

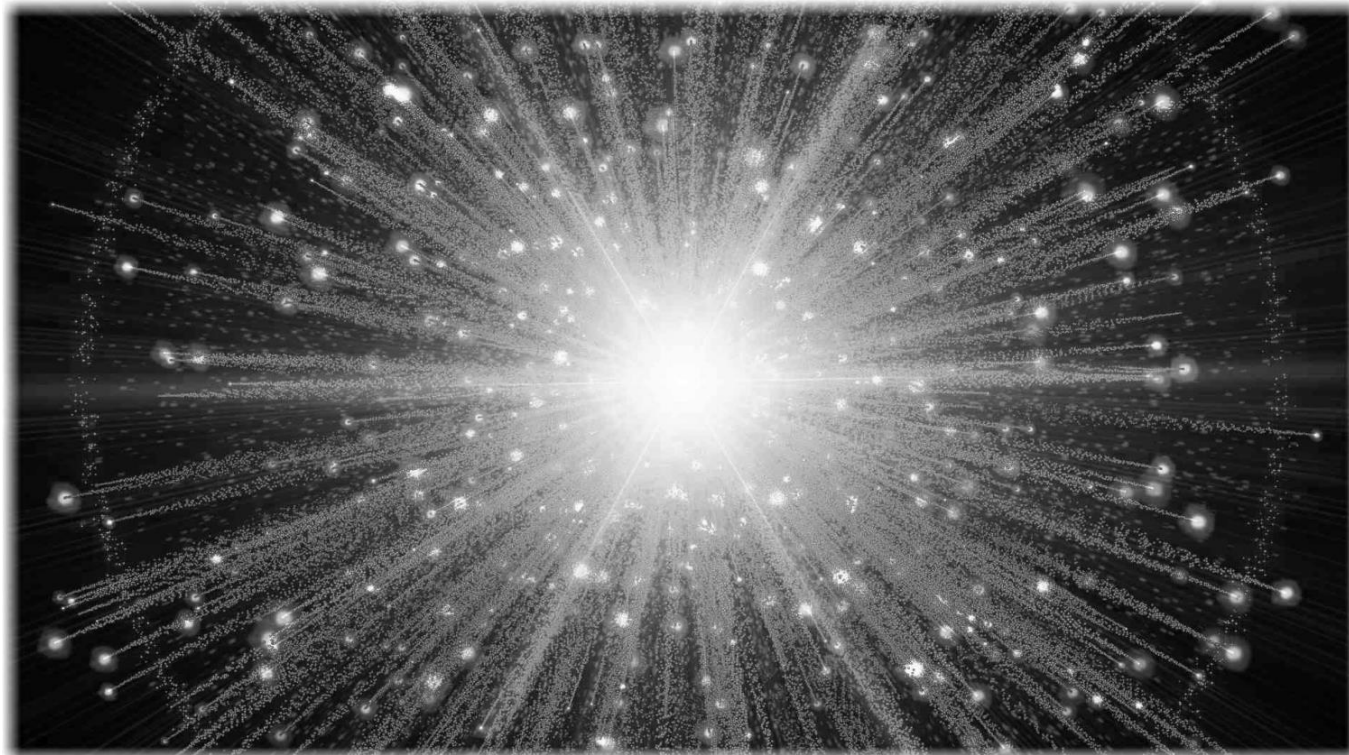
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

BANNER SUNDAY



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

Sarabande, Amazing Grace

John Kuzma

Today's cover photo is an unknown artist's graphic depiction of the instant after the first known moment of creation, also known as the Big Bang.

A Thought as You Prepare for Worship

*"Every universe, our own included, begins in conversation.
Every [creature] in the history of the world, ...was summoned into
existence through language, through murmuring, recital...*

— was, literally, talked into life."

*— Michael Chabon, **The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay***

INTROIT

O May Northminster, Loved and Blessed

H. Hemy

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**.

Today our Sunday School classes process under the banners of their classes to mark the beginning of the program year and the start of the new Sunday School year.

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

K. Hawker, alt.

Come with your questions, come with your awe!

For the God who broods over the chaos meets us in this place.

Come with your energy, come with your weariness!

For the God who breathes new life into the dust meets us in this place.

Come with your sadness, come with your joy!

For the God who dared to become human meets us in this place. Let us worship God.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Purple, No. 15

All Creatures of Our God and King

*OPENING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR NEED OF GRACE

Creator God, as we are made in Your image, we give You thanks for the seed of creativity You planted within each person. We praise the clean lines of the sculpture, the complexity of the concerto, the beauty of the poet's words. Forgive us, we pray, for those times we have squandered with aimless disregard our capacity to create, and for those times we have used our creativity as a force for destruction rather than reparation. Help us truly to live in appreciative awe of the creativity that You have planted within. Give us the patience and courage to nourish that creativity, and the strength and persistence to express it. In Your name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF RESTORATION

Whatever we can say about creation, we can say God prepared a way,

A way that keeps us connected to creation and our living God.

Likewise, in Christ we are created anew, able to persist, upright and strong, for our sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

*RESPONSE

Purple, No. 435, verse 1

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

*SHARING THE PEACE

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

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

HYMN OF PREPARATION *Jesus Loves Me!* Purple, No. 188

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 READING Genesis 1:1-25 OT, p. 1

ANTHEM *With a Voice of Singing* Matthew Shaw

SECOND READING Genesis 1:26-2:4a OT, pp. 1-2
This is the word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

SERMON *Taming the Chaos*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* Purple, No. 32

STATEMENT OF FAITH *Brief Statement* ¶ 3, Purple, pp. 37-38

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

RESPONSE *Rain Down* Purple, No. 48
***Rain down; rain down; rain down your love on your people.
Rain down; rain down; rain down your love, God of life.***

OUR WORSHIPFUL WORK TOGETHER

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Call to Offering

Offertory *I Will Sing with the Spirit* J. Rutter

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

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, accept all that we offer here in gratitude for your gracing love and for our many blessings. Empower us by your Spirit to bear witness to that love in all we do and say. Amen.

Today in Sunday School, Northminster's children will also be learning about the Genesis 1 creation narrative.

Today's sermon hymn was originally written in six shorter verses and set to another tune. Isaac Watts, the poet/hymnist who wrote the words, intended them to be sung by children as a part of Chatechesis, learning their faith. As such, it fits perfectly with the Narrative Lectionary's purpose in having the first creation narrative begin our journey through scripture this year.

Our closing hymn is one of the newest in our hymnal. The text is by Shirley Erena Murray, a New Zealand Presbyterian hymn-writer and poet.

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

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

* CLOSING HYMN *O Beauty Ever Ancient* Purple, No. 650

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CLOSING RESPONSE H. Hemy
O May Thy Living Word Be Spread

POSTLUDE *Slane* Charles Ore

*The Chancel Flowers today are given to the Glory of God
by the Phillips family in loving memory of Rev. and Mrs. Mark Kim.*

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Preaching—Rev. Michael D. Kirby

Liturgist—Rev. Jessica C. Gregory

A Time with the Children—Michael Whitney

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

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

Ushers—Tom Buess & Leslie Noble

Acolytes—Abby Perry & Anabelle Brown

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 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*

Lisa Martinez—*Sunday Nursery Supervisor*

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

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

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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