



# NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

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*Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost | September 29, 2024, 10:00 am*

### WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

#### WELCOME

#### PRELUDE

"A Mighty Fortress is Our God" Op. 79b | *Max Reger (1873-1916)*

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

If it had not been for God, who was on our side,  
we would have fallen prey to those who want to harm us;  
we would have been swept away by sadness and fear.

**Blessed be the Lord, our protector!**

God has broken the snare that took away our freedom.  
Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
who made heaven and earth.

**Blessed be God's holy name.**

#### \*HYMN NO. 330

"Our Help Is in the Name of God the Lord" | *OLD 124TH*

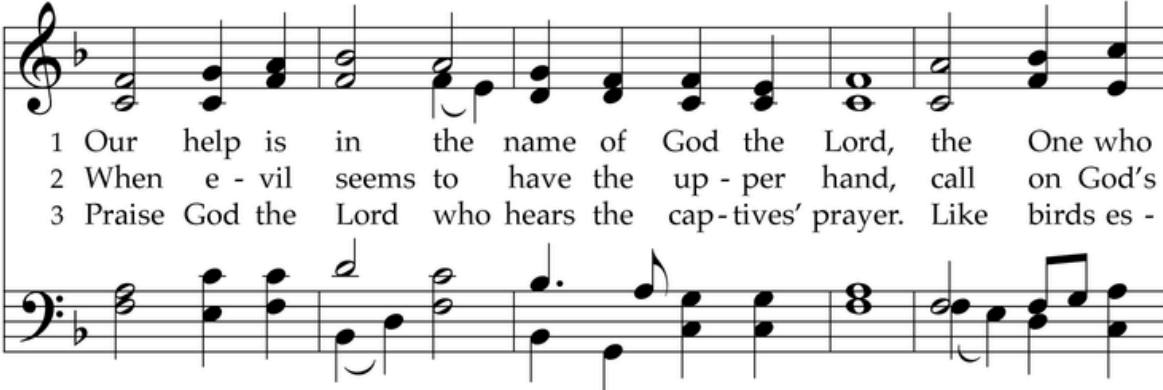
#### \*CALL TO CONFESSION

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

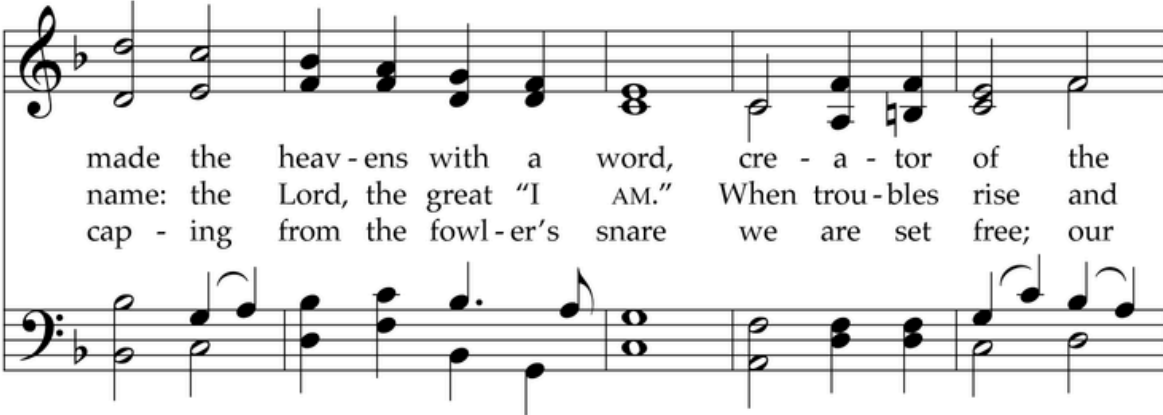


# Our Help Is in the Name of God 330

(Psalm 124)




1 Our help is in the name of God the Lord, the One who  
2 When e - vil seems to have the up - per hand, call on God's  
3 Praise God the Lord who hears the cap - tives' prayer. Like birds es -



made the heav - ens with a word, cre - a - tor of the  
name: the Lord, the great "I AM." When trou - bles rise and  
cap - ing from the fowl - er's snare we are set free; our



world, each liv - ing thing. Come, bless the Lord, lift up your  
all a - round gives way, re - mem - ber God stays with us  
prais - es now as - cend: "Blessed be the Lord: Cre - a - tor,



hearts and sing: "Our help is in the name of God the Lord."  
night and day. Our help is in the name of God the Lord.  
Sav - ior, Friend. Our help is in the name of God the Lord."

As a means of fostering the continuity of Reformed tradition, this paraphrase of Psalm 124 has been created to fit the tune that was used for the French paraphrase of Psalm 124 in the 1551 Genevan Psalter. The early psalters in English generally avoided such longer poetic forms.

## **\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful God,  
in your gracious presence  
we confess our sin and the sin of the world.  
Although Christ is among us as our peace,  
we are a people divided against ourselves  
as we cling to the values of a broken world.  
The profit and pleasures we pursue  
lay waste the land and pollute the seas.  
The fears and jealousies that we harbor  
set neighbor against neighbor  
and nation against nation.

We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom,  
of intellect and reason,  
and have turned them into bonds of oppression.

Lord, have mercy upon us;  
heal and forgive us.  
Set us free to serve you in the world  
as agents of your love in Jesus Christ.

## **\*SILENT CONFESSION**

## **\*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

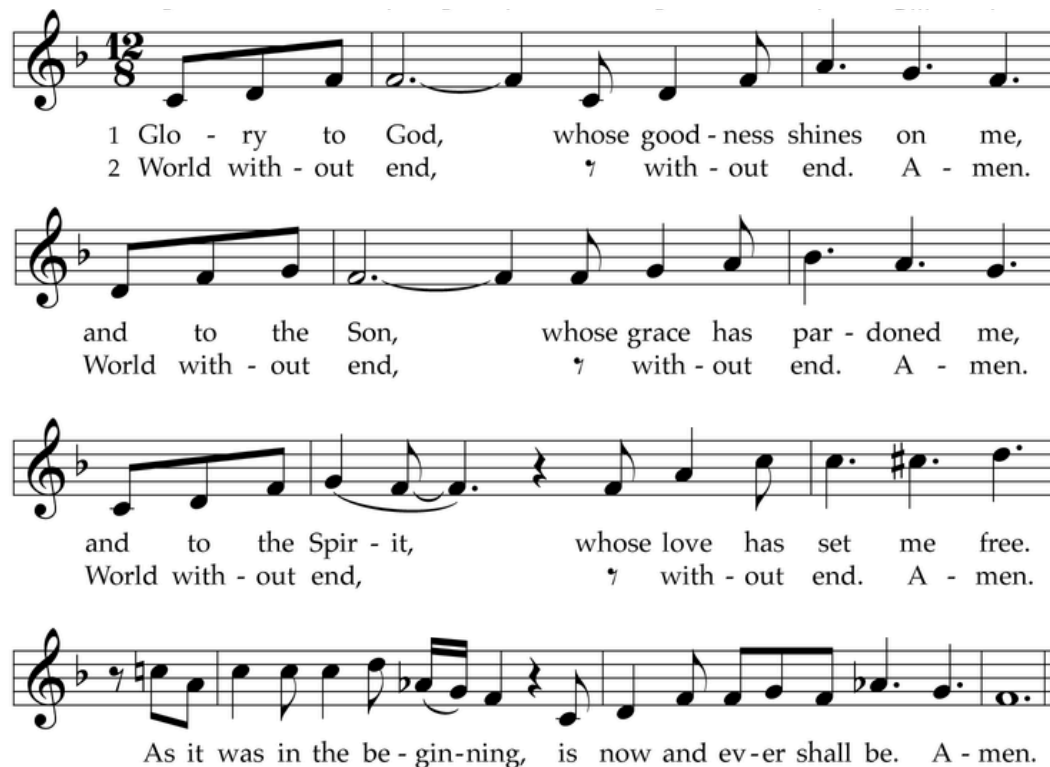
Friends, the snares that entrap us are broken.  
Our help is in the name of God, who made heaven and earth.  
Know that we are forgiven and freed.  
Praise God, who is transforming us even now.

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



## \*RESPONSE

"Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me" | GLORY TO GOD



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.

## 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*

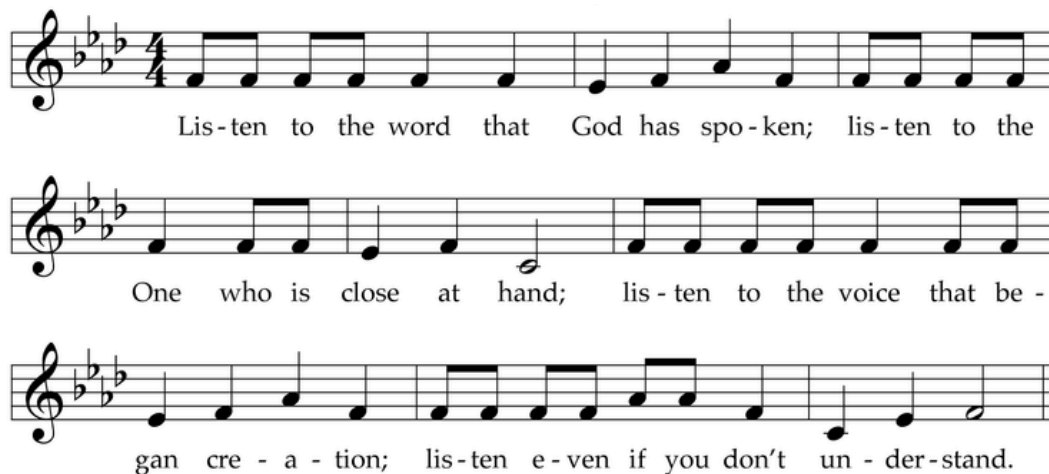
*\*For those who are able, please stand.*



## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

"Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken" | *LISTEN*

*(Soloist sings first time, All sing second time)*



## FIRST LESSON | PSALMS

Psalms 124 | *Ancient Plainsong*



## SECOND LESSON | PROPHETS

Esther 7: 1-6, 9-10, 9: 20-22 (p. 448, 450)

## SERMON

"An Unlikely Tale" | *Brian Shivers*

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### \*HYMN NO. 201

"A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar" | *HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING*

## CALL TO PRAYER

"Hear My Prayer" | *Moses Hogan (1957-2003)*

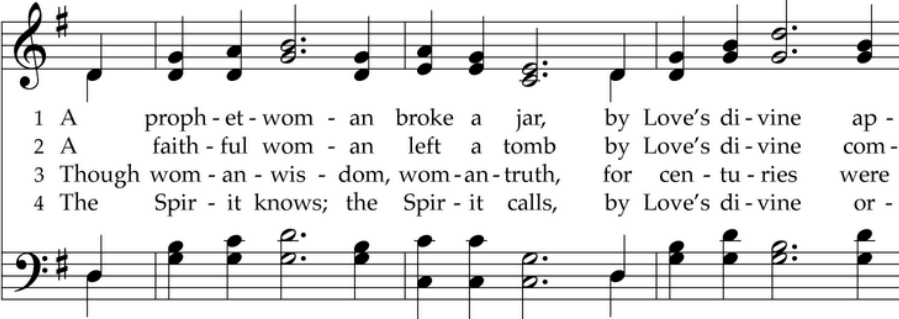
O Lord, please hear my prayer, in the mornin' when I rise.  
It's your servant bound for glory, O dear Lord, please hear my prayer.  
O Lord, please hear my prayer, keep me safe within your arms.  
It's your servant bound for glory, O dear Lord, please hear my prayer.

When my work on earth is done, and you come to take me home.  
Just to know I'm bound for glory, and to hear you say well done.  
Done with sin and sorrow, have mercy, Amen.

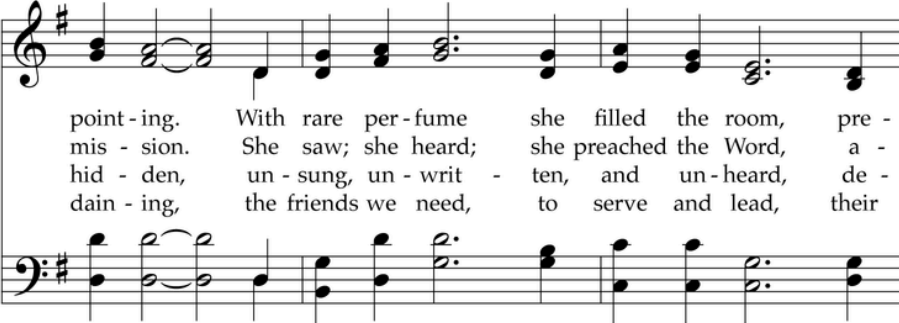
*\*For those who are able, please stand.*



# 201 A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar



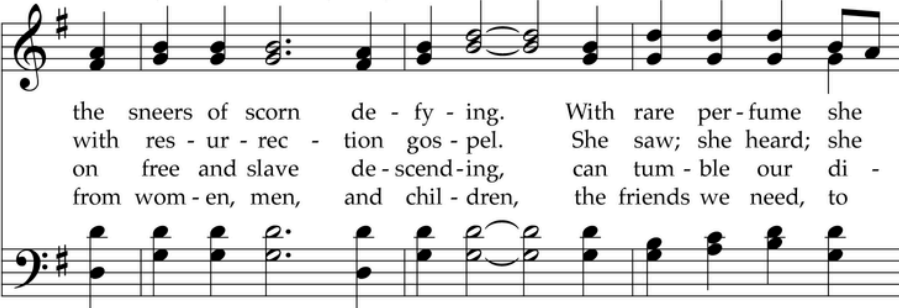
1 A proph-et - wom - an broke a jar, by Love's di - vine ap -  
 2 A faith - ful wom - an left a tomb, by Love's di - vine com -  
 3 Though wom - an - wis - dom, wom-an-truth, for cen - tu - ries were  
 4 The Spir - it knows; the Spir - it calls, by Love's di - vine or -



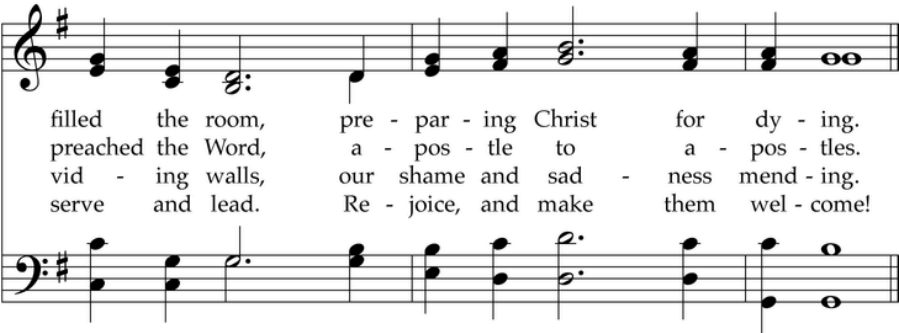
point - ing. With rare per - fume she filled the room, pre -  
 mis - sion. She saw; she heard; she preached the Word, a -  
 hid - den, un - sung, un - writ - ten, and un - heard, de -  
 dain - ing, the friends we need, to serve and lead, their



sid - ing and a - noint-ing. A proph-et - wom - an broke a jar,  
 ris - ing from sub - mis - sion. A faith - ful wom - an left a tomb,  
 rid - ed and for - bid - den, the Spir - it's breath, the Spir - it's fire,  
 powers and gifts un - chain-ing. The Spir - it knows; the Spir - it calls,



the sneers of scorn de - fy - ing. With rare per - fume she  
 with res - ur - rec - tion gos - pel. She saw; she heard; she  
 on free and slave de - scend-ing, can tum - ble our di -  
 from wom - en, men, and chil - dren, the friends we need, to



filled the room, pre - par - ing Christ for dy - ing.  
 preached the Word, a - pos - tle to a - pos - tles.  
 vid - ing walls, our shame and sad - ness mend - ing.  
 serve and lead. Re - joice, and make them wel - come!

This text seeks to reverse the neglected witness of biblical women by celebrating the woman who washed Jesus' feet (unnamed in Matthew 26:6-13/Mark 14:3-9/Luke 7:36-50; Mary of Bethany in John 12:1-8) and Mary Magdalene (John 20:1-18; Matthew 28:1-10/Mark 16:1-7/Luke 24:10).

## 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.

### OFFERING

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

### OFFERTORY

"Quid Retribuam Domino" | Guy de Lioncourt (1885-1961)

Quid retribuam Domino,  
pro omnibus quae retribuit mihi?  
Calicem salutaris accipiam,  
Et nomen Domini invocabo.  
Quid retribuam Domino,  
pro omnibus quae retribuit mihi?  
Dirupisti vincula mea,  
tibi sacrificabo hostiam laudis,  
et nomen Domini invocabo.

*What reward shall I give unto the Lord,  
for all the benefits that he hath done unto me?  
I will receive the cup of salvation,  
and call upon the name of the Lord.  
What reward shall I give unto the Lord,  
for all the benefits that he hath done unto me?  
Thou hast broken my bonds in sunder,  
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving,  
and will call upon the name of the Lord.*

### \*DOXOLOGY

Psalm 116: 1-11, 15

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. 275

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" | *EIN FESTE BURG*

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



# 275 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul-wark nev - er  
 2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be  
 3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -  
 4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -

fail - ing. Our help - er he, a - mid the flood of  
 los - ing, were not the right man on our side, the  
 do us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his  
 bid - eth. The Spir - it and the gifts are ours through

mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe doth  
 man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ  
 truth to tri - umph through us. The Prince of Dark - ness grim, we  
 him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, this

seek to work us woe. His craft and power are great, and  
 Je - sus, it is he. Lord Sab - a - oth his name, from  
 trem - ble not for him. His rage we can en - dure, for  
 mor - tal life al - so. The bod - y they may kill; God's

armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.  
 age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.  
 lo, his doom is sure. One lit - tle word shall fell him.  
 truth a - bid - eth still. His king - dom is for - ev - er.

Long before Isaac Watts began to Christianize the Psalms, Martin Luther had already done so when he created the text and tune for this, his most famous hymn, which is based on Psalm 46. Luther encouraged metrical versions of psalms as well as chanted psalms and new hymns.



## \*BLESSING AND CHARGE

May God, who is our strength,  
help us celebrate the freedom we have received.

Siblings in Christ, the God who called you to this place of worship  
sends you out to proclaim the Good News  
to your small corner of the world.

Go in hope,  
**for God goes before us.**

Go in joy,  
**for God is our companion.**

Go with courage,  
**for God believes in us.**

Go in peace,  
**for God's peace will keep us eternally secure.**

## CHORAL RESPONSE

*From How Can I Keep from Singing | American Folk, arr. Jeffrey Honoré (b. 1956)*

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing;  
All things are mine since I am his; how can I keep from singing?  
No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Lord is Lord of heaven on earth, how can I keep from singing?

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



## IN WORSHIP

Today's Psalm 124 is sung twice – first by all worshippers as the first hymn, No. 330 "Our Help is in the Name of the Lord," and secondly, by cantors during the Psalm. Psalm 124 is a corporate statement of trust in God in light of God's past deliverance. It is a confession that it is God alone who saves, not human strength. Its phrasing anticipates the rhetorical question in Romans 8: 31: "If God is for us, who can be against us?" Although the theme of the hymn version remains the same as that of the biblical psalm, the perspective is slightly different. The original psalm is a song of thanksgiving for deliverance, while the hymn version is a celebration of the assurance of deliverance.

This morning's Offertory, "Quid retribuam Domino," was written by the French composer and teacher Guy de Lioncourt (1885-1961). Lioncourt studied at Schola Cantorum de Paris, where he became professor of counterpoint in 1914. He helped found and then later served as director of the Cesar Franck School in 1935. Lioncourt composed a large body of liturgical works, placing high value on plainsong. A calm and serene setting of a portion of Psalm 116, "Quid retribuam Domino" is a sacred motet for two treble voices and organ. Only 46 measures in length, the piece is in four sections, alternating between unison and canonic voices.

## TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Brian Shivers | *Pastor*  
Marko Petričić | *Organ*  
Karen Herbst-Kim | *Pastor*  
Jonathan Shinn & Doug Johnson | *Cantors*  
Chancel Choir

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



# Events and Announcements

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## **"Amaizing" Lunch | Today | 11:15 am - 12:30 pm**

Join us today following worship for the "Amaizing" Lunch! Enjoy freshly made soup, hear about the Umoja Partnership, and learn how Northminster supports students in Kenya. You might even be inspired to join the 2025 trip! Volunteers are also needed!



## **2025 Kenya Trip with Umoja | Deposits Due Today**

A mission trip to Kenya is planned for June 6-20, 2025! The total cost is \$4000-\$5000 and a \$1,000 deposit to hold your spot is due today. Scholarships are available. Please contact Karen Herbst-Kim for more information.

## **October Mission Collection | Now Through October**

The Little Timmy Project and the Raphael Health Center, have a need for diapers of all sizes. You can donate new packs of diapers in various sizes to the yellow bin in The Gathering Place throughout October!

## **Confronting Christian Nationalism with Rev. Beau Underwood | Oct. 2nd | 6:00 pm**

Evangelicals are often blamed for this dangerous ideology. However, mainline and progressive Christians are more complicit than they may realize. Rev. Beau Underwood will explore why that's true and what can be done about it.



## **Bread for the World "Nourish Our Future" | Oct. 3rd | 6:30 pm**

Hosted at Light of the World Christian Church (Michigan Rd.), the "Nourish Our Future" event will seek to secure Senator Young's commitment to the Child Tax Credit (CTC) and educate attendees about its importance. Scan the QR code to learn more!



## **Bread Bakers & Chalice Collectors | Oct. 6th**

If you are interested in baking bread or lending chalices of all types for World Communion Sunday on October 6th, please contact Anne Kenley to learn more! Additional details and contact information can be found by scanning the QR code.



## **Christian Nationalism: Un-American and Un-Christian | Oct. 6th | 11:15 am - 12:15 pm**

Northminster member Don Knebel, J.D. will examine the religious beliefs and actions of our Founders, the text and context of our founding documents, the articulated beliefs of Christian nationalists, and the effect of Christian nationalism on Christianity.



## **CROP Hunger Walk | Oct. 6th | 2:00 pm**

Join us in helping to end hunger! The Mission Team will donate \$50 for every registrant of the Northminster team for the event (up to \$2000) and we invite anyone who participates to donate what they can as well! Learn more by using the QR code.



## **Free Devotional Books**

Every other month for almost 30 years, Pat Freije and her family have provided free devotionals for Northminster. Look for the *Today* booklets on the welcome table and in various places throughout the church and feel free to take one or more!

*Additional events and information can be found on our website at [northminster.church/events](https://northminster.church/events)*

# NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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*Christ-Centered | Grounded in the Word | Relevant | Inclusive | Nurturing | Serving*

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**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*

**Melissa Hopkins**  
*Director of Children's Ministry*

**Timothy Foster**  
*Director of Communications*

**Shiloh O'Rourke**  
*Director of Preschool*

**Emma Moore**  
*Operations Administrator &  
Youth Ministry Coordinator*

**Lorna Johnson**  
*Bookkeeper*

**Denise Harrington**  
*Director of Senior Ministries*

**Krista Wright**  
*Spiritual Wholeness and  
Wellness Coordinator*

**Elisabeth Kleinsmith**  
*Family Engagement  
Coordinator*

**Tim McElroy**  
*Lead Custodian*

**Jonathan McGee**  
*Custodian*

**Nate Boak**  
*Custodian*

**Donald R. Durrett**  
*Associate Pastor Emeritus*

**Teri Thomas**  
*Pastor Emerita*

**Tony Dzwonar**  
*Stephen Ministry Leader*

**Rod Mail**  
*Stephen Ministry Leader*

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## 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](http://northminster.church/newsletter)


## Prayer Lists


The prayer list is available 24/7 online! Visit [northminster.church/prayer](http://northminster.church/prayer)

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# Connect with us!

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 [northminster-indy.org](http://northminster-indy.org)

(317) 251-9489   [office@northminster-indy.org](mailto:office@northminster-indy.org)   9am - 3pm (M-Th) | Closed Friday

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