



NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Second Sunday of Lent | March 5, 2023, 10:00 am

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME

Brian Shivers

PRELUDE

"Meditation" | *Gabriel Dupont (1878-1914); Marko Petričić, Organ*

INTROIT

"Jesus in the Morning" | *Madeline Bridges; Celebration Choir*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

For forty days and forty nights,
led by the Spirit, Christ fasted in the wilderness.

People of God, on this wilderness journey, what will you eat?

The word of the Lord is our daily bread.

People of God, in this time of temptation, how will you live?

Our faith is the faithfulness of God.

People of God, at this kingdom crossroad, whom will you serve?

We worship the Lord our God alone.

For forty days and forty nights,

**we prepare ourselves to meet
the crucified and risen Christ.**

*HYMN NO. 191

"We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding" | *BREWER*

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Carol McDonald

Merciful Teacher,
you call us to go, following the plan you have set out for us.
You promise us blessings and purpose,
but we do not trust your words.
We cling to what we already know,
we trust in what we can see and touch,
we make excuses for our failure to trust in you.

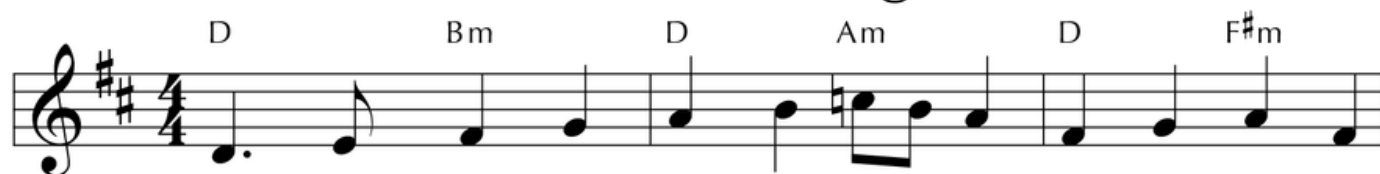
Forgive us. By your steadfast love,
help us to believe and give us the abundant life
that comes from following your will.

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



We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding

191



1 We have come at Christ's own bid - ding to this high and
2 Light breaks through our clouds and shad - ows; splen - dor bathes the
3 Strength - ened by this glimpse of glo - ry, fear - ful lest our



ho - ly place, where we wait with hope and long - ing
flesh - joined Word; Mo - ses and E - li - jah mar - vel
faith de - cline, we like Pe - ter find it tempt - ing



for some to - ken of God's grace. Here we pray for new as -
as the heaven - ly voice is heard. Eyes and hearts be - hold with
to re - main and build a shrine. But true wor - ship gives us



sur - ance that our faith is not in vain, search - ing like those
won - der how the law and proph - ets meet: Christ, with gar - ments
cour - age to pro - claim what we pro - fess, that our dai - ly



first dis - ci - ples for a sign both clear and plain.
drenched in bright - ness, stands trans - fig - ured and com - plete.
lives may prove us peo - ple of the God we bless.

*SILENT CONFESSION

*BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD

John Bell

slowly

Be - hold the Lamb of God, be - hold the Lamb of God. He

Be - hold the Lamb, the Lamb of God. He

takes a - way the sin, the sin of the world.

takes a - way the sin of the world.

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Siblings in Christ, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

We will bear witness to God's saving grace with our lives.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven,

and freed to try again.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S TIME

*(Offerings added to the Joyful Noise Pail are for mission partner Heifer International.)
Preschoolers are dismissed to Church School.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

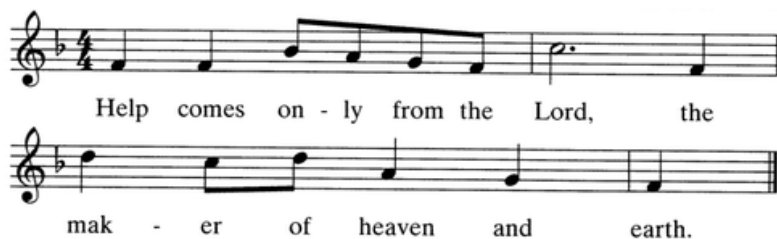
FIRST LESSON

Genesis 12: 1-4 (p. 10) (Spark Bible p. 26)



PSALM 121

Hal Hopson (b. 1923); Elisabeth Kleinsmith, Benjamin Plunkett, Cantors



SECOND LESSON

John 3: 1-17 (p. 93-94)

SERMON

"A Visit at Night" | Brian Shivers

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN

"Alone and Filled with Fear" | FRANCONIA

1. A - lone and filled with fear, We
2. We dare to ques - tion you, As
3. You probe our deep - est need, Our
4. The Word you speak is filled With
5. But born a - new by love, The
6. All glo - ry be to God Who

come to you by night, Our trou - bled, rest - less
though all truth we knew, But find you are the
hid - den fears ad - dress. You lead us to the
prom - ise and with pain: "There is no eas - y
old life left be - hind, We pass from dark - ness
sent to us the Son, Who will not give our

spir - its drawn To you, the Light from Light.
Ques - tion - er Who knows us through and through.
mid - night hour Where we, un - masked, con - fess.
road to life; You must be born a - gain!"
in - to day And life, long sought, we find.
spir - its rest Till love's great work is done.



OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

"Lift Thine Eyes" | *Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); Choir Trebles*

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.
Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes to the mountains,
whence cometh help.

(from Psalm 121)

*DOXOLOGY

"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow" | *OLD 100TH*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit, evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.



HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

"Sanctus" | Hal Hopson



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,

ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,

heav - en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

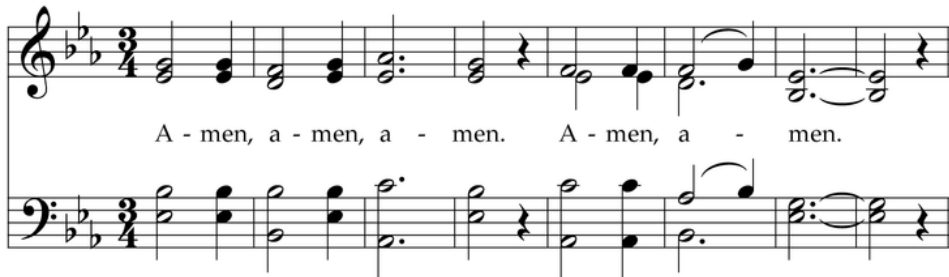
CHRIST HAS DIED, CHRIST HAS RISEN

"Memorial Acclamation" | Hal Hopson



AMEN

"Amen" | Hal Hopson



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

(At the direction of the hosts, you are invited to come forward by the center aisle. Take a piece of bread, dip it into the chalice and receive communion by the ancient method of intinction.)

Please return to your seats using the side aisles. If you are unable to come forward, you will be offered communion in your pew.)

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

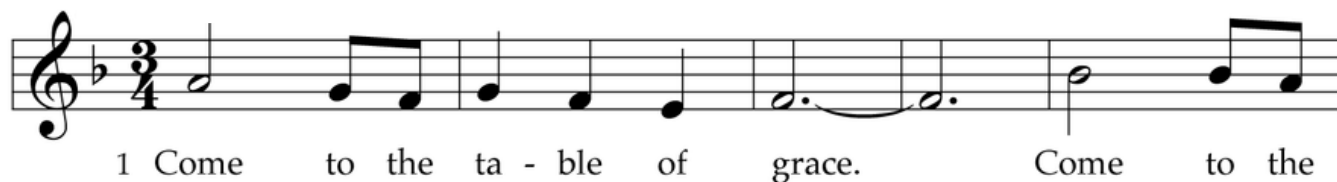
"Hymn No. 507: Come to the Table of Grace" | TABLE OF GRACE

ANTHEM

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" | African-American spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan (1957-2003); Alejandra Martinez, Soprano; Chancel Choir



Come to the Table of Grace 507



- 2 Come to the table of peace...
- 3 Come to the table of love...
- 4 Come to the table of hope...
- 5 Come to the table of joy...

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God, as our Lenten journey continues, thank you for the bread of life and cup of salvation received at this table. May this holy meal nourish and empower us to experience the sacred in all the unexpected places of these 40 days. We pray in the name of our constant traveling companion, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*HYMN NO. 506

"Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table" | COPELAND

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

Creator God, walking in the garden,

breathe life into us.

Tempted God, praying in the desert,

breathe life into us.

Holy God, traveling towards the city,

breathe life into us.

Mysterious God, maker and encourager,

surprise us with angels.

Revealing God, questioner and caller,

surprise us with stories.

Breathing God, dancer and delighter,

surprise us with joy.

POSTLUDE

"Sonata No. 3, Op 65, II. Andate tranquillo" | *Felix Mendelssohn; Marko Petričić, Organ*



506 Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table!

1 Look who gath - ers at Christ's ta - ble! Hear the sto - ries
 2 Clouds of light sur - round the ta - ble; an - cient fol - low -
 3 Their sad sto - ries are re - peat - ed in a thou - sand
 4 Bring your joy and bring your sad - ness, and pre - pare to

that they bring. Some are weep - ing; some are laugh - ing;
 ers ap - pear, saints con - fess - ing how they wres - tled
 dif - ferent ways, but they share one thing in com - mon:
 be sur - prised by the host whose hands are wound - ed,

some have songs they want to sing. Oth - ers ask why they're in -
 with their guilt, their doubt and fear. Pe - ter tells of his de -
 they all end in thanks and praise for the host who has in -
 who will o - pen wide your eyes when he bless - es bread and

vit - ed, bur - dened by the wrong they've done. Christ in - sists they
 ny - ing Christ was ev - er in his sight; Paul re - lates his
 vit - ed north and south and east and west to con - verge a -
 breaks it— truth and man - na from a - bove!—and then pass - es

all are wel - come. There is room for ev - ery - one.
 fruit - less ef - forts to ob - lit - er - ate the light.
 round this ta - ble, where all life is fed and blest.
 wine that wak - ens in your heart the taste of love.

IN WORSHIP

This morning's anthem "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me," is one of the world's most beloved African-American spirituals. Black slaves found great comfort and encouragement in the belief that this life was only a journey, a "passing through," to a better place. Although they hoped and prayed for deliverance and freedom in this life, they were convinced they would receive it in the life to come. As they passed through bitter trials on this earth, their desire was that they not walk alone, but that Jesus walk with them. Knowing that Jesus, who had already passed through fiery trials, was walking with them, gave them courage to go on. The pleading and personal nature of this spiritual is sung as an intense, emotional, "moan." Today's arrangement, by Moses Hogan (1957 - 2003), treats the spiritual with meditative reverence, building to a sorrowful vocal climax on "Lord, when my head is bowed in sorrow." Hogan was a New Orleans pianist, conductor, and arranger of international acclaim. His over 70 published works have become staples in the repertoires of high school, college, church, community, and professional choirs.

Our final Hymn, No. 506 "Look, Who Gathers at Christ's Table," was written in 2000 by Presbyterian minister, author, hymnist, and flutist, Thomas Troeger (1945 - 2022). The hymn celebrates the radical hospitality that characterizes Christ's welcome. His practice of sharing table fellowship with people excluded by the religious codes called his teaching into question among those who rigidly held to tradition. Jesus' sayings were often punctuated with stories of inclusive banquets. The tune was composed by Michael Corzine (born 1947), Professor of Organ at Florida State University and Organist/Choirmaster of First Presbyterian Church, Tallahassee, Florida.

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving during Communion is adapted from the writings of The Rev. Beth Merrill Neel and her blog "Hold Fast to What is Good."

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Upcoming Events

EIL Sacred Spaces Tour | Today | 2:00 pm

Northminster is hosting a sacred spaces tour of our church as part of a series on interfaith spaces. Our youth group will be welcoming people from various religious backgrounds to discuss our faith and traditions.

Northminster Community Yoga | Tonight | 5:30 pm

Join Krista Wright for Northminster Community Yoga, select Sundays in Calvin Hall. Class is 5:30-6:30 pm in Calvin Hall; \$10 adults, \$5 students. All are welcome, no experience is needed, and registration isn't required.



Northminster Presents: Dan Wakefield | Mar. 8 | 6:00 pm

Join us on March 8th at 6:00 pm as we host world-renowned author Dan Wakefield for a discussion on his experience covering the trial of Emmett Till. Admission is free and open to the public and live stream will be available!



Wednesday Night Adult Ed Lenten Series | Mar. 15 | 6:00 pm

Join us for a 6-week series on Wednesday nights as we explore the season of Lent and unexpected sacred spaces. Led by Mary Beth Riner, this class will feature an opening chant, silent prayer, and select readings. No class this Wednesday, March 8th.



Northminster Reads: The Color of Compromise | Mar. 19 | 5:30 pm

As we Christians continue to understand and confront structural racism, join us via Zoom on March 19th as we reflect together on "The Color of Compromise: The Truth about the American Church's Complicity in Racism" by Jemar Tisby.

Sound & Spirit: Messiah and Spirituals | Mar. 26 | 4:00 pm

The Northminster Chancel Choir, orchestra and soloists perform Handel's timeless oratorio "Messiah (part II)" as well as classic African-American spirituals. Admission is free and open to the public.

Indy Fuel Hockey Night | Apr. 14 | 7:00 pm

Come out and support the Indy Fuel with Northminster for Fan Appreciation night! The first 1,500 in attendance will receive a bobblehead and fans will have the chance to get their hands on prizes throughout the game. Tickets are \$20.



Good News from the Deacons!

Following their meetings on February 21st, the Deacons are excited to delve into their many projects for the year and how they align with the Matthew 25 mission to eliminate systemic poverty. Stay tuned for our upcoming Spring plant sale too!

To use a QR code, open the camera app on your smartphone and point it at the image. A link option will appear which you can click and go to the appropriate webpage.

Ministry

Brian Shivers
Pastor/Head of Staff

John Wright
Director of Music Ministries

Lori Schlabach
Financial Administrator

Carol McDonald
Parish Associate

Marko Petričić
Music Associate/Organist

Cheryl Plunkett
Office Administrator

Nancy Fortenberry
Director of Youth & Family
Ministries

Denise Harrington
Director of Senior Ministries

Morteza Semnani
Director of Operations

Melissa Hopkins
Interim Director of
Children's Ministries

Timothy Foster
Director of Communications

Tim McElroy
Lead Custodian

Donald R. Durrett
Associate Pastor Emeritus

Tony Dzwonar
Stephen Ministry Leader

Michael de las Alas
Custodian

*Northminster Presbyterian Church is a Matthew 25 congregation and a member of the
Covenant Network of Presbyterians*

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Prayer Lists

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

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#SeekServeEmbrace

