



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 Easter | April 28, 2024, 10:00 am

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME

PRELUDE

"Divertimento" | Robert Hebble (1934-2020)

INTROIT

"God Welcomes All" | THEMBA AMEN

(Soloist sings first time, all sing repeatedly on cue from leader)

God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;

God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Speak to the present, tell future generations:
God is love.

Anytime we love, God is there.

We are connected to God by love.

Anywhere there is love, God is.

Love triumphs over fear.

We need not fear.

Any place we see love, we see God.

Let us worship the God who is love,
and who bids us to love one another.

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



***HYMN NO. 366**

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" | *HYFRYDOL*

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful God, we have pursued our own self-interest
rather than abiding in your love.

We have turned away from one another
as if they were enemies to be hated.

We are afraid to love those who differ from us,
or those we claim we don't understand.

Father Mother God, release us from our fears
and failures to trust your love and live with bold generosity.

***SILENT CONFESSION**

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Siblings in Christ, there is good news for all,
God is love.

When we love one another,
God's love is perfected in us.

Know that we are forgiven,
and freed to try again.

***RESPONSE**

"Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks" | *ALLELUIA NO. 1*



Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the ris-en Lord. Al-le -
lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia! Give praise to his name.

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



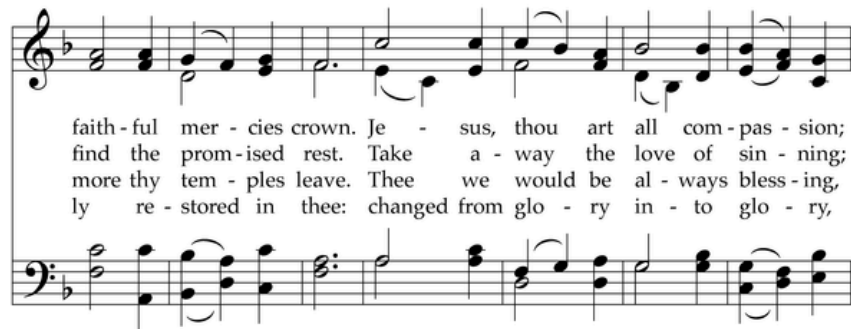
366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



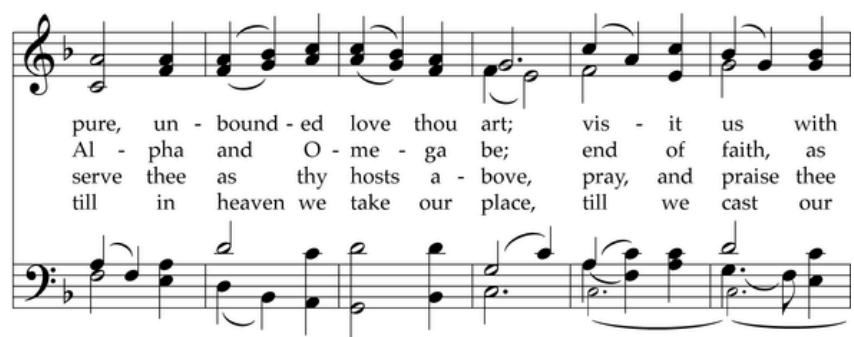
1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to
 2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less



earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;
 find the prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

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

FIRST LESSON | HISTORY

Acts 8: 26-40 (p. 127)

SECOND LESSON | PSALMS

Psalms 22: 23-31 | Hal Hopson (b. 1933)



Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord. Praise the name of the Lord.

THIRD LESSON | EPISTLE

I John 4: 7-21 (p. 241)

SERMON

"What is to Prevent Me?" | Brian Shivers

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



WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

SOLO

"For Everyone Born" | *Brian Mann, arr. Tom Trenney; Katie Ray (Soprano)*

For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overhead.

Refrain:
and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!

For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
for young and for old, the right to belong. (Refrain)

For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free! (Refrain)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your 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.

OFFERING

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

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



OFFERTORY

"If Ye Love Me" | *Philip Wilby (b. 1949)*

If ye love me, keep my commandments,
and I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter,
That he may abide with you forever.
E'en the Spirit of Truth.

And ye know Him, for he dwelleth with you,
and shall be in you.
I will not leave you comfortless.
I will come to you.

*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. 316

"Where Charity and Love Prevail" | *TWENTY-FOURTH*

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

Friends, God's love is with us every moment of every day.
Take time to express gratitude for God's love.

We seek to live as people who know God.

We dare to love others because we are loved.

Equipped and empowered by love,
God fills our lives with purpose and energy.

Because God first loved us,
we go out to serve as apostles of Jesus Christ,
empowered by the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE

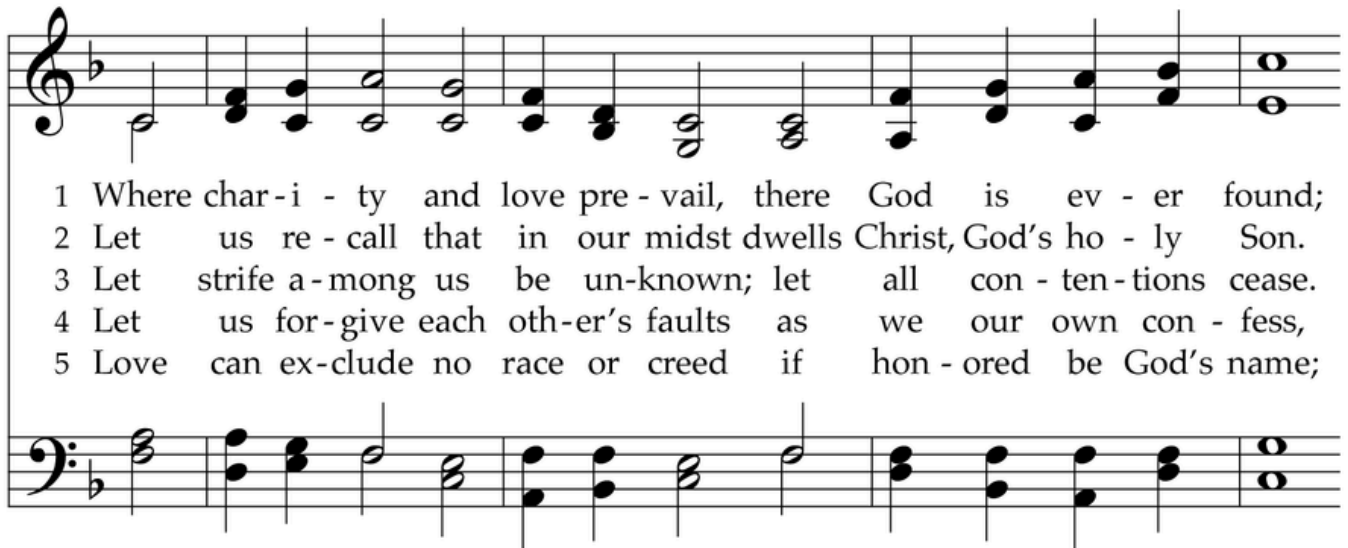
"The Lord Bless You and Keep You" | *Peter Lukin (1858-1931)*

The Lord bless you and keep you,
the Lord lift his countenance upon you; and give you peace,
the Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious unto you. Amen.

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



Where Charity and Love Prevail 316



1 Where char-i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son.
3 Let strife a-mong us be un-known; let all con - ten-tions cease.
4 Let us for-give each oth-er's faults as we our own con - fess,
5 Love can ex-clude no race or creed if hon - ored be God's name;



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
As mem-bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris-tian gen - tle - ness.
our com-mon life em - brac - es all whose Mak - er is the same.

This English paraphrase is based on a longer Latin hymn traditionally associated with the footwashing ritual on Maundy Thursday, an enactment of Christ's "new commandment" that we should love one another (John 13:34). For a chant setting of the first line of the hymn see no. 205.

IN WORSHIP

Today's offertory was written by British composer Philip Wilby. Wilby (born 1949) has written many different styles of music including works for concerts, church, and television. The piece opens quietly as the sopranos state the main textual idea, "If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever. The other voices enter, building with organ at "e'en the Spirit of Truth." After a brief organ interlude, the choir sings in unison at "And ye know Him, for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless," before tapering off with the quiet "Amen."

TODAY'S LEADERS

Brian Shivers, *Pastor*
Clarice Stegall, *Organist*
John Wright, *Director of Music Ministries*
Karen Herbst-Kim, *Pastor*
Krista Wright, *Pianist*
Chancel Choir
Katie Ray, *Soprano*

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Events and Announcements

"Free to Believe" Adult Education | May 1st | 6:00 pm

Don Knebel's Adult Education class finishes this Wednesday! For week four, we will look at the development of current ideas of religious freedom in the United States. You're invited to join in person or on Zoom! Scan the QR code to learn more.



Spring Clean-Up | May 4th | 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Join us for our Spring Clean-Up Day on Saturday, May 4th! Tasks include gardening, power washing, painting, repairs, and more. Coffee and pastries will be provided and you can contact Craig Hittle or Blaine Dinwiddie with questions!



Deacon's Plant Sale Pick-Up | May 4th | 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Don't forget that if you ordered plants, pick-up will be on Saturday, May 4th at Northminster. Orders not picked up on May 4th will be moved into the Gathering Place for pick-up on May 5th and a limited selection will also be available for purchase.

Lemonade & Coffee for Gleaner's | May 4th | 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Purchase a cup of lemonade or coffee on Saturday, May 4th to support Norah Ellington's community project on poverty in schools. All profits will go to support Gleaner's Food Bank!

Confirmation, Youth Sunday, and Graduate Recognition | May 5th | 10:00 am

Join us as we celebrate graduates and 2024 confirmands, and let our youth lead the worship service. We'll also have a cookout/pool party from 5:30 - 8:00 to celebrate! Youth, parents, and siblings are welcome. Contact Emma Longo for more info.

Sound & Spirit: Blue Highway | May 10th | 7:00 pm

Celebrating 30 years of touring and winners of 32 IBMA awards and 3 Grammy nominations, Blue Highway brings their award-winning sound to Northminster on May 10th. Admission is free!



New Member Class | May 19th | 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.



Northminster Housing Advocates Meeting | May 19th | 11:15 am - 12:15 pm

Members acting as Court Watchers will meet on the 3rd Sunday of the month after worship to discuss their court experiences. Please contact Susan Holewinski for more information.

Pyoca Summer Camps | June & July

Camp registration is still open for Pyoca summer camps! Multiple summer camp sessions are available in June and July and are designed for different age groups and interests. Scan the QR code or visit our website to learn more.



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

Alexis Gonzales
*Church Operations
Administrator*

Timothy Foster
*Director of
Communications*

Shiloh O'Rourke
Director of Preschool

Emma Longo
*Youth Ministry
Coordinator*

Melissa Hopkins
*Director of Children's
Ministry*

Denise Harrington
*Director of Senior
Ministries*

Tim McElroy
Lead Custodian

Michael de las Alas
Custodian

Jonathan McGee
Custodian

Tony Dzwonar
*Stephen Ministry
Leader*

Rod Mail
*Stephen Ministry
Leader*

Teri Thomas
Pastor Emerita

Donald R. Durrett
*Associate Pastor
Emeritus*

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

Connect with us!

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 northminster-indy.org

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

