

Northminster Presbyterian Church

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SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 29, 2020

* = Those who are able, please stand.

Congregation responds in bold.

WE APPROACH GOD



Ruth Chadwick Moore



How Can I Keep From Singing

American Folk arr. Jeffrey Honoré Section Leaders

My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation, I hear the real though far off hymn that hails a new creation. Refrain: No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to that Rock I'm clinging, Since Love is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing; It sounds and echoes in my soul; how can I keep from singing? Refrain The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing; All things are mine since I am his, How can I keep from singing? Refrain



Thus says the Lord:

"I will put my breath within you, and you shall live."

In gratitude, we praise the Source of our Being.

We gather to worship the One who frees us from the grave and stirs dry bones to life.

Spirit, come and enliven our worship!









* PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

God of the past, present and future,

God in whom all things are renewed, we praise you.

In the face of all that wearies us and worries us,

your words echo through the centuries with love and hope.

As we follow the footsteps of Jesus in this Lenten season,

His Cross stands before us.

And so we trust you are never far from our sorrows.

In him you walk with us; you share our tears.

You stand beside us when we don't know which way to turn.

In this hour of worship, renew our trust in your resurrection promises

and draw near to us when we need you the most,

whenever we can't even find the words to call on your holy name.

God of our lonely places and hard times, there is no place dark for your presence.

There are no situations beyond your grace.

Yet we confess we sometimes lose track of you, when sorrows stack up or

loneliness surrounds us.

Forgive us our hopelessness. Stay with us as we go through every valley of shadow.

Bring life where there is death, healing whether there is pain, and courage where there is fear.

Stay with us as we make our way along the path Jesus walked.



* SILENCE FOR PERSONAL PRAYER AND REFLECTION



Hal Hopson (born 1933)





Friends, remember the promise St. Paul declares: What will separate us from the love of Christ? Hardship? Distress? Peril or sword?

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through the God who loves us. Neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

So let us rejoice that no matter what we have done,

no matter what is happening around us, God's deep love will never let us go.

* SHARING THE PEACE (Worshippers may greet one another with words of Christ's peace.)

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. And also with you.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED





Requiem

Eliza Gilkyson (born 1950) arr. Craig Hella Johnson (born 1962) Section Leaders

Holy spirit, full of grace, awaken all our homes are gone, our loved ones taken taken by the sea holy spirit, calm our fears, have mercy drowning in a sea of tears, have mercy hear our mournful plea

our world has been shaken, we wander our homelands forsaken in the dark night of the soul bring some comfort to us all, o holy spirit come and carry us in your embrace that our sorrows may be faced

spirit, fill the glass to overflowing illuminate the path where we are going have mercy on us all in fun'ral fires burning each flame to your myst'ry returning in the dark night of the soul your shattered dreamers,

make them whole, o holy spirit find us where we've fallen out of grace, lead us to a higher place in the dark night of the soul our broken hearts you can make whole, o holy spirit come and carry us in your embrace, let us see your gentle face, spirit.





Ezekiel 37: 1-14



Hal Hopson Simon Lee, Kelly Cassady, Cantors





John 11: 1-45



Ruth Chadwick Moore



WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD



* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from the Christian Reformed Church

The Spirit renews our hearts and moves us to faith, leads us into truth, and helps us to pray, stands by us in our need, and makes our obedience fresh and vibrant.

God the Spirit lavishes gifts on the church in astonishing variety prophecy, encouragement, healing, teaching, service, discernment equipping each member to build up the body of Christ and to serve our neighbors.

The Spirit gathers people from every tongue, tribe, and nation into the unity of the body of Christ. Anointed and sent by the Spirit, the church is thrust into the world, ambassadors of God's peace, announcing forgiveness and reconciliation, proclaiming the good news of grace.

All people, impelled by the Spirit, go next door and far away into science and art, media and marketplace – every area of life, pointing to the reign of God with what they do and say.



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE



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.

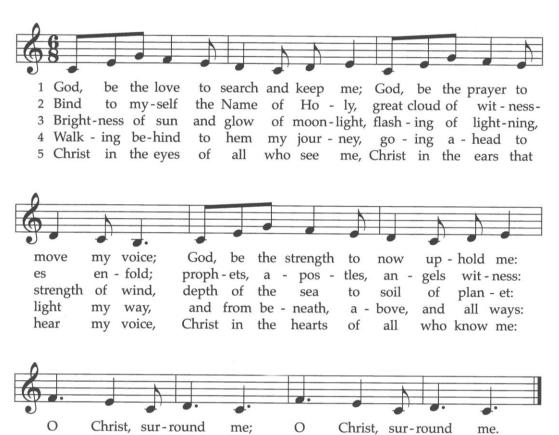


WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD



God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

GREEN TYLER





Sisters and brothers, let us claim the freedom Christ gives us by his self-giving on the cross.

May Christ enable us to serve together in faith, hope, and love.

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

May we respond kindly to every person we will meet this week, and may we faithfully walk in the way of Christ. Amen.



IN WORSHIP

Today's Prelude, "How Can I Keep from Singing," is an arrangement of a hymn written in 1869 by the Baptist preacher and hymn writer Robert Lowry. Lowry also composed "Shall We Gather at the River." "How Can I Keep from Singing" was recorded by Pete Seeger in the 1960s during the folk revival. The hymn gained a new audience in the 1990s when Irish musician Enya released a recording of it on her album Shepherd Moons. This arrangement is by Jeffrey Honoré (born 1959), who serves as the Director of Music at St. Benedict, Fontana, Wisconsin.

Today's opening hymn, "We Cannot Measure How You Heal," was written by the Iona Community's John Bell and Graham Maule in response to a 1996 incident in Dunblane, Scotland in which 16 school children and their teacher were killed by a gunman. The hymn expresses a combination of boldness and humility. Stanza 1 references Christ's bloodied hands and appeals to God as a fellow sufferer, yet recognizes our own ignorance. Stanza 2 acknowledges our need for both healing and the love that heals. Stanza 3 allows worshipers confidently to come as they are before the triune God as Shaper, Savior, and Spirit. Particularly striking in our current situation is "Lord, let your Spirit meet us here to mend the body, mind, and soul, to disentangle peace from pain, and make your broken people whole."

The anthem "Requiem" was written by American singer/songwriter Eliza Gilkyson as a song of grief and hope following the Asian tsunami in December 2004. The song found a renewed audience after Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast in 2005. It continues to speak to us today as we deal with these stressful and anxious times - "In the dark night of the soul bring some comfort to us all, O Holy Spirit come and carry us to your embrace that our sorrows may be faced." As believers in the Reformed tradition, we have taken the liberty of changing the text from "Mother Mary" to "Holy Spirit."

For more information, check out our website (northminster-indy.org).

To give by text message on a smartphone, text the amount to 317-316-3009. Our online system, ShelbyNext, will prompt you through a one-time set-up.

MINISTRY

Ruth Chadwick Moore

Associate Pastor

John M. Wright

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Marko Petričić

Music Associate/Organist

Carol McDonald

Parish Associate

Denise Harrington Senior Ministry Melissa Hopkins

Interim Christian Education

Marland Pittman

Interim Youth

Donald R. Durrett

Associate Pastor Emeritus

Carol Campbell John Reed Tony Dzwonar

Stephen Ministry Leaders

Lori Schlabach

Church Business Administrator

Susan Glant Nancy J. Sala

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Tim McElroy Lead Custodian

Jonathan Petersen Sunday Custodian