

*Our Mission:
Love God
Love Others
Make Disciples*



*Our Vision:
Be the hands
and feet
of Christ*

**November 29, 2020
Order of Worship
First Sunday of Advent**

Prelude
Greeting

Light the candle of "HOPE"

LITANY OF HOPE

Most Loving God, You keep your promises.

You promised You would walk with us and sent us Emmanuel, God with us.

Most Gracious God, You keep your promises.

You promised us a Savior, who would cleanse us from our sins.

Most Life-Giving God, You keep your promises.

You sent us Jesus, who healed the suffering, raised the dead, ate with the outcasts, and blessed the despised ones.

Most Merciful God, You keep your promises.

The Light of the World, Hope of Humanity is coming. Jesus, Emmanuel, our Savior and our Friend is coming.

Our hope is in You, God. Our life in You. We believe that Jesus Christ is working right now to save the world, and we want to follow Jesus. Grant us the strength and courage to share our hope with this hurting world. We thank You, Loving God, that You keep Your promises! AMEN.

Call to Worship

In times of hunger, keep watch!

The Living Christ is on the way!

In times of hope, rejoice!

The Loving Christ is on the way!

Keep watch!

The Redeeming Christ is on the way!

AMEN.

An Advent Prayer

O the power of the Baby! Such power can bring mama's white family and daddy's black family to understand that it is not about race, but about love.

O the power of the Baby! Such power can melt the hardest heart. Let this be a Kodak moment reminding us of the impact of seemingly tiny gifts ... like crooked clay ash trays, popsicle crosses, stick figure pictures, wilted dandelions.

O the power of the Baby! Take this chip off our shoulder, help us forget the wrong done to us; make disappointment and rejection disappear; melt them like intense sun melts the snow. Take away the isolation of staying inside of ourselves, separated from the world.

O the power of the Baby! Take the anemic joy that we have today and light a fire under it so that we will boil over with unrestrained giving of ourselves!

O the power of the Baby! Make us angels gathering up coworkers, train-workers, house-workers, yard-workers, body-workers, taxi-workers, garbage-workers, factory-workers, classroom-workers, building-workers, and food-workers to behold the miracle child who can take our spiritual thirst away forever. God, you opened the heavens and sent your Son down. Let us see your Star come from heaven to show us the Way. Let Mary's Little Baby lead us. Let the mountains quake in His presence and the persistent, impatient car horns fall silent in adoration. Show us your Son through the clouds of our confusion and desperation and exhaustion. Let us experience His power.

O God, who works for those who wait on you, we're waiting. There are days when we think we've just missed the train to get us where we need to go, or missed the opportunity to right a wrong. But God, keep us waiting on Jesus, the one who will make it right. **AMEN.**

Opening Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

UMH 211, vs. 1 & 2

**O come, O come Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emanuel shall come to thee,
O Israel.**

**O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
and order all things far and nigh;
to us the path of knowledge show
and cause us in her ways to go.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emanuel shall come to thee,
O Israel.**

Concerns of the Community

Pastoral Prayer

**My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

**On Christ the solid rock I stand,
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.**

**When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil.**

**On Christ the solid rock I stand,
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.**

**His oath, his covenant, his blood
support me in the whelming flood.
When all around my soul gives way,
he then is all my hope and stay.**

**On Christ the solid rock I stand,
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.**

**When he shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in him be found!
Dressed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne!**

**On Christ the solid rock I stand,
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.**

Affirmation of Faith for Advent

**We believe in God,
the creator of all things,
the giver of life and breath.
We believe in Jesus Christ,
born Emmanuel, God with us,
baptized and revealed the most beloved Son of God;
he sought to heal humanity by taking our brokenness upon himself,
suffering for us, dying for us,
and being raised from the dead for our sake
and for the sake of all the world.
We believe that he will come again.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
continually poured out refreshing our lives,**

**leading us into a new day,
ever-birthing the church, the body of Christ in the world.
This Spirit is our soul companion and counselor of truth
reminding us of the gift of faith,
the ever presence of God, and the promise of eternal life.
Thanks be to God! AMEN.**

Young Disciples' Time

David Forbus

Anthem

Pass It On

Scripture Reading

Mark 13:24-37

"But in those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

Sermon

"Don't Fret About When; Just Keep a Light Burning"

Pastor Orr

Benediction

Today's Worship Leaders

PreacherPastor Freddie Orr
Liturgist..... Valerie Orr
Music Director David Forbus
Accompanist..... Laura Benton
A/V Team Cary Marsalis, Jay Marsh

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Be the hands
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Traditional Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Live Online

3700 W. Northgate Drive
Irving, TX 75062
972-252-8519
www.northgateumc.org

HOW DO YOU GET TO CHURCH WITH US ON SUNDAYS?

Join our live-streamed worship service starting at 10:45am Sunday.

The service will be presented online on FaceBook live, but you do not have to be a FaceBook user to watch it.

- Go to our website: www.northgateumc.org
- Scroll down to the bottom of the opening page to the lower right hand corner.
- Click on the  button and you'll be connected to the live stream.
- Enjoy this special community experience during worship.
- You may also access the service by using this link –

<https://www.facebook.com/Northgate-United-Methodist-Church-170310129989/>

If you somehow miss the live-stream, you will still be able to access the service through the website later.

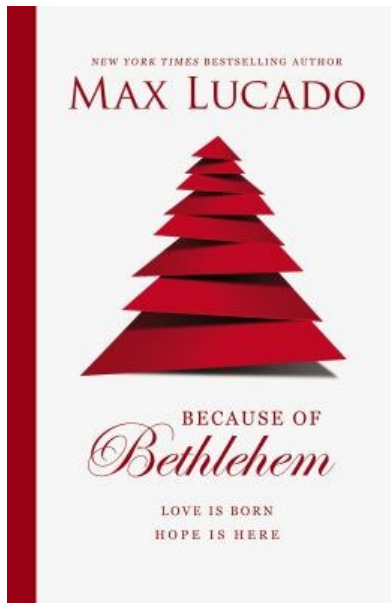
Sermon By Phone: 972-203-8099

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT NORTHGATE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH?

You may:

1. **Mail a check** to Northgate United Methodist Church at 3700 W. Northgate Dr., Irving, TX 75062
2. **Drop a check** into the locked mailbox by the East side of the front main entrance double doors. Contents are not accessible without a key, so your donation will be safe. It is checked regularly.
3. **Online** through our conference offices via a link located on our website. Go to www.northgateumc.org; scroll to the bottom of the front/first page of the site; click on the "Donate Here" button and follow the instructions. Please note the complete name of the church: Northgate United Methodist Church.

Thank you for your generosity. We hope to "see" you Sunday morning! Be safe. Be Blessed.



Pastor Orr will be leading the Advent Study *Because of Bethlehem* by Max Lucado beginning Tuesday, December 1st. A video introduction will be shown during today's service.

BECAUSE OF *Bethlehem*

**A REMARKABLE GIFT IN AN UNREMARKABLE PACKAGE
A FOUR-WEEK ADVENT STUDY**

There's Still Time to Register!

A remarkable gift can arrive in an unremarkable package. One did in Bethlehem more than 2000 years ago. No one expected God to come the way he did. Yet the way he came was every bit as important as the coming itself. The manger is the message.

In this four-session video Bible study, Max Lucado explores how the One who made everything chose to make himself nothing for us. He experienced hunger and thirst. He went through the stages of human development. He was taught to walk, stand, and wash his face. He was completely and genuinely human. Because of Bethlehem, we no longer have marks on our record . . . just grace. We have the promise that God is always near us, always for us, always within us . . . and that we have a friend and Savior in heaven. Long after the guests have left, the carolers have gone home, and the lights have come down, these promises endure.

Join us starting December 1st for our journey about A Remarkable Gift. We will meet each Tuesday for the first four weeks of December (1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd) by ZOOM; invitations will be sent out once we have the rosters. Each Tuesday we will meet two times: 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; you can choose to attend either class.

You may **register on the website (www.northgateumc.org)** or call the church office by Tuesday, November 24th to let us know you will be attending, and which time you'll be joining us. Books can be ordered from Amazon Smile through the website and will be shipped directly to you. If you're taking the class, please order the book quickly so you get it in time. (REMEMBER: If you order from Amazon Smile, Northgate gets a "rebate" for each purchase. Just access the link from our website: www.northgateumc.org)

Look forward to having you join us!
Pastor Orr