NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Seek, Serve, Embrace | Engaging with neighbors near and far in Christ’s love

SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY

Third Sunday of Lent | March 12, 2023, 10:00 am

WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME

WELCOME
Brian Shivers

PRELUDE
"Praeludium in A Minor" | Dietrich Buxtehude (c. 1637 – 1707); Ted Gibboney Organ

*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. 475
"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" | NETTLETON

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Carol McDonald

Lord, you know who we are.
You know everything we have done.
We thirst for things that will never satisfy us.
We commit ourselves to things that will never last.
We worship things that will never bring salvation.
Still, you offer us the gift of living water.
Still, you offer us the gift of eternal life.

Forgive us, O Lord, and give us this living water,
so that we may never thirst again.

*For those who are able, please stand.
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 475

1 Come, thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.

2 Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come; and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.

3 O to grace how great a debt or daily I'm constrained to be! Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.

Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above; Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;

Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God; Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;

Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love! Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!

He, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood. Here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.
*SILENT CONFESSION

*BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD
John Bell

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, it is God who disturbs our complacency and turns our complaints to constructive action.

Even now, God is at work in our lives, turning us from self-destruction, prompting our desire for deeper knowledge, and leading us to more satisfying involvements.

Through Jesus Christ, who loves us, who grants us courage to persist, and who shapes our character, we are forgiven.

Praise be to God, the rock of our salvation!

CHILDREN'S TIME

(During Lent, all offering collected in the Joyful Noise Pail will go toward our One Great Hour of Sharing offering to the Presbyterian Mission Agency.)

Children are dismissed to Church School.

*(Worshippers may greet one another with words of Christ's peace.)*
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
"Beyond the Beauty and the Awe" | Carl Daw (b. 1944); Chancel Choir

Beyond the beauty and the awe, beyond the fear and dread,
we long, O God, to hear your word, to taste your transformed bread.

FIRST LESSON
Exodus 17: 1-7

PSALM 95
Steve Warner; Katie Ray, Cantor

SECOND LESSON
John 4 (Select Verses)

SERMON
"Meeting at the Well" | Brian Shivers
WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

"HYMN
"The Thirsty Cry for Water" | NEW BRITAIN

1. The thirsty cry for water, Lord; The hungry plead for bread. And many long to rise again. Where hope, cast down, lies dead.
2. The cup of water poured in love. The bread of earth you bid us share. The famished child can fill. Our starving hearts that we may rise and live.
3. But help us also hear the cry of the pangs of thirst will still. The bread of life, our grace alone imparts.
4. And come to us, O risen Christ, Our restless souls relieve; And satisfy our ailing hearts. That we may rise and live.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ANTHEM
"Surely he hath borne our griefs And with his stripes we are healed" | George F. Handel (1685-1759); Chancel Choir

"Surely he hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised. The chastisement of our peace was upon him. And with his stripes we are healed.

(Isaiah 53: 4 – 5)

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.
OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY
"Chorale prelude on The Lord’s Prayer” | Dietrich Buxtehude

*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.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN NO. 353
"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" | SOLID ROCK

*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
"Fugue in A Minor” | Dietrich Buxtehude
My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less  353

1 My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus’ blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but changing grace;
in every high and stormy gale, my
whirling flood; when all around my soul gives way, he
him be found, dressed in his righteousness alone, fault-

Refrain

wholly lean on Jesus’ name.
anchor holds within the veil.
then is all my hope and stay. On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all
less to stand before the throne.

other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand.
Today's opening hymn, No. 475 “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” is one of the great and enduring hymns of the Christian Church. It was supposedly written by the British preacher Robert Robinson, although the original manuscript has not been found. The tune, NETTLETON, is an anonymous American folk tune and is so named because it was attributed to Asahel Nettleton, a 19th century evangelist.

Today’s final hymn, No. 353 “My Hope is Built on Nothing Less,” was written by the English Baptist pastor Edward Mote. Through all the trials of life, faith built on “the solid rock” gives the believer hope. This metaphor, along with that of “sinking sand,” is found in the parable of the wise man who built his house on the rock and the foolish man who built his house on the sand (Matthew, chapter 7). In our service today, the hymn connects with our Old Testament Lesson, Exodus 17: 1 – 7, in which we learn God produces living water from a rock to assuage the Israelites’ thirst.

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Northminster Reads: The Color of Compromise | Mar. 19 | 5:30 pm
As we Christians continue to understand and confront structural racism, join the conversation via Zoom to 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 classic oratorio Messiah (part II) and African-American spirituals. Soloists include Alejandra Martinez, Amber McKoy, John Wesley Wright, and Sam Spade.

Northminster Labyrinth | Mar. 20-31
Northminster is borrowing a Labyrinth from our friends at Second Presbyterian for the season of Lent! It will be located in the chapel during normal church hours and will offer time for quiet reflection and prayer.

Thinking of Becoming a Member? | Mar. 21 | 6:00 pm
Join us in Calvin Hall for dinner and conversation about joining our vibrant community of faith! Afterwards, you can meet with the Session to be received into membership. If interested, call or email by Friday, March 17th.

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.

Season of Lent Page | Now through Easter
Our Season of Lent page is live on our website! Stay up-to-date on all events through Easter including concerts, special worship services, and family events. This page will be updated over time with the most current information available!

Wednesday Night Lenten Series | Wednesdays | 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.

Friday & Monday Email List
Want to stay up-to-date on the latest news from the church? Subscribe to our Monday and Friday emails! Our weekly emails are full of news, events, and programs happening around the church and are a great way to stay involved.

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