

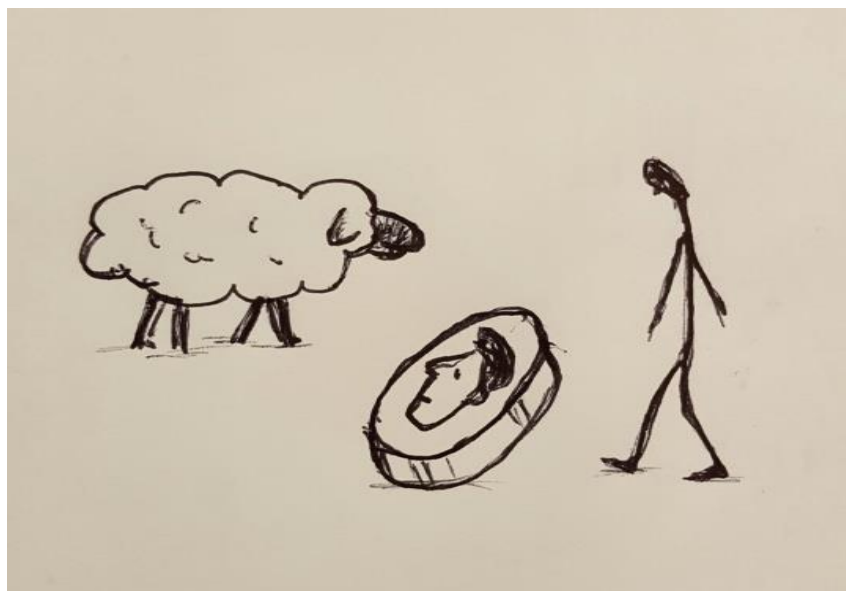
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARCH 19, 2017

THIRD 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

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Utterback

A Thought as You Prepare for Worship

"Human beings may separate things into as many piles as we wish—separating spirit from flesh, sacred from secular, church from world.

But we should not be surprised when God does not recognize the distinctions we make between the two." —Barbara Brown Taylor

INTROIT

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

*CALL TO WORSHIP

N. TOWNLEY

Come let us worship the forgiving, reconciling love of God.

***For once we were lost and felt so far away;
now we have been found and welcomed home.***

Know that God's love is lavished on you forever;

we rejoice at the news of forgiveness and hope!

Come let us celebrate and praise the God of Love.

Amen!

The cover art is a line drawing illustrating today's scripture passage about the lost sheep, lost coin and lost son.

An asterisk indicates that you are invited to stand in body or in Spirit as you feel led and are able.*

*Please join in speaking or singing all words printed in **bold italics**.*

We traditionally use the "debts" and "debtors" form of the Lord's Prayer.

Our Acknowledging Our Need of Grace and Assurance Liturgy were written by Reverend Henrietta Stith Andrews in From Despair to Rejoicing: Service Prayers for the 17th Sunday after Pentecost.

*OPENING HYMN

Purple, No. 385

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

*OPENING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR NEED OF GRACE

Andrews

***O Most Patient God,
we recognize how much we need you for life itself.***

***But how often have we behaved
as if we did not know or even care about you?***

***How often have we become the ones who do not carry
out justice?***

***How often have we tried to dominate others
even as you stand with them?***

***How often have we participated in the desolation of
your creation by our treatment of the heavens, the earth
and its waters?***

Forgive us for these times when we have lost our way.

***All Loving God, we acknowledge our need for your
deep, abiding grace. We want to be among those whom
you seek.***

Shower your mercy upon us.

Find us, and lead us safely home to faithfulness. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF RESTORATION

My friends, when we are lost, all is not lost.
God is seeking us, ready to turn our lives around,
gathering us in to the people of God.

Let us rejoice in God's mercy! Amen

*RESPONSE

O God, You Are My God

Purple, No. 743

*SHARING THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you. ***And also with you.***

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

CHILDREN'S ANTHEM Elementary Sunday School Choir
The Lord Is My Shepherd

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

HYMN OF PREPARATION *Spirit of the Living God* Purple, No. 288

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Help bring us back to the beginning, God. Help us to hear in the scriptures the stories that open our eyes to who Jesus was; to who Jesus is; to who we are. Bring us back to the beginning, God—so that we might walk in his ways. In Christ's name, and in your love, we ask these things. Amen.

ANTHEM *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* Bairstow

SERMON READING Luke 15: 1-32 NT, pp. 78-79
This is the word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

SERMON *We Are Inseparable*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN *O Come unto the Lord* Purple, No. 416

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

RESPONSE *Shepherd Me, O God* Purple, No. 473 (3 Times)

OUR WORSHIPFUL WORK TOGETHER

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Call to Offering

Offertory *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* Thomson

*Response *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful* Purple, No. 654

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Creator God, you have given us talents for life and for serving you. We bring to you now the fruits of our labors. Bless what we give. Receive what we offer as a sign of our gratitude for all you give. Amen.

Today Northminster's children will be learning about The Prodigal Son as it is told in the Gospel of Luke.

Marty Haugen composed our Prayer Response, "Shepherd Me, O God." Although Marty was raised in the American Lutheran Church (ALC) in Minnesota, and writes contemporary hymns and liturgies for the Lutheran church, he is a member of the United Church of Christ. Despite being a non-Catholic, his music is well received in the both progressive Roman Catholic and Protestant congregations.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN *O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go* Purple, No. 833

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Amen*

POSTLUDE *Gaudeamus* Sidney Campbell

*The Chancel Flowers today are given to the Glory of God
by Lynd Corley and Family in memory of W. Gene Corley.*

*If you depart during the
postlude, please be
mindful of those still in
in worshipful
contemplation.*

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Preaching—Rev. Jessica Gregory

Liturgist—Rev. Michael D. Kirby

A Time with the Children—Pastor Michael

Musicians—Dr. Christopher Owen, Paul Vander Weele, the Chancel Choir,

Kate Lee, the Elementary Sunday School Choir

Choral Soloists—Johanna Moffitt tenor; Steve Uliana, bass

Ushers—Ben Buettell, Lee Knohl, John Morrison

Acolytes—Thomas & Ginevra Kellogg

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*

Claudinetta 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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