



NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Fifth Sunday of Lent | March 26, 2023, 10:00 am

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME

Brian Shivers

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

PRELUDE

"From Deep Affliction, I Cry Out to You" | *J.S. Bach (1685-1750); Marko Petričić, 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 we eat?

The word of the Lord is our daily bread.

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

Our faith is the faithfulness of God.

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

We worship the Lord our God alone.

For forty days and forty nights,
**we prepare ourselves to meet
the crucified and risen Christ.**

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



*HYMN

"Let it Breathe on Me" | *BREATHE ON ME*

1 Let it breathe on me, let it breathe on me, let the breath of the
2 While I'm work - ing, God, in your vine - yard here, I can - not
3 When the path - way, God, I can - not see, when the way is

Spir - it breathe on me. Let it breathe on me, let it
serve with - out you near; O come, blessed Spir - it, so
hard, O breathe on me; Give me grace to know when

breathe on me, let the breath of God now breathe on me.
close to me that I may feel you breathe on me.
you are near, then, I pray, O Spir - it, breathe on me.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Carol McDonald

Mighty and merciful God,
we know the power of death.
We have seen its works, we have felt its sting.
We have been to the valley of despair,
and felt like there was no chance for life.
We do not believe in your power to resurrect.
We do not believe in your power to redeem our pain,
and fashion something beautiful in this world.

Forgive us.
We cry from the depths - however faint our call may be,
we pray you hear our voice.

*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**

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance,
that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.
He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross,
so that we, free from sins, might live for righteousness,
by his wounds have been healed.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven,
and freed to try again.

***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

CHILDREN'S TIME

(During Lent, all offerings 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.)



PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

Ezekiel 37: 1-14

PSALM 130

Hal Hopson (b. 1933); Chamber Ensemble



SECOND LESSON

John 11 (Selected Verses)

SERMON

"Let Us Go to Judea Again" | Brian Shivers

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN NO. 809

"Why Has God Forsaken Me" | SHIMPI

CALL TO PRAYER

"Out from the Deep" | Thomas Tallis (1505-1585); Chamber Ensemble

Out of the deep I call to thee; O Lord, hear my invocation.
Thine ears bow down; incline to me and hear my lamentation.
For if thou wilt our sins behold, that we have done from tide to tide,
O Lord, who then dare be so bold as in thy sight for to abide.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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)



Why Has God Forsaken Me? 809



1 "Why has God for - sak - en me?" cried our Sav - ior from the cross
2 At the tomb of Laz - a - rus Je - sus wept with o - pen grief:
3 As his life ex - pired, our Lord placed him - self with - in God's care:
4 Mys - tery shrouds our life and death but we need not be a - fraid,



as he shared the lone - li - ness of our deep - est grief and loss.
grant us, Lord, the tears which heal all our pain and un - be - lief.
at our dy - ing, Lord, may we trust the love which con - quers fear.
for the mys - tery's heart is love, God's great love which Christ dis - played.

OFFERTORY

"Witness" | *African-American Spiritual*, arr. Hal Hopson (1888-1970); John Wesley Wright, Tenor

*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. 286

"Breathe on Me, Breath of God" | TRENTHAM

*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.

RESPONSE

"I've Just Seen the Rock of Ages" | Ralph Stanley (1927-2016); Krista and John Wright

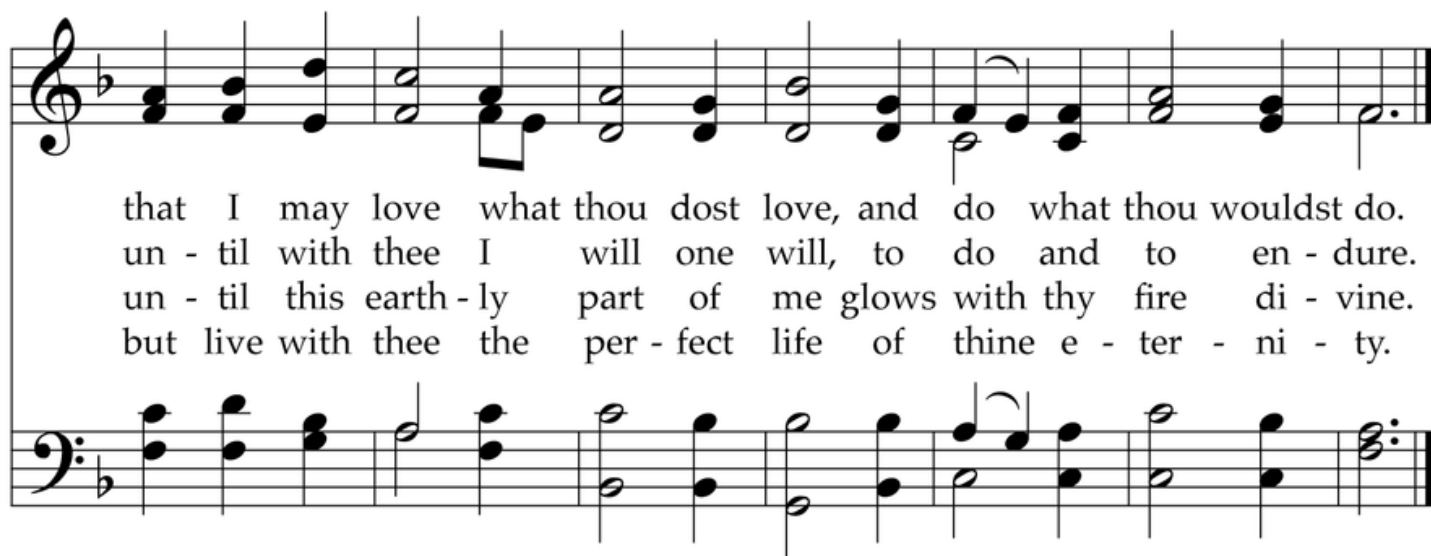


Breathe on Me, Breath of God 286



1 Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life a - new,
2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,
3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am whol - ly thine,
4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er die,

The first system of the hymn features a treble and bass staff in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat. The melody is primarily composed of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests and repeat signs. The lyrics are aligned with the notes, with hyphens indicating words that span across measures.



that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.
un - til with thee I will one will, to do and to en - dure.
un - til this earth - ly part of me glows with thy fire di - vine.
but live with thee the per - fect life of thine e - ter - ni - ty.

The second system continues the melody from the first system. It includes a double bar line at the end of the first line of music. The lyrics continue with the same alignment and hyphenation style. The musical notation includes various note values and rests, maintaining the 3/4 time signature and one flat key signature.

IN WORSHIP

This morning we welcome Tenor soloist John Wesley Wright. A native of Rome, Georgia, Mr. Wright serves as Professor of Music at Salisbury University, Salisbury, Maryland. He is an active clinician and leader of workshops on voice production, interpretation, and African American song traditions. He has performed solo repertoire ranging from Bach to Broadway throughout the world, including as a member of the Amsterdam Baroque Choir and the internationally celebrated American Spiritual Ensemble. Join us this afternoon at 4:00 as John Wesley Wright sings choral and solo repertoire in Sound & Spirit's concert of Handel's Messiah Part II and African American spirituals.

Throughout this season of Lent, we are encountering Christ in solitary moments, intimate conversations, and fantastic celebrations. The swaths of silk framing the chancel imitate mountain peaks or desert sand dunes - topography showcased in our readings, and locations that often inspire personal contemplation. And so, we reflect inward. Just as the cupped hands embrace twisting silks of various hues from week to week, we must hold all of the aspects of ourselves - the shadows and the light - with care and compassion. We remember to call ourselves beloved, as God does.

Many thanks to Mary Boris and Lisa Longo for bringing this vision to life.

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Events and Announcements

Sound & Spirit: Messiah and Spirituals | Today | 4:00 pm

The Northminster Chancel Choir, orchestra, and soloists perform Handel's timeless classic oratorio Messiah (part II) and African-American spirituals. Soloists are Alejandra Martinez, Amber McKoy, John Wesley Wright, and Sam Spade.



Westminster Toilet Paper Donations | Apr. 2 | 9:00 am

Can you spare a square? Northminster is collecting toilet paper donations for Westminster Ministries in The Gathering Place on April 2nd! Please contact Susan Holewinski for more information.



Easter Plant & Decor Donation | Apr. 4

Please consider a \$25 donation for plants and decor used throughout the Lenten season. The plants that decorate the sanctuary will later be used on the westside project! Your personal dedications will be printed in the Easter bulletins.



Deacons' Spring Plant Sale | Orders Due Apr. 6

The Deacons Spring Plant Sale is back! Use the QR code to order online or print an order form to deliver to the office. All orders are due by Thursday, April 6th and Plant pick up is here on Saturday, May 6th from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.



Easter Egg Hunt & Tinker Coffee Cart | Apr. 8

Join us for Northminster's annual Easter egg hunt! In addition to our 10:30 am egg hunt, we will have activities & snacks (as well as a Tinker House coffee cart) before and after the hunt as well as open tours of the church throughout the morning.



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.



One Great Hour of Sharing

Every year Northminster joins with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by collecting for One Great Hour of Sharing. To learn more, scan the QR code to the right!



Family Promise Food Delivery Volunteers | Thursdays in April

Northminster is preparing and delivering meals to a family in the Apartment Shelter Project every Thursday in April. To learn more and volunteer your time and talents, please scan the code to the right or visit our Events page.



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 and
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

Shiloh O'Rourke
Director of Preschool

Michael de las Alas
Custodian

Tony Dzwonar
Stephen Ministry Leader

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

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newsletter at northminster.church/newsletter

Prayer Lists

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

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