



NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost | October 19, 2025, 10:00 am

*(*For those who are able, please stand)*

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME

PRELUDE

"Grand Choeur" | Théodore Dubois (1837-1924)

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

Holy One, we praise you this day
with our voices, our hearts,
our minds, and our spirits.
Let us worship God together.

* HYMN NO. 53

"O God, Who Gives Us Life" | NOEL

* CALL TO CONFESSION

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace, for our failure
to love others as you have loved us,
forgive us.

For wasting your gifts
and hoarding our goods,
forgive us.

For losing heart
and abandoning hope,
forgive us.

For all the ways we turn from you,
forgive us ...

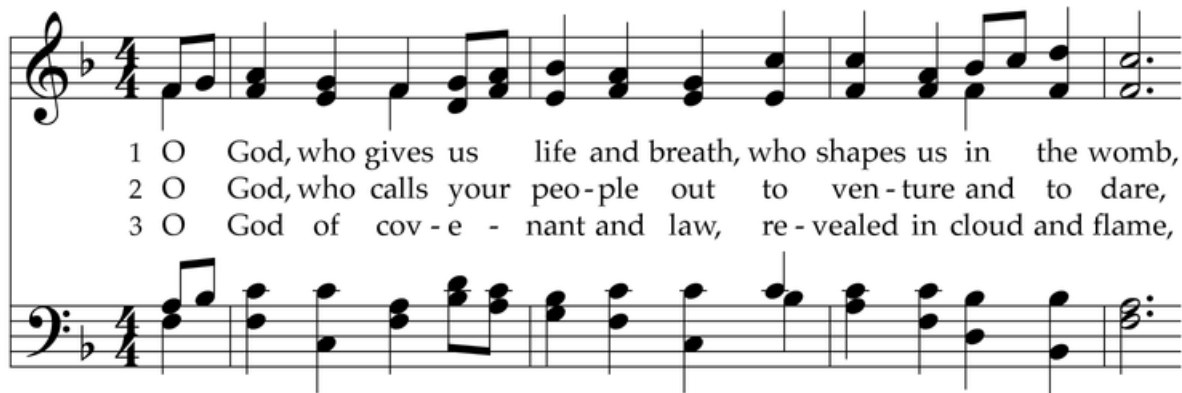
* SILENT CONFESSION

* DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

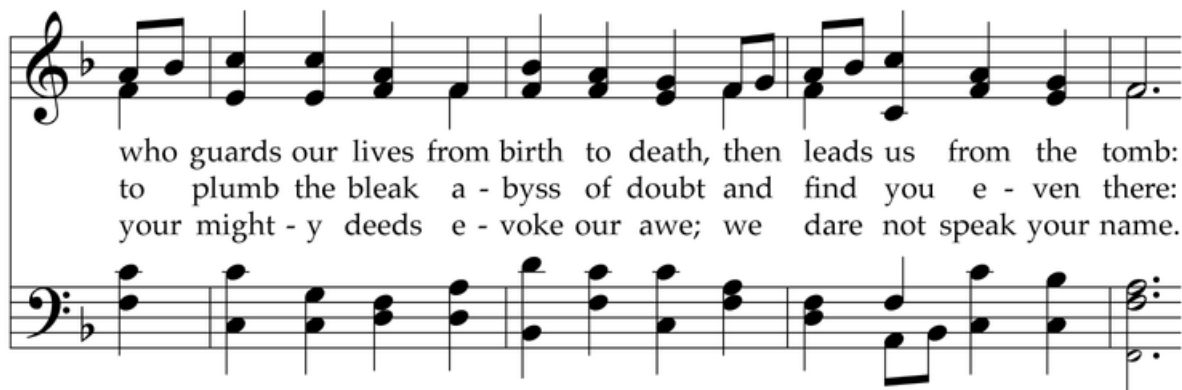
Grace flows like a river;
mercy like a never-ending stream.
Hear and believe the good news:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen!



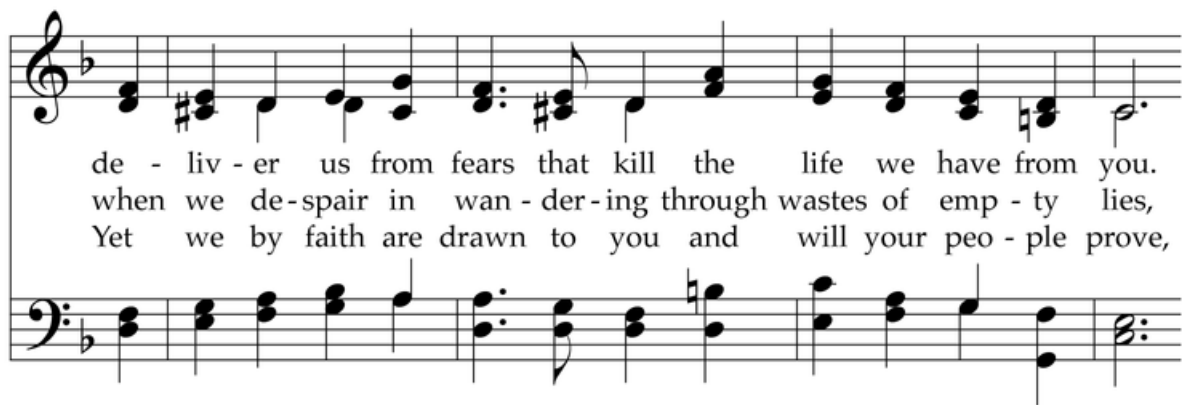
53 O God, Who Gives Us Life



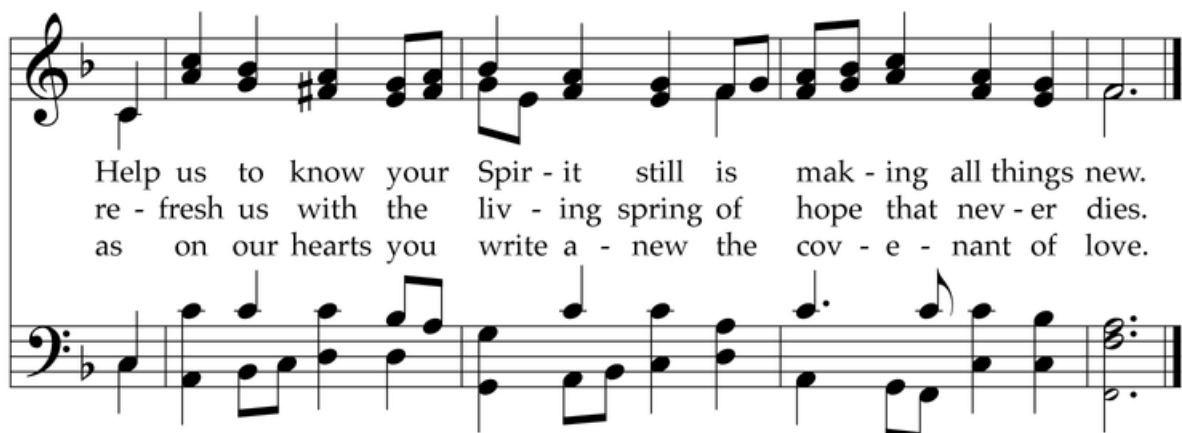
1 O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb,
 2 O God, who calls your peo-ple out to ven-ture and to dare,
 3 O God of cov-e - nant and law, re-vealed in cloud and flame,



who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb:
 to plumb the bleak a - byss of doubt and find you e - ven there:
 your might - y deeds e - voke our awe; we dare not speak your name.



de - liv - er us from fears that kill the life we have from you.
 when we de-spair in wan - der-ing through wastes of emp - ty lies,
 Yet we by faith are drawn to you and will your peo - ple prove,

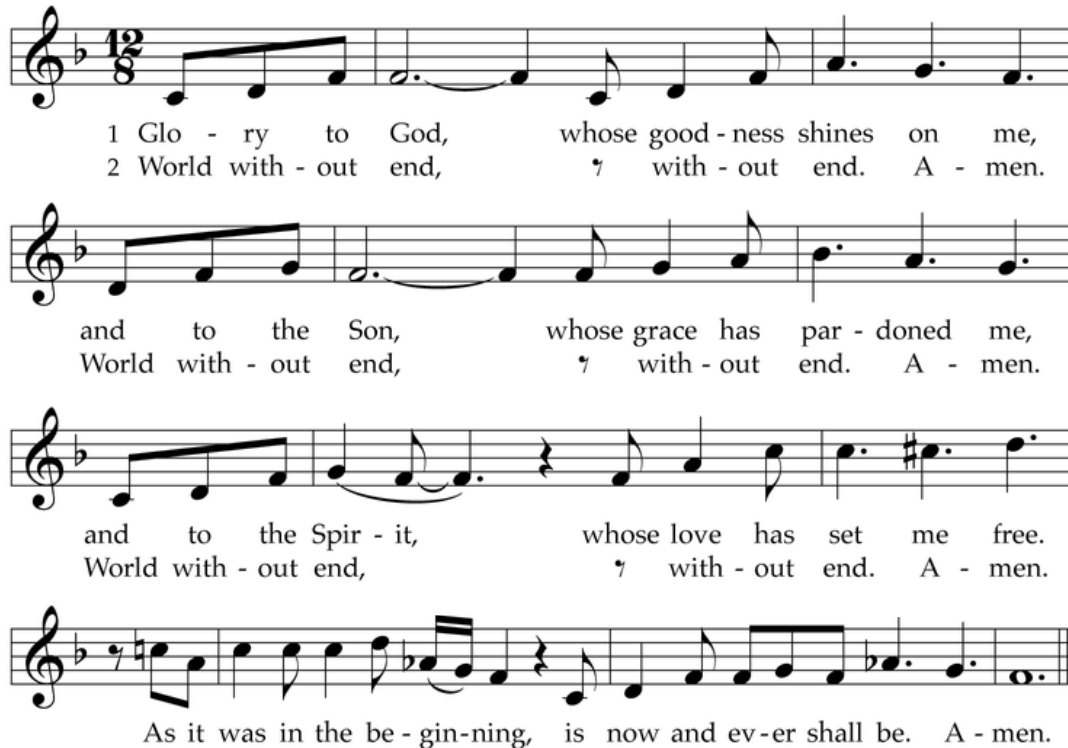


Help us to know your Spir - it still is mak - ing all things new.
 re - fresh us with the liv - ing spring of hope that nev - er dies.
 as on our hearts you write a - new the cov - e - nant of love.

Christians often fail to appreciate how much we can learn about God from the Hebrew Scriptures. This text draws on a variety of passages that call attention to God's faithfulness toward the Chosen People and the promise of a new covenant written on the heart (Jeremiah 31:31-34).

* RESPONSE

Hymn No. 582: "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"



1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

* 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

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

ANTHEM

"Glorify the Lord" | Stephen Elkins

Glorify, glorify the Lord with me.
Let us exalt his name together.
Let us exalt his name forever.
O glorify, glorify the Lord with me.
Glorify the Lord our Lord.

In everything you say, glorify the Lord.
Every night and day glorify the Lord.
In all that you do, let his glory shine through.
Oh glorify the Lord with me.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Children are dismissed to Church School

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

"Lift Thine Eyes" (from *Elijah*) | *Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)*

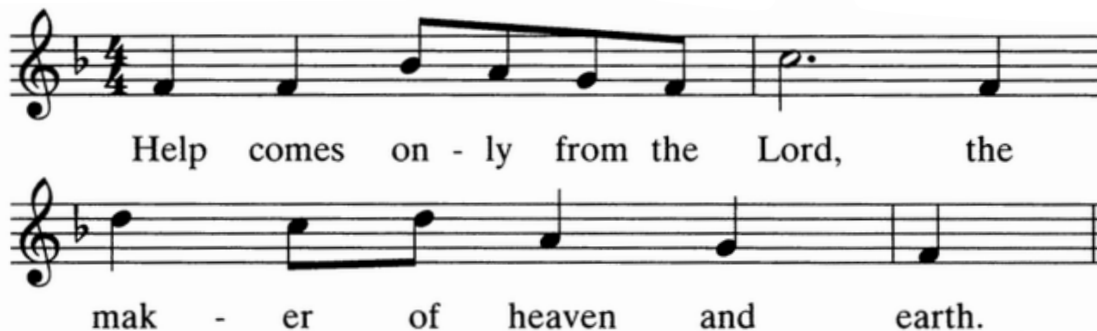
Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes
to the mountains whence cometh help.
Thy help cometh from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.
He hath said, thy foot shall not be moved.
Thy keeper will never slumber,
will never, will never slumber.
Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes
to the mountains whence cometh help.

FIRST LESSON | PROPHETS

Jeremiah 31: 27-34 | OT p. 735

SECOND LESSON | PSALMS

Psalm 121



THIRD LESSON | GOSPEL

Luke 18: 1-8 | NT p. 81

SERMON

"Persistence" | *Brian Shivers*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* HYMN NO. 175

"Seek Ye First" | *LAFFERTY*

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.

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Seek Ye First

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia,

1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God
2 Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you;
3 You shall not live by bread a - lone,

al - le - lu - ia,

and seek, its righ - teous - ness,
seek, and you shall find;
but by ev - ery word

al - le - lu - ia,

and all these things shall be add - ed un - to you.
 knock, and the door shall be o - pened un - to you.
 that pro - ceeds from the mouth of God.

al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

The author and composer wrote the first stanza and folk-style tune after attending a Bible study on Matthew 6:33. The later stanzas, based respectively on Matthew 7:7 and Matthew 4:4 emerged anonymously. Such meditative singing of scripture is an important form of sung prayer.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"He, Watching Over Israel" (from *Elijah*) | *Felix Mendelssohn*

He, watching over Israel,
slumbers not nor sleeps.
Shouldst thou, walking in grief, languish,
He will quicken thee.
He, watching over Israel,
slumbers not nor sleeps.

* DOXOLOGY

OLD 100TH | *Matt Nutter*

Praise God, who fills each cup and plate,
Whose table's wide and love is great,
From broken bread, may all be fed,
And justice rise where fear has spread. Amen.

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

* HYMN NO. 833

"O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go" | *ST. MARGARET*

* BLESSING AND CHARGE

God's steadfast covenant writes it:

the law of love in our hearts.

Christ's concern for the least demands it:

the cry of justice on our lips.

The Spirit's encouragement breathes it:

The living word within us.

And remember ...

**God will guard our going out and our coming in
from this time on and forevermore.**

POSTLUDE

"II. Andante Tranquillo" (from *Sonata No. 3, Op. 65*) | *Felix Mendelssohn*

IN WORSHIP

Today's liturgy is adapted from *Feasting on the Word: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 2*.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Brian Shivers <i>Pastor</i>	Peace Choir <i>Katie Ray, Director</i>
Marko Petričić <i>Organ</i>	Chancel Choir
Karen Herbst-Kim <i>Pastor</i>	Katie Ray <i>Cantor</i>

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O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go 833

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, while the piano accompaniment is in the bass staff. The lyrics are arranged in four systems, each corresponding to a line of the hymn. The first system includes four numbered verses. The second and third systems contain the main body of the hymn. The fourth system concludes the piece with a final double bar line.

1 O Love that wilt not let me go, I rest my
2 O Light that fol-lowest all my way, I yield my
3 O Joy that seek - est me through pain, I can - not
4 O Cross that lift - est up my head, I dare not

wea - ry soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe, that
flick-ering torch to thee; my heart re-stores its bor-rowed ray, that
close my heart to thee; I trace the rain-bow through the rain, and
ask to fly from thee; I lay in dust life's glo - ry dead, and

in thine o - cean depths its flow may rich - er, full - er be.
in thy sun - shine's blaze its day may bright - er, fair - er be.
feel the prom - ise is not vain that morn shall tear - less be.
from the ground there blos-soms red life that shall end - less be.

This intense hymn of commitment to God (addressed as Love, Light, and Joy) closes with an invocation of the ultimate testimony to those attributes (the Cross). The composer, a Scotsman, named this specially-composed tune for the 11th-century patroness of Scotland.

Events and Announcements

Uncovering Your “Why” For Advocacy | Wed., Oct. 22 | 6:00 pm

Join Josh Riddick and Jennifer Shivers as they help us become better advocates for issues near to our hearts. Learn how to uncover and articulate YOUR personal motivations or “personal interest” in advocacy work.



Electronics Recycling | Sat., Oct. 25 | 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Bring your unwanted electronics to the north parking lot at Northminster for proper disposal. Most items are free, but RecycleForce does charge \$20 for flat-screen TV's and refrigerators/freezers. Thanks for doing your part!

Trunk or Treat | Sat., Oct. 25 | 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Trunk or Treat is back! Set-up will begin in the south parking lot at 12:30 pm and cars with decorated trunks will form a circle in the parking lot. If you'd like to sign up to decorate your car, please use the QR code!



Sound & Spirit: Simon Thomas Jacobs | Sun., Oct. 26 | 4:00 pm

A new Sound & Spirit season returns on October 26th! Organist Simon Thomas Jacobs explores the colors of Northminster's 2020 C.B. Fisk organ. To see additional performances and support Sound & Spirit, scan the QR code!



Habitat for Humanity Multifaith Panel Build | Fri., Oct. 31 | 8:30 am - 1:30 pm

Swing a hammer and build the walls of a future Habitat home! No experience necessary, and all training will be provided on-site. Two shifts are available from 8:30 am to 11:00 am and 10:30 am to 1:30 pm using the link below.



Umoja Partnership Speaker: Jerry Owaka | Sun., Nov. 2 | 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Jerry Owaka, Project Officer for the Umoja Partnership, is here from Kenya to share the latest updates about what is happening in the schools and projects we partner to support!

Menopause Panel Discussion | Sun., Nov. 9 | 11:15 am - 1:30 pm

Join Drs. Stephanie Meade, Melanie MacLaren, and Deb Ronco as they explore menopause from medical and holistic perspectives. Open to all—men, women, and children. Reservations required using the QR code!



Northminster Fall Festival | Sat., Nov. 15 | 11:30 am - 3:00 pm

Enjoy games, pumpkin painting, live music by The Porchmen, and a free chili lunch at 12:30. All are welcome! Volunteers needed for cooking and clean-up using the QR code.



Commitment Sunday 2026

We are excited for Commitment Sunday, October 26, 10:00 a.m. Bring your completed pledge card with you for this wonderful day as we celebrate the *Streams of Generosity and Rivers of Grace* flowing through the ministries of Northminster Presbyterian Church as we engage with neighbors near and far in Christ's love. Pledge cards are available in the pews and at the church office. Thank you for your faithful commitment and dedication to Northminster Presbyterian Church!

Congregational Meeting

Please plan on staying after worship briefly on Sunday, November 2 as we receive the nominations from our Nominating Committee for our new class of officers for 2026 and vote to elect them to serve the congregation. Your presence and your vote are important!

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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

Amy Hughley
Interim Director of Music Ministries

Cheryl Plunkett
Office Administrator

Melissa Hopkins
Director of Children's Ministry

Timothy Foster
Director of Communications

Denise Harrington
Director of Senior Ministries

Emma Moore
Operations Administrator & Youth Ministry Coordinator

Krista Wright
Spiritual Wholeness and Wellness Coordinator

Elisabeth Kleinsmith
Family Engagement Coordinator

Ynfinity Taylor
Bookkeeper

Steve Williams
Finance Administrator

Shiloh O'Rourke
Director of Preschool

Tim McElroy
Lead Custodian

Jonathan McGee
Custodian

Valerie Boak
Custodian

Rod Mail
Stephen Ministry Leader

Tony Dzwonar
Stephen Ministry Leader

Teri Thomas
Pastor Emerita

Donald R. Durrett
Associate Pastor Emeritus

Connect With Us!



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

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