 22)

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son, evermore your voices raising to th’eternal Three in One: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the new-born King!

***THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Leader: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all!

People: **And also with you.**

(During the peace, children are invited to come forward to the front of the sanctuary for a Children’s Message with Sue Ballay.)

THE CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

(Visitors and members are invited to sign the blue friendship register pad and pass it down the pew.)

THE ANTHEM*Gesu Bambino*

Pietro Yon

John Young, tenor; Brandon Odom, baritone

When blossoms flowered ‘mid the snows upon a winter night was born the child, the Christmas Rose, the king of love and light. The angels sang, the shepherds sang, the grateful earth rejoiced, and at his blessed birth the stars their exultation voiced. *O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.* Again the heart with rapture glows to greet the holy night that gave the world its Christmas Rose, its king of love and light. Let every voice acclaim his name, the grateful chorus swell, from paradise to earth he came that we with him might dwell. *Refrain.* (text: Frederick H. Martens)

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Titus 3: 4-7

(page 203 in the pew Bible, NT)

THE HOMILY*Goodness and Loving-kindness*

Baron Mullis

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

The Invitation

The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

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

ELDER ON CALL: Tony Fishpaw

DEACON ON CALL: Leslie Prince

USHERS: Tony Fishpaw, Leslie Prince, Catherine and Ted Fleming

GREETERS: Jane Stack, Ellen and Jim Landers

COUNTERS: Richard Brownlee and Leslie Prince

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION HOST: Gail Kitchens

INFANT/TODDLER VOLUNTEER: Remain in worship

TWOS/THREES VOLUNTEER: Remain in worship

PREK AND KINDERGARTEN: Remain in worship

1ST-3RD GRADE: Remain in worship

4TH-5TH GRADE: Remain in worship

FELLOWSHIP: No Fellowship Hour

Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- Philippians 4:6-7

Keep in your prayers...

Sue Blouin
 Patricia Boyko
 Friends and relatives of Hugh Bell: Connie Crowley, Sandra Fortson, Timothy Johnson, Marilyn Neforas, Kent Smith, and Robin and Charles Wilkins
 Keri Catlett
 Ann Coffey (Sarah Beth Gehl's mother)
 Walter Gilbert (Patrick Gilbert's father)
 Kat Harris (Eric Harris' mother)
 Ann Herndon (Will's mother)
 Charlotte Hudson (Jeff Adams' mother)
 Friends and relatives of Linda Johnson
 Jan & Ted McMahan
 Tom Oder
 Lin Parker (friend of Nancy Coomes)
 Karen Peterson and family (friend of Daisy Ottmann)
 Bev Reed
 Regnault family
 Carlene Sauer (Kasey and Stephanie Libby's family)
 Beth Klotz Von Seggern (Jack Klotz's sister)
 Jane Stack and family

Robert Stack (Jane Stack's family)
 Shannon Miller and Doug Strain (family of Bill Smith)
 Wells family
 Marty Wender (Phil Regnault's friend)
 Dr. Nathaniel West (Dr. West's father)
 Evelyn Wimberly (Nancy Frampton's ex-mother-in-law)
 Baby Oliver Whiddon (friend of Jill Klotz)
 John Young

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Welcome to worship at Morningside Presbyterian Church.

Baron Mullis, Senior Pastor is our preacher, **Beth Waltemath, Associate for Mission and Faith Development** is our liturgist.

- Large print hymnals and Bibles as well as hearing aids are available; ushers will gladly assist.
- Please complete the information in the Friendship Pad at the end of the pews and pass the pads down and back again during the **Concerns** portion of worship.
- Children will remain in worship today.

THANK YOU FOR PLEDGING

Home is where the heart is, the saying goes. Morningside Presbyterian Church is home to some 500 members, and throughout Commitment Season so many of our members have let us know their plans to contribute financially to the life of the church in 2017. We are pleased to report that current pledges amount to over \$660,000. But we still need over \$120,000 to reach our important 2017 goals, including an increased Mission budget allocation, continued program development through MPC, and ongoing maintenance of our treasured building. Thank you to those who have already pledged, and those who will make their pledge prior to year-end. We are so glad you have chosen MPC as a home for your heart.

THEOLOGY ON TAP

Theology on Tap will be at Ken Sharpe's home (1700 Timberland Road, Atlanta, 30345) on **Tuesday, January 3** at **7 p.m.** Please RSVP to the office office@morningsidepc.org.

REBECCA'S TENT



The women's shelter at Shearith Israel's (SI) Rebecca's Tent has been an important part of

Morningside's Mission Program in years past. Volunteers arrive at the shelter (1180 University Drive, 30306) at **6 p.m.** to warm and serve the meal to residents as they arrive from work. Leftovers are prepared for lunches the next day and put in a refrigerator, and the area is cleaned up. We leave by 8 p.m. after visiting with the residents. We have scheduled our volunteer dates for **Wednesday - Sunday (January 8 - 12 and February 5 - 9)**. Please contact Phyllis Grimes grimes2230@bellsouth.net only if you have questions. To sign up please see the signup sheet on the bulletin board.

MENTORS NEEDED

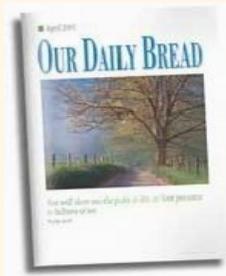
Confirmation for middle schoolers starts **January 8**. Each child will need a mentor from the congregation. Responsibilities include attending 12 Sunday school sessions with your youth, and two outside church events! If you are interested in helping with this, please contact Sarah aresarahr@mail.ctsnet.edu.

APPLY FOR A POSITION

Morningside is seeking a Director of Children's Ministries and it could be you! This is a very important position that we would like to fill soon. The preferred candidate will have a degree in Christian education or other educational area. Hands-on experience in creating and directing children's ministry programs is a plus. To apply go to directorsearch@morningsidepc.org.

OUR DAILY BREAD

Copies of the devotional booklet, *Our Daily Bread*, are available in the Narthex and Welcome Center. Pick one up as you leave the sanctuary this morning.



DID YOU HEAR THE NEWS?

Morningside has a new treat in store for you! Beginning **January 8**, every second Sunday for the next few months we will have two services. The first service will begin at **8:45 a.m.** and the second service will begin at **11 a.m.** This is a fantastic new addition to Morningside and we hope you take full advantage of both services during that time.

TAI CHI

Tai Chi was an ancient secret of Chinese culture, formally reserved for the noble Mandarins and monastery monks. Tai Chi principles are based on elements of Chinese medical theory. Morningside offers Tai Chi classes weekly starting **Tuesday, January 10** at **4:30 p.m.** If you are interested in joining, please contact Bob Wells wellscom@comcast.net.

POETRY GROUP

The beauty of poetry is that it always seemed to be an expression of literature in its purest form. It appeals to rhythm, imagery, and emotion. Lucky for you, Morningside has a poetry group! By being a part of Morningside's Poetry Group you will be able to discuss a wide range of poems amongst your fellow peers. Start the new year off by attending our first poetry group on **Thursday, January 12 at 12:30 p.m.** in Baron's office. We can't wait to see you there!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Ever wanted to teach Sunday School, but were afraid to volunteer? Ever wondered what our kids are learning? Volunteer and Parent orientation is **Sunday, January 22 at 10:15 a.m.** Join Interim Director of Children's Ministries, Sarah Tomaka, in room 001 to learn more about what resources are available to volunteers in our children's Sunday School classes. She will take you through the process, talk a little about the curriculum and give you pointers about what activities seem to work well with our kids. Games, stories, songs, crafts, Q&A— it's fun for all! See you there!



Faith Development at Morningside

ADULT CLASS

Next Sunday there will be no class.

CHILDREN

There will be no children's Sunday School on December 25 or January 1. We will resume Sunday School on January 8, 2017. Have a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year!

THIS WEEK AT MORNINGSIDE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

9:30 a.m. Coffee and Conversation
10 a.m. Worship/ Communion

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26

7 p.m. Mandolin Society/Parliamentarians

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27

2:15 p.m. Parkinson Tai Chi
6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

NO ACTIVITIES

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

NO ACTIVITIES

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30

NO ACTIVITIES

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

9 a.m. Women's AA Meeting

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

9:30 a.m. Coffee and Conversation
11 a.m. Worship/Communion
12 noon Fellowship