

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

## NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AUGUST 27, 2017

12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS



### 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

*Trumpet Tune*

Lully

#### *A Thought as You Prepare for Worship*

*"God made us for joy. God is joy, and our joy of living reflects the original joy that God felt in creating us." —John Paul II*

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

We thank you, loving God, for the vulnerable yet wonderful gift of life.

***To be alive and to know it is an unspeakable honor.***

We thank you, that from start to finish our life is precious in your sight.

***May we always praise you for it as we do in this hour.***

Let our worship be the beginning of our living gratefully in your will today.

***Amen.***

*Today's cover photo is a royalty-free internet stock image entitled "The Joys of Living" by an unknown photographer.*

*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**.*

\*HYMN

*Here in this Place (Gather Us In)*

Purple, No. 401

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

*Our confession sequence and our Call to Worship are both adapted from much longer prayers originally composed by the Rev. Bruce Prewer, retired pastor in the Uniting Church of Australia. Rev. Prewer is one of the most widely cited composers of liturgy in the global English-speaking church. This year marks the 62nd anniversary of Rev. Brewer's ordination.*

\*OPENING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR NEED OF GRACE

If we were self-sufficient, and had all the answers,  
***we would not be here, all-wise God.***

If our achievements matched our aims  
and if our deeds perfectly reflected our good intentions,  
***we would not be so spiritually hungry, God of truth and grace.***

If we had cared for our neighbors with the love of Jesus Christ,  
and cherished our loved ones without selfishness or impatience,  
***we would not be seeking your mercy, redeeming God.***

We bring to you our inept... and evil ways, and rest the troublesome load of frustration, disappointment, regret and guilt in your hands. Please wash the grime and infection from our wounds, and anoint us with the salve of forgiveness. Take us gently by the chin and lift up our faces so that we can look up into the face of Christ Jesus without shame or fear.

***In Christ, let us recover our authentic humanity and face all coming challenges with his quiet strength and optimism. In his name we pray. Amen!***

ASSURANCE OF RESTORATION

"Where sin abounds grace much more abounds."

***Let us receive grace and give thanks.***

Sisters and brothers, we are the richest of all, for we have the wealth of Christ's grace with us always.

***Let us live the lives we are given in joy, for in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!***

\*RESPONSE

*Change My Heart, O God*

Purple, No. 695

\*SHARING THE PEACE

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

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

*See Insert*

*Today in Sunday School, Northminster's children will be learning about Elijah and how God comforts us when we're discouraged from 1 Kings 19 and Luke 12:22-32.*

*Come and Find the Quiet Center*

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

***Open our hearts and minds, O God, by the power of your Holy Spirit, so that as the word is read and proclaimed, we may hear your message with joy and respond with conviction and hope. Amen.***

FIRST READINGS            Genesis 2:15-17                            OT, p. 2  
                                          Genesis 3:17-19                            OT, p. 3

SERMON READINGS        Psalm 39:4-7                            OT, p. 513  
                                          Luke 12:15b-21                            NT, p. 74

This is the word of the Lord.                            ***Thanks be to God.***

SERMON            *Let Us Know the Number of Our Days*

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\*HYMN                    *O God, We Bear the Imprint*            Purple, No. 759

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

RESPONSE        *Come and Fill Our Hearts*        2 times, Purple, No. 466  
                                  ***Come and fill our hearts with your peace.***  
                                  ***You alone, O Lord, are holy.***  
                                  ***Come and fill our hearts with your peace.***  
                                  ***Alleluia!***

## OUR WORSHIPFUL WORK TOGETHER

## WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Call to Offering

Offertory                    *My Spirit Be Joyful*                            J. S. Bach

\*Response                    *Sing Out, My Soul*                            Purple, No. 646

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

***Gracious God, accept these gifts which we offer in grateful response to the riches of your immeasurable love. Strengthen us with your Spirit to witness to that love in all we do and say, so that others may come to know you and experience your grace. Amen.***

*Today's Stump the Pastor question comes from Sunny Liston, a fairly recent newcomer to Northminster, who is currently recovering from July back surgery. Her question: "Why did God create the world in which people die?"*

*"Sing Out My Soul" is the English translation of a worship song originally written for the ecumenical Taizé worshipping community in France. The late Jacques Berthier wrote most of the well-known Taizé hymns when the community was made up of only 20 French and English monks who worshipped privately. Today, over 100 monks from 30 countries and over a dozen denominations share worship with thousands every year.*

## BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

\*HYMN *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* Purple, No. 12

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Trumpet Tune in D* David Johnson

*The Chancel Flowers today are given to the Glory of God  
by Laurie McFarlane and Steve Davies in thanksgiving for their parents.*

*If you depart during  
the postlude, please  
be aware that some  
remain in worshipful  
contemplation until it  
is complete.*

### TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

*Preaching*—Rev. Michael D. Kirby

*Liturgist*—Rev. Jessica C. Gregory

*A Time with the Children*—Pastor Jessica

*Organist*—Paul Vander Weele

*Trumpets*—Margaret & Channing Philbrick

*Ushers*—Linda Beckstedt, Bruce Eddy, Scott Kellogg, Tom Abendroth

*Acolytes*—Henry & Ashlyn Rogowski

## Our Northminster Family at Work

### PROGRAM AND WORSHIP STAFF

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

Rev. Jessica C. Gregory—*Associate Pastor*

Rev. Ann Ohlogge 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*

Carey Garrison—*Director of Mom's Morning Out*

Claudinetta Voltaire—*Mom's Morning Out Assistant/  
Sunday Nursery Assistant*

Lisa Martinez—*Sunday Nursery Supervisor*

### ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT STAFF

Sharyn Wilson Woods—*Parish Administrator*

Athina Sato—*Financial Secretary*

Davit Hovakimyan—*Facilities Manager*

Alex Villegas—*Sunday Sexton*

### CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Greg Boyer—*Clerk of Session*

Tom Buess—*Moderator of Deacons*

Members—*Ministers*

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