



NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Seek, Serve, Embrace | Engaging with neighbors near and far in Christ's love

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Twenty-Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time | October 8, 2023, 10:00 am

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME

Brian Shivers

PRELUDE

"Praeludium in D Major, BuxWV 139" | *Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707), Marko Petričić, Organ*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Today we come together to worship -
the God of creation of time and eternity;
the God of all peoples.

Praise the Lord!

All that is within me, praise God's holy name.

Praise the Lord!

Remember all God's kindnesses:
in forgiving our sins;
in healing our spirits;
in saving us from destruction;
in surrounding us with love.

**The Lord is full of mercy and compassion,
and willing to give us gifts of love.**

Praise the Lord!

All that is within me, praise God's holy name.

(Based on Psalm 103)

*HYMN NO. 267

"Come, Christians, Join to Sing" | *MADRID*

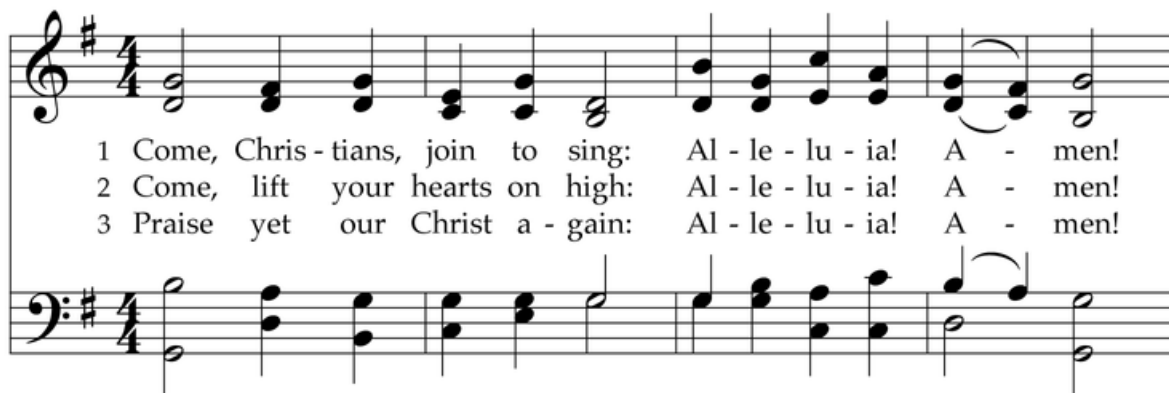
*CALL TO CONFESSION

Karen Herbst-Kim

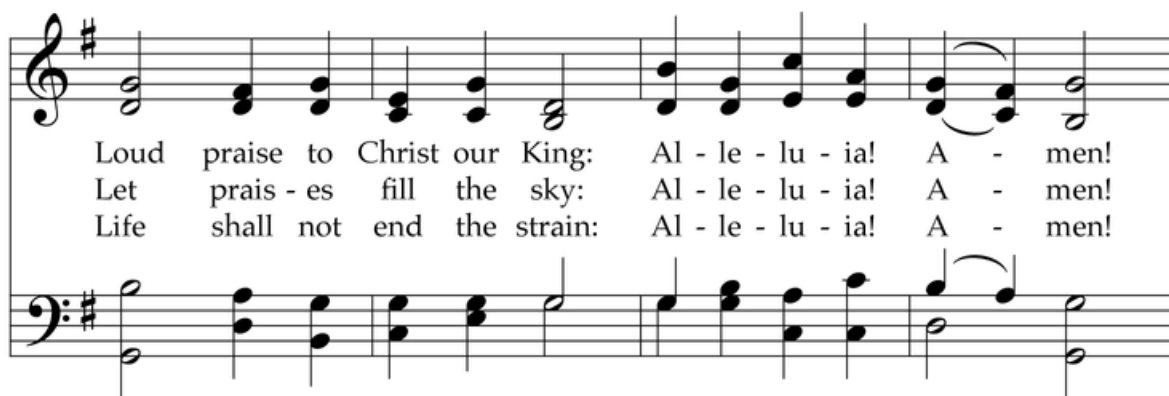
**For those who are able, please stand.*



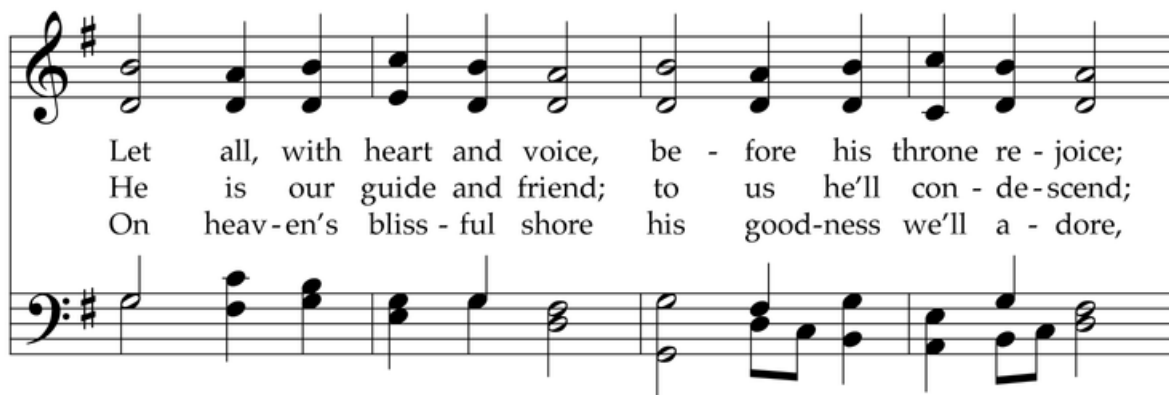
267 Come, Christians, Join to Sing



1 Come, Chris - tians, join to sing: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 2 Come, lift your hearts on high: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 3 Praise yet our Christ a - gain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



Loud praise to Christ our King: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 Let prais - es fill the sky: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 Life shall not end the strain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



Let all, with heart and voice, be - fore his throne re - joice;
 He is our guide and friend; to us he'll con - de - scend;
 On heav - en's bliss - ful shore his good - ness we'll a - dore,



praise is his gra - cious choice: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 his love shall nev - er end: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 sing - ing for - ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Like many other hymns of praise, this text was originally addressed to children but has been embraced by adults as well. Although the tune's repetitive elements suggest folk origins (possibly with alternating groups of singers), no specific source has been identified.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven,
and to you, my siblings in Christ,
that I have sinned by my own fault, in thought, word, and deed;
wherefore, I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,
forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.

May God have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, and give you time to amend your life.

I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven,
and to you, my siblings in Christ,
that I have sinned by my own fault, in thought, word, and deed;
wherefore, I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,
forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.

May God have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, and give you time to amend your life.

*SILENT CONFESSION

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

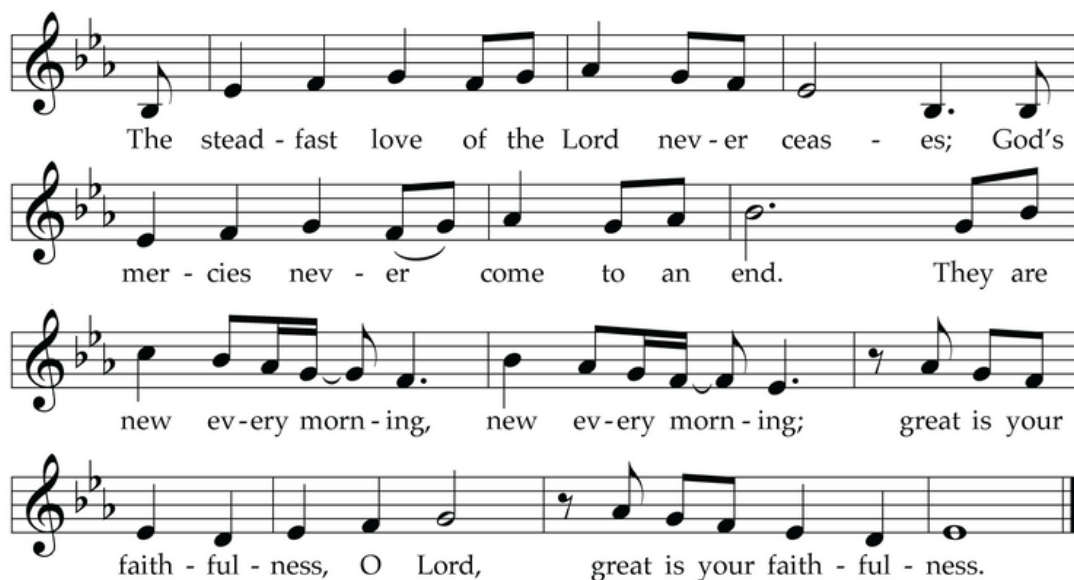
Friends, righteousness does not come from our own doing or not doing.

Righteousness comes from God, by faith.

Through the faithfulness of Christ our Lord, know that we are forgiven,
and free to try again!

*RESPONSE

THE STEADFAST LOVE OF THE LORD



**For those who are able, please stand.*



WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

(Worshippers may greet one another with words of Christ's peace)

CHILDREN'S TIME

(Offerings added to the Joyful Noise Pail are for mission partner Heifer International)

PRESENTATION OF GRADE THREE BIBLES

Truett Edwin Eberhard, Ezra Tyler Fox, James Israel Mann, Ava Roux Purdue, Knox Christian Rasmussen, Miles Curtis Shadday, and Rowan Adlai Wallace

(Children are dismissed to Church School)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON | PSALM

Psalm 80: 7-18 | Ancient plainsong; John Wright, Cantor



Stir up your strength, O LORD, and come to help us.

SECOND LESSON | EPISTLES

Philippians 3: 3b-14 (p. 198)

SERMON

"Forgetting So We Can Remember" | Brian Shivers

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN NO. 450

"Be Thou My Vision" | SLANE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**For those who are able, please stand.*



Be Thou My Vision



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!



thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

These stanzas are selected from a 20th-century English poetic version of an Irish monastic prayer dating to the 10th century or before. They are set to an Irish folk melody that has proved popular and easily sung despite its lack of repetition and its wide range.

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.

OFFERING

(Please sign the pew pad and pass it to your neighbor)

OFFERTORY

"Fight the Good Fight" | John Gardner (1917-2011); Chancel Choir

Fight the good fight with all thy might,
Christ is thy strength, and Christ thy right;
Lay hold on life and it shall be
thy joy and crown eternally.

Run straight the race through God's good grace,
Lift up thine eyes and seek his face;
Life with its way before us lies,
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.

Cast care aside, lean on thy guide:
His boundless mercy will provide;
Trust, and thy trusting soul shall prove
Christ is its life, and Christ its love.

Faint not, nor fear, his arms are near;
He changeth not, and thou art dear;
Only believe, and thou shalt see
that Christ is all in all to thee. Amen.

*DOXOLOGY

"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow" | LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit, Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN NO. 846

"Fight the Good Fight" | DUKE STREET

**For those who are able, please stand.*



Fight the Good Fight

846

1 Fight the good fight with all thy might.
 2 Run the straight race through God's good grace;
 3 Cast care a - side; lean on thy guide.
 4 Faint not nor fear: God's arms are near.

Christ is thy strength and Christ thy right.
 lift up thine eyes, and seek Christ's face.
 God's bound-less mer - cy will pro - vide.
 God chang - eth not, and thou art dear.

Lay hold on life, and it shall be
 Life with its way be - fore us lies;
 Trust, and thy trust - ing soul shall prove
 On - ly be - lieve, and thou shalt see

thy joy and crown e - ter - nal - ly.
 Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.
 Christ is its life, and Christ its love.
 that Christ is all in all to thee.

The opening phrase here (based on 1 Timothy 6:12) is not a military image but an athletic one, from a Greek verb meaning "struggle" or "grapple" or "wrestle." The sports context continues in later stanzas reflecting the experience of a runner (recalling Hebrews 12:1-2).

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

May the love of the Creator, who rescues us from slavery,
the grace of the Savior, who redeems us from brokenness,
and the peace of the Spirit, who moves us into freedom,
surround us, uphold us, and sustain us, now and forevermore.

Beloved, forgetting what lies behind
and straining forward to what lies ahead,
press on toward the goal for the prize of our heavenly call
in Christ Jesus.
Alleluia! Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE

"It's Alright" | African-American spiritual; Chancel Choir

Refrain: It's alright, My Jesus said He'll fix and it's alright.

When it gets dark and I can't see my way,
Jesus said He'll fix it and it's alright.
Just know He's gonna' send me a brighter day.
Jesus said He'll fix it and it's alright.

That day when death comes a-creepin in,
Jesus said He'll fix it and it's alright.
Know you've fought a god fight to the end.
Jesus said He'll fix it and it's alright.

Sometimes your best friend put you down,
Jesus said He'll fix and it's alright.
Keep your eye on the heavenly crown.
Jesus said He'll fix it and it's alright.

MUSIC IN WORSHIP

Today's Offertory, "Fight the Good Fight," echoes our Epistle lesson (Philippians 4: 3b-14). The text writer, Irish Anglican priest John Monsell (1811-1875), was a prolific hymnist, writing 11 published volumes of poetry and around 300 hymn texts. The text is set for homophonic (all voices moving at the same time) choir and organ. The organ plays fanfare-like chords and rhythms as the choir sings something seemingly unrelated. At "Cast care aside," the rhythmic treatment changes, then reappears at "Faint not, nor fear..." The composer, John Gardner (1917-2011), wrote 250 works, including 3 symphonies and 6 operas. Born in Manchester, England, he is most famous for his 1967 choral-organ setting of the Christmas carol "Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day."

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**For those who are able, please stand.*



Northminster Mission Fair

Today | 9:15 am - 12:00 pm

Come engage with our mission partners following today's worship! You may use the questions below to help start a conversation and learn more about their amazing work.

- Tell me about your organization
- What are the ways that you serve that community?
- How can Northminster continue to support you?

Our Mission Partners

Back-to-School Extravaganza*

The Julian Center

Bread for the World - Indiana*

The Little Timmy Project*

Community Food Box Project*

Prosperity Indiana*

Congregations to Reduce Violence (CURV)*

Pyoca Church Camp*

Covenant Network of Presbyterians*

Raphael Health Center*

Exodus Refugee*

Synod of Lincoln Trails

Family Promise of Greater Indianapolis*

Umoja Partnership*

General Assembly PC(USA)

Westminster Neighborhood Ministries*

Greater Indianapolis Multifaith Alliance*

Wheeler Mission

Gleaners Food Bank

Whitewater Valley Presbytery

Greater Indy Habitat for Humanity*

**here today*



Events and Announcements

Youth Group Meeting | Tonight | 5:30 - 7:30 pm

6th - 12th graders are welcome! We'll have dinner at 5:30, followed by a lesson, discussion, and games. Please bring \$5 if you plan to eat. Updates on what food will be ordered and any plans will be posted on BAND. Scan the QR for more information!



Northminster Presents: Lauren Lancaster | Oct. 11 | 6:00 pm

Join us for a presentation from NPC member and health policy expert, Lauren Lancaster, on Indiana's troubling maternal and infant mortality rates which rank 3rd and 10th in the U.S., respectively.



"Carol-Bration" Digital Card | Oct. 22

Can't make the Carol-Bration in person? No problem! Scan the QR code to the right or visit our events page to sign a digital card that will be shared with Carol during the celebration on October 22nd.



Carol McDonald "Carol-Bration" | Oct. 22 | 11:15 am - 1:30 pm

Mark your calendars for Sunday, October 22nd from 11:15 am - 1:30 pm as we come together to honor Carol's remarkable contributions and years of service. Please RSVP by Monday, October 16th by using the QR code to the right or visiting our website.



Witherspoon Dedication of Imani Campus | Oct. 22 | 2:40 pm

Come celebrate with a service of dedication of the new church home for Witherspoon Presbyterian Church! Featuring guest preacher Dr. Marvin A. McMickle, the day promises to be one filled with joy and praise.

Wednesday Night Dinner & Programming | Oct. 25 | 5:30 - 7:00 pm

Join us for our weekly Wednesday night dinner and the next installment of the "Christianity for Adults" class led by Don Knebel. The next topic in the series is, "What in the Bible is True, Really?"

Sound & Spirit: The Jeremiahs | Oct. 27 | 6:00 pm

Sound & Spirit returns with Irish folk band, The Jeremiahs! Join us at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary for what has been described as "One of the most exciting bands to come out of Ireland in many a year..." (Mike Harding Folk Show). Admission is free!



Northminster Housing Advocates Meeting | Oct. 29 | 11:15 am - 12:15 pm

Members acting as Court Watchers will meet on the final Sunday of the month after church to discuss their court experiences. Contact Susan Holewinski for more information.

Spirit & Place: Byakula Volunteers Needed | Nov. 5 | 2:00 - 4:00 pm

We are in need of volunteers for the Spirit & Place Festival entitled "Byakula: Nourishing Others from the Congo to Indy" on Sunday, November 5th! Use the QR code to register and be part of this amazing event.





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Brian Shivers
Pastor/Head of Staff

Karen Herbst-Kim
Associate Pastor

Carol McDonald
Parish Associate

John Wright
Director of Music Ministries

Marko Petričić
Music Associate/Organist

Cheryl Plunkett
Office Administrator

Jonathan Elliott
Financial Administrator

Timothy Foster
Director of Communications

Melissa Hopkins
Interim Director of Children's Ministries

Hannah Plunkett
Youth Ministry Coordinator

Emma Longo
Youth Ministry Coordinator

Shiloh O'Rourke
Director of Preschool

Denise Harrington
Director of Senior Ministries

Tim McElroy
Lead Custodian

Michael de las Alas
Custodian

Teri Thomas
Pastor Emerita

Donald R. Durrett
Associate Pastor Emeritus

Tony Dzwonar
Stephen Ministry Leader

Matthew 25

As a Matthew 25 congregation, we focus on building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism, and eradicating systemic poverty.

Covenant Network of Presbyterians

As a member of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians, we seek equity for LGBTQIA2S+ people in church and society. We welcome, honor, celebrate, and include all.

Weekly Email Newsletters

Stay up to date with everything going on at Northminster by subscribing to our newsletter at northminster.church/newsletter

Prayer Lists

The prayer list is available 24/7 online! Visit northminster.church/prayer

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9am - 3pm (M-Th) | Closed Friday



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