

*Our Mission:
Love God
Love Others
Make Disciples*



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

**December 20, 2020
Order of Worship
Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Prelude
Greeting

Light the Candle of "LOVE"

LITANY OF LOVE

For God so loved the world...

Do you realize how much love it takes to send your own child into the world to be born in a rough cowshed, rejected from his very birth by the people that he came to save?

For God so loved the world...

Can you imagine, taking your baby to the temple for a simple ceremony, and having people say, "He's got to hurry up and grow up. There's a world of trouble waiting for him, and he will preach the word of God, yet many of his own people will not give heed. This boy's got a rough life ahead of him!"

For God so loved the world...

Think of it. You dedicate your child to the service of Almighty God and God's people. He will be loved deeply but feared and hated too. And all you can do is encourage him and walk with him, even to the Cross.

For God so loved the world...

What a faith! To believe your child will be rejected, will suffer, will be betrayed. Yet, God's promise is that this same child will rise from the grave, will conquer hell and death, and will lead us all to Everlasting Life. That is faith. That is love personified. That is the story of our Savior and our Friend, Jesus Christ, God's son.

With a God who loves us that much, we who claim Jesus as Savior can do no less than to love one another the way God loves each of us. We hear and obey, Loving One. AMEN.

Call to Worship

As the days of Advent hasten on and we draw nearer to the day of Christ's coming, let us pray with fervent hearts for the needs of the world:

Come, Lord Jesus, and do not tarry.

Lord Christ, in joy and anticipation, we await your coming with lamps lighted and hearts aglow with faith.

Come now and illumine the whole universe.

All creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God.

Come soon and save those who wait in darkness.

The suffering and the poor look to you for their hope.

Come and raise us to glory in your presence.

The troubled and oppressed have nowhere to turn but to you.

Come quickly and banish the powers of evil and darkness around us.

The sick and weary, the dying and faint-hearted cry out in their despair.

Come and bring us eternal wholeness and health.

Even the martyrs and the blessed dead make their plea, "O Lord, how long?"

Come now and give us eternal life.

The Spirit and the Church cry out:

Come, Lord Jesus.

All those who await your appearance pray:

Come, Lord Jesus.

The whole creation pleads:

Come, Lord Jesus.

Hearken to the prayers of your servants, Lord Jesus. By the sign of the manger of Bethlehem, give us hope in the promise of your return. Come quickly, Lord, and bring us to the joys of heaven, where we will praise you with the Father and the Holy Spirit forever and ever.

AMEN

Expect the Impossible

We are worshipers who expect the impossible.

We will conceive possibilities that have yet to be manifest.

We can't deny that our lives bear brokenness and beauty.

We can't be silent about the Mighty One who has done great things for us.

We can't sing the melody of the status quo when God has given us a new song.

We *will* believe that nothing shall be impossible with God.

God chose to do the impossible—to become flesh so that you might find life in the flesh possible. May the very ways you live in the world reflect that God is still dethroning might and filling the hungry. Live the song and sing the promises of God's goodness, Christ's coming, and the Spirit's overshadowing. **AMEN.**

Opening Hymn

The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy

TFWS. 2098

**The virgin Mary had a baby boy,
the virgin Mary had a baby boy,
the virgin Mary had a baby boy,
and they say that his name is Jesus.**

**He come from the glory,
he come from the glorious kingdom.
He come from the glory,
he come from the glorious kingdom.
Oh, yes! believer! Oh, yes! believer!
He come from the glory,
he come from the glorious kingdom.**

**The angels sang when the baby was born,
the angels sang when the baby was born,
the angels sang when the baby was born,
and they say that his name is Jesus.**

**He come from the glory,
he come from the glorious kingdom.
He come from the glory,
he come from the glorious kingdom.
Oh, yes! believer! Oh, yes! believer!
He come from the glory,
he come from the glorious kingdom.**

**The shepherds came where the baby was born,
the shepherds came where the baby was born,
the shepherds came where the baby was born,
and they say that his name is Jesus.**

**He come from the glory,
he come from the glorious kingdom.
He come from the glory,
he come from the glorious kingdom.
Oh, yes! believer! Oh, yes! believer!
He come from the glory,
he come from the glorious kingdom.**

Concerns of the Community

Pastoral Prayer

AFFIRMATIONS ABOUT LOVE

God wants love to dwell in our hearts always. He wants us to find love, experience love, give love to others, and demonstrate our love for Him. Affirmations are a wonderful tool for creating more positive mental environments where love can abound. Here are the top ten most cherished love affirmations.

**Love is steadfast power.
Do all things with love.
Love like Jesus. (John)
Love and you will know.
Love unifies. (Colossians)
Love is sacrifice. (John)
Embody love, embody God.
We love because God loves.
God is love.
Love all people, always.**

If you practice keeping these affirmations in mind every day you will be a different person in 30 days. Since God is love and His presence is transferred more fully with love, you will be more holy, pure, and spiritually led. **AMEN.**

**Our God is an awesome God;
he reigns from heaven above
with wisdom, pow'r and love,
Our God is an awesome God!**

Young Disciples' Time

Anthem

Star-Child

Scripture Reading

Luke1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

This is the Word of God, for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Impossible Possibilities: Choosing to Believe During Advent"

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

*Our Mission:
Love God
Love Others
Make Disciples*



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

Traditional Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Live Online

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

**Be sure to join us Thursday night, December 24th for our Christmas Eve Service.
See our website www.northgateumc.org for details.**

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.

For SermonByPhone, call 972/203-8099.

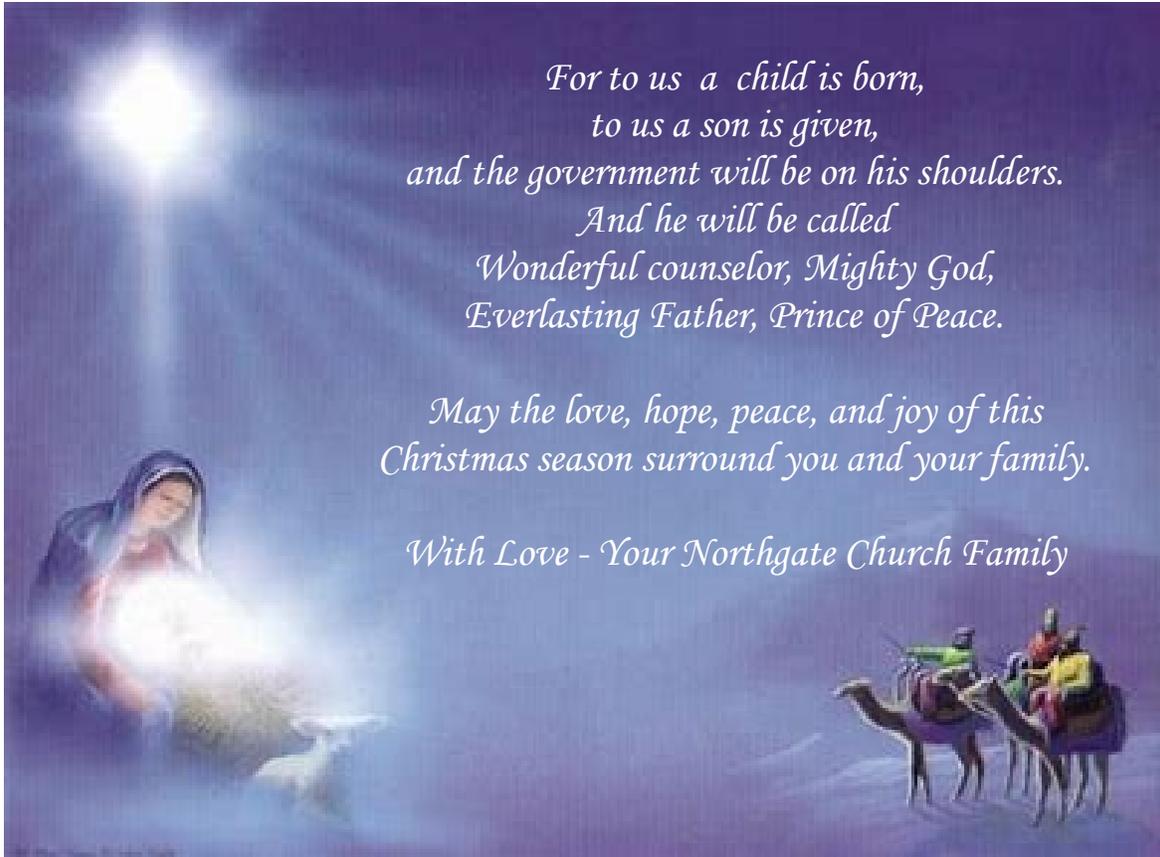
HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT NORTHGATE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH?

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.

The 2020 Northgate Family Christmas Card



*For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.*

*And he will be called
Wonderful counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

*May the love, hope, peace, and joy of this
Christmas season surround you and your family.*

With Love - Your Northgate Church Family

Jack & Gail Blythe

Melba Dobbins

Eileen Kensingler

Carol Huntley Little

Jay, Debbie, Tyler & Cassie Marsh

Cary & Sally Marsalis

Cindy Pierce

Tom & Susan Schmidel

Connie & Mary Smith

Joanne & Charlie Walden

Janan Weeks

Barbara Williams

*To our Dear Northgate Family,
A blessed Christmas and a New Year brimming with the love,
peace and joy of our Savior!*

Love, Pastor Freddie & Valerie Orr