

SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARCH 5, 2017

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

WALKING IN HIS WAYS



GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME

As the welcome pads are passed down your aisle, please help us to celebrate your worshipping with us today by signing the register.

PRELUDE

The Origin of Life
(Hildegard Organ Cycle)

Frank Ferko

An Invitation as You Prepare for Worship

"The dust that shapes the journey, the cross that guides it, the color that surrounds it, the light that fades through it, the word that foretells it, the wilderness that invites it. This is Lent, and into its wilderness God calls us. Come, one and all, Christ is heading for Jerusalem."

Roddy Hamilton, Church of Scotland

INTROIT

Bell Processional

*CALL TO WORSHIP

God of all the nations,

Be with each one of us, be with all of us,

Be with us as growth, creativity and healing, as light and wisdom.

Spirit of the living God, live within our community,

Today's cover art is panel 12 of the Good Samaritan Window from Chartres Cathedral. The window is only a few years shy of 800 years old.

Today's Prelude was inspired by the "God in Nature"-centered writings of Hildegard of Bingen, which included many references to water and greenery. God as creator and replenisher of the earth are central to this cycle. The note clusters you will hear are set to her "O Mighty Father" text.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OUR WORSHIPFUL WORK

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Call to Offering

Offertory

Meditation and Praise

Hart Morris

Adult Bell Choir

*Response

Doxology

Purple, No. 607

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hurting, they came to You; healed, they followed You. Grateful, they gave to You what they had and who they were. Hurting, we come to You; healed, we will follow You. Grateful, we give to You what we have and who we are. Blessed, we would be a blessing and would go into all the world in Your name. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*HYMN *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart* Purple, No. 523, vss. 1-3

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Friends, the Spirit of God gives life to the world!

Life that never ends!

Here and now Christ feeds the world.

Plenty for all, enough for today.

Come to the table of justice and joy.

No one will be turned away.

None in need will go wanting.

Let praise go up to God our Life!

From every creature on God's good earth.

How right it is to praise you, gracious God,....

That he breathed on us the peace of God.

We remember that he called us friends. He taught us to love each other as he loved us.

We remember that he feasted with the poor and rich, with strangers and friends. To eat with him was to taste how good you are.

Come, Holy Spirit, bless this bread that the earth has given and our hands have made. May it be for all the Bread of Life! Bless this cup, fruit of the vine and work of our hands. May it be for all the Cup of Peace!

Sometimes called "Gift of Finest Wheat," the piece serving as both our communion hymn and prayer after communion today was written for the 41st International Eucharistic Congress in 1976. It was first published in Chicago three years later. Omer Westendorf, a Catholic, who wrote the words, said he was inspired by hearing Dutch Reformed hymns while stationed there in World War II. His texts on communion are very popular today in many different denominations.

Today's communion liturgy is modified from one developed for the annual gathering of The Well, Pastor Michael's clergy group that meets annually to present papers and sermons on preaching texts for the coming year. In 2017, the group will meet in Richmond, Virginia in late April.

Today, as a sign that God comes to us where we are, in the midst of life, we receive communion at our seats. Remembering that we are each loved for our unique selves, when the bread comes, you are invited to eat it individually.

Remembering too, that we are part of a larger community of believers, we hold the cup until all have received and then drink together.

If you leave during the Postlude, please show respect for those who remain in their seats to listen. Thanks!

THE LORD'S PRAYER (using "debts" and "debtors")

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

RECEPTION OF THE ELEMENTS

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Purple, No. 523, vss. 4 & 5

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

HYMN

I Will Come to You

Purple, No. 177

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

Response

POSTLUDE

Allegro Maestoso

Felix Mendelssohn

*The Chancel Flowers are given to the Glory of God by
Leslie and Paul Lehner in memory of their parents,
Robert and Marie Henkel, and Paul and Lillian Lehner.*

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Preaching—Rev. Michael D. Kirby

Liturgist—Rev. Jessica Gregory

A Time with the Children—Alex DeMarco, Director of Youth Ministry

Musicians—Dr. Christopher Owen, Paul Vander Weele,
Northminster Chancel Choir, Adult Bell Choir

Choral Soloists—Johanna Moffitt, soprano; Jackie King, alto;
Dennis Kalup, tenor; Steve Uliana, bass

Ushers—Pat Drinkwine, Kent Geibel, Ryan Gregory, Dennis Trautvetter

Acolytes—Claire Smith & Maddie Sitz

Our Northminster Family at Work

PROGRAM AND WORSHIP STAFF

Rev. Michael D. Kirby—*Senior Pastor & Head of Staff*

Rev. Jessica Gregory—*Associate Pastor*

Rev. Ann Ohlrogge Johnson—*Parish Associate*

Dr. Christopher Owen—*Director of Music*

Paul Vander Weele—*Organist*

Kate Lee—*Director of Youth Music*

Margaret Parcell—*Director of Northminster Nursery School*

Meredith Rogowski—*Director of Children's Ministry*

Alex DeMarco—*Director of Youth Ministry*

Gina DiBenedetto—*Director of Mom's Morning Out*

Ami Bauman—*Coordinator of Mom's Morning Out*

Lisa Martinez—*Sunday Nursery Supervisor*

Claudiette Voltaire—*Sunday Nursery Assistant*

ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT STAFF

Sharyn Wilson Woods—*Parish Administrator*

Mike Jin—*Financial Secretary*

Davit Hovakimyan—*Facilities Manager*

Alex Villegas—*Sunday Sexton*

CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Greg Boyer—*Clerk of Session*

Tom Buess—*Moderator, Deacon Board*

Members of NPC—*Ministers*

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