



NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost | October 13, 2024, 10:00 am

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME

PRELUDE

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

God, you are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.
In you our ancestors trusted;
they trusted you, and you delivered them.
To you they cried, and they were saved;
in you they trusted and were not put to shame.
God, you are holy.
With all dwellers in time and space,
we praise you, now and forever!

*HYMN NO. 619

"Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven" | *LAUDA ANIMA*

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,
many times we feel forsaken and terrified
more than supported and comforted.
We cry out and hear no answers.
We suffer and find no relief.
We are tempted to blame you even though
we are the ones who cut off communication.
We complain in the midst of plenty
and groan over imagined slights.
When we feel mocked and scorned,
we turn inward with the hurt
instead of opening ourselves to your healing touch.
Loving God, have mercy on us.
Forgive us.
Help us in our time of need.

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



Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven 619

(Psalm 103)

1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; glad of heart your
 2 Praise God for the grace and fa - vor shown our fore - bears
 3 Like a lov - ing par - ent car - ing, God knows well our
 4 An - gels, teach us ad - o - ra - tion; you be - hold God

car - ols raise; ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
 in dis - tress; God is still the same for - ev - er,
 fee - ble frame, glad - ly all our bur - dens bear - ing,
 face to face. Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion,

who, like me, should sing God's praise? Al - le - lu - ia!
 slow to chide, and swift to bless. Al - le - lu - ia!
 still to count - less years the same. Al - le - lu - ia!
 dwell - ers all in time and space: Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the Mak - er all your days!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing our Mak - er's faith - ful - ness!
 Al - le - lu - ia! All with - in me, praise God's name!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

This adaptation of an older paraphrase of Psalm 103 (see no. 620) is informed by an awareness that much of the received language of religious traditions enshrines social values that obscure the goodness of God, which far transcends all our labels and categories and hierarchies.

*SILENT CONFESSION

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, God knows our failures.

God hears our sincere confession.

God knows we are ready to make a fresh start

and grants pardon and peace.

Praise God for new beginnings!

*RESPONSE

"Goodness Is Stronger than Evil" | *GOODNESS IS STRONGER*



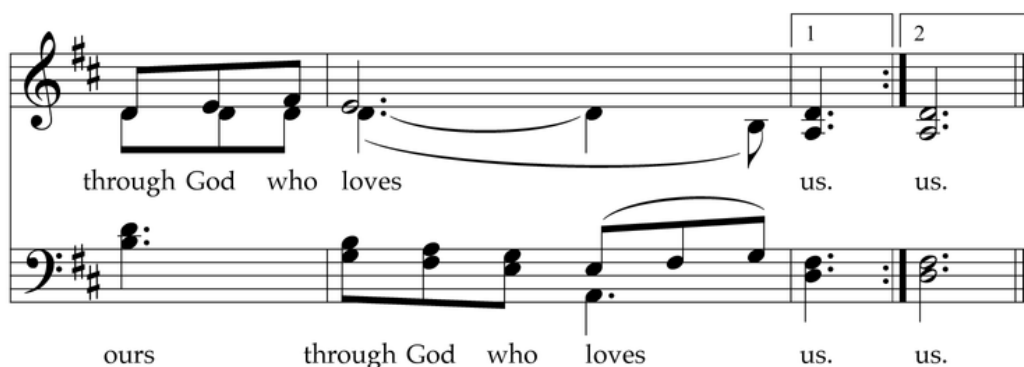
Good-ness is stron-ger than e - vil; love is stron-ger than hate;



light is stron-ger than dark - ness; life is stron-ger than death.



Vic - tory is ours; vic - tory is ours
Oh, vic - tory is ours; vic - tory is



through God who loves us. us.
ours through God who loves us. us.

**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)

Children are dismissed to Church School

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

"Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken" | *LISTEN*

(Soloist sings first time, All sing second time)



Lis-ten to the word that God has spo-ken; lis-ten to the
One who is close at hand; lis-ten to the voice that be -
gan cre - a - tion; lis-ten e-ven if you don't un - der-stand.

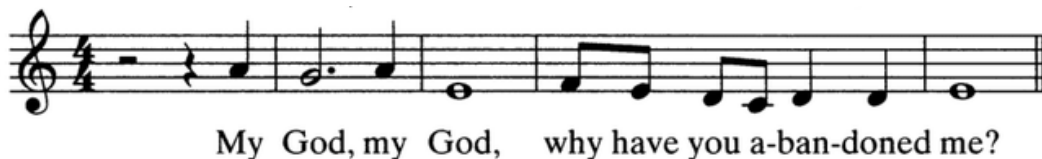
FIRST LESSON | PROPHETS

Job 23: 1-9, 16-17 (p. 471-472)

REFECTION | "Despair"

SECOND LESSON | PSALMS

Psalms 22: 1-15 | *Ancient Plainsong*



My God, my God, why have you a-ban-doned me?

REFECTION | "Absence"

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



WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

SOLO

"How Long, O God, Will My Prayers Be in Vain?" | *Barbara Hamm (b. 1943)*

How long, O God, will my prayers be in vain?
Why must I languish in sorrow and pain?
Do not abandon a child you have made;
you are my shelter, my solace and shade.

When evil prospers and hope is long gone,
do not forsake me, your presence withdrawn.
Shield and protect those who call on your name;
you are my God, and your blessing I claim.

Early and late will my tongue sing your praise;
you will uphold me the length of my days.
You are a stronghold for all the oppressed;
hear us, O God! Let your people be blessed.

REFECTION | "Hope"

ANTHEM

"Give Me Jesus" | *African-American spiritual, arr. Larry Fleming (1941-2003)*

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.

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

"Nobody Knows De Trouble I've Seen" | *African-American spiritual,
arr. Harry Burleigh (1866-1949)*

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



***DOXOLOGY**
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. 834**
"Precious Lord, Take My Hand" | *PRECIOUS LORD*

***BLESSING AND CHARGE**

Siblings in Christ, may God bless you
and may you know you are not alone.

Like a rock,

God is under our feet.

Like a roof,

God is over our heads.

Like the horizon,

God is beyond us.

Like water in a pitcher,

God is within us and in the pouring out of us.

Like a pebble in the sea,

we are in God.

**Let us go out and change our world
as God has changed our lives.**

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



834 Precious Lord, Take My Hand

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand; lead me on, help me
2 When my way grows drear, pre - cious Lord, lin - ger

stand; I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
near; when my life is al - most gone,

Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I

light; take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.
fall; take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

This black gospel song, like much hymnody, sprang out of the author's deep personal loss (the death of his wife and newborn son), yet it has brought solace to many. He thought his fingers were playing new music, but they unlocked a deep memory of a tune almost a century old.

CHORAL RESPONSE

"The Road Home" | *PROSPECT*, arr. Stephen Paulus (1949-2014)

Tell me, where is the road I can call my own,
That I left, that I lost, So long ago?
All these years I have wandered, Oh, when will I know
There's a way, there's a road That will lead me home

After wind, after rain, When the dark is done,
As I wake from a dream In the gold of day,
Through the air there's a calling From far away,
There's a voice I can hear That will lead me home.

Rise up, follow me, Come away is the call,
With love in your heart as the only song;
There is no such beauty as where you belong,
Rise up, follow me, I will lead you home.

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



IN WORSHIP

Today's first hymn, No. 619, "Praise My Soul, the God of Heaven," is a paraphrase of Psalm 103 by Scottish hymnist and poet Henry Lyte (1793-1847), who is also the author of the hymn "Abide with Me." In this hymn, we give praise to the everlasting God, who is "slow to chide and swift to bless" (stanza 2). The hymn gives a description of God as a parent, who cares for us and knows us (stanza 3). In the fourth stanza, we ask the angels and saints ("dwellers in all time and space") to join us in this song of praise. John Goss (1800-1880) composed LAUDA ANIMA specifically for Lyte's text in 1869. Goss, the son of an organist, became one of the greatest organists to serve St. Paul's Cathedral in London, England, in the 19th century. He also taught harmony at the Royal Academy of Music for 47 years and was knighted in 1872.

Our final act of worship this morning is the Chancel Choir's prayer "The Road Home," a composition written by American composer Stephen Paulus (1949-2014) after receiving a commission from the Dale Warland Singers in 2011 for a short "folk" type choral arrangement. Paulus chose the tune PROSPECT from The Southern Harmony Songbook of 1835. The melody, which may be found in our hymnal Glory to God, No. 807, "When We Must Beat Persistent Pain," uses the F pentatonic scale. Some of our worshippers may associate this tune with "The Lone Wild Bird." The librettist Michael Dennis Browne has stated, "I was trying to suggest the consolation that can come to someone of faith, in times of great stress, as a result of prayer and an abiding belief in divine mercy."

Today's reflections, *Despair*, *Absence*, and *Hope*, were written by Pastor Brian Shivers.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Brian Shivers | *Pastor*
Marko Petričić | *Organ*
Mary Winkler | *Liturgist*
Jonathan Shinn | *Cantor, Liturgist*
John Wright | *Cantor*
Katie Ray | *Soprano*
Chancel Choir

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



Events and Announcements

White Christian Nationalism in the United States Video | Oct. 16th | 6:00 pm

We'll watch part of a mini-conference moderated by Andrew Whitehead which revolves around the study of white Christian nationalism from a cross-disciplinary perspective, including history, social science, and law. Discussion will follow.



Fall Work Days | Oct. 18th & 19th | 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

We'll focus on three projects on both days including a landscaping project on the south side, general grounds cleanup, and painting in the choir room and chapel hallway. To learn more, please contact Blaine Dinwiddie or Craig Hittle.

New Member Class | Oct. 20th | 8:15 am

We'll host a new member opportunity for those interested in joining NPC! We'll gather at 8:15 am for a light breakfast and at 8:30 am for class in the Board Room. Those joining will be recognized in worship at 10:00 am. Contact the pastors or office for more info.

Earlham Choir Presents: "Belonging" | Oct. 26th | 1:30 - 2:30 pm

The Earlham College Concert Choir and Chamber Singers, directed by Doug Shafer-Johnson, will present their Fall 2024 program, "Belonging," in Northminster's sanctuary. This one-hour program is free to attend!

Commitment Sunday | Oct. 27th | 10:00 am

What did the dollar say to the penny? You make sense! Just a little Stewardship humor to remind you that Commitment Sunday is on October 27th. Bring your pledge card and your joy or use the QR code to the right.



Northminster Trunk or Treat | Oct. 27th | 4:30 - 5:30 pm

Join us for Trunk or Treat in the south parking lot on October 27th! Car set-up will begin at 4:00 for folks that register using the QR code. This event is free to all and you can donate candy in The Gathering Place on any Sunday starting today.



Northminster Presents: Andrew Whitehead | Oct. 30th | 6:00 pm

Associate Professor of Sociology at IU-Indy and author of "American Idolatry", Andrew Whitehead's research on Christian Nationalism has been featured in the NY Times, NPR, and the Washington Post. Learn more by scanning the QR code.



Bless This Mess: NPC Swap Meet | Nov. 2nd | 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Bring gently used items to trade, mingle, and enjoy fall treats with our church and neighbors. Register by October 27th to reserve space, and please check the list of allowed items. Unclaimed goods will be donated to local shelters. Everyone is welcome!



Youth Group Fall Family Night | Nov. 10th | 5:30 - 7:30 pm

Register by Nov. 1st! We'll have Fall Family Night for youth-group-aged students and their families (parents, grandparents, other grownups, siblings, etc.) at Top Golf! Family night is completely free to attend and includes two hours of golf and dinner.



Additional events and information can be found on our website at northminster.church/events

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Christ-Centered | Grounded in the Word | Relevant | Inclusive | Nurturing | Serving

Brian Shivers
Pastor/Head of Staff

Karen Herbst-Kim
Associate Pastor

John Wright
Director of Music Ministries

Carol McDonald
Parish Associate

Marko Petričić
Music Associate/Organist

Cheryl Plunkett
Office Administrator

Melissa Hopkins
Director of Children's Ministry

Timothy Foster
Director of Communications

Shiloh O'Rourke
Director of Preschool

Emma Moore
*Operations Administrator &
Youth Ministry Coordinator*

Lorna Johnson
Bookkeeper

Denise Harrington
Director of Senior Ministries

Krista Wright
*Spiritual Wholeness and
Wellness Coordinator*

Elisabeth Kleinsmith
*Family Engagement
Coordinator*

Tim McElroy
Lead Custodian

Jonathan McGee
Custodian

Nate Boak
Custodian

Donald R. Durrett
Associate Pastor Emeritus

Teri Thomas
Pastor Emerita

Tony Dzwonar
Stephen Ministry Leader

Rod Mail
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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(317) 251-9489 office@northminster-indy.org 9am - 3pm (M-Th) | Closed Friday

