

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 9, 2016

21ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



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

Veni Creator Spiritus

Libby Larsen

A Prayer as You Prepare for Worship

Open our eyes that we may see the need of others; open our hearts so that they need not be without comfort and help.... Show us where love and hope and faith are needed, and use us to bring them to these places. **Alan Paton (1903-1988), South African, author, "Cry the Beloved Country."**

INTROIT

This Is the Day (Women's Choir)

Smith

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Tom Shuman, alt.

Day by day, God leads us:

***to the deep, deep pools of peace,
to the green, lush lawns of grace.***

Day by day, Jesus calls us:

***to pour out ourselves in service,
to anoint the stranger with hope.***

Today's cover photo is of "Charging Bull" in Bowling Green Park in the Manhattan Financial District. It was taken by Jan Cobb Photography Ltd.

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

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

Our opening hymn was nominated anonymously in our "Something Old, Something New" initiative.

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

Today in Sunday School, Northminster's children will be a bit ahead of us as they move through the Old Testament this fall. Today they learn about Deborah, from the Book of Judges.

Day by day, the Holy Spirit shows us:

***the community we could be,
the family we are called to become.
Let us worship God!***

*OPENING HYMN *When Morning Guilds the Skies Purple*, No. 667

*OPENING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR NEED OF GRACE

H. Holznagle, alt.

***God of mercy, in our impatience for answers,
we sometimes turn to idols of our own making
and forget our covenant with you.
Passionate for what is right,
we "other" and reject those with whom we differ.
Pleased at the invitation to your banquet,
we fail to arrive with humility and thanksgiving.
Forgive us when our faith is weak and our zeal too strong.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.***

ASSURANCE OF RESTORATION

Do not worry; the Lord is near.

***God hears our prayers with compassion
and with abundant, steadfast love.***

Rejoice, for in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

*RESPONSE

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Purple, No. 591

*SHARING THE PEACE

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

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

PREPARATION *Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet* Purple, No. 458

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

***Un-stop our ears, O God of wisdom and truth,
that we may hear your Word proclaimed this day.
Teach us, Lord, so that we may follow you more faithfully
and live more joyfully now and all our days. Amen.***

ANTHEM *Amazing Grace* (Women's Choir) Craig Courtney

SERMON READING Exodus 32:1-14 OT, p. 78

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

SERMON *The Story of Our Life*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

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

STATEMENT OF FAITH *from the Confession of 1967*

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom and goodness. But God reveals Divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful people. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love. God has created the world of space and time to be the sphere of Divine dealings with humankind. In its beauty and vastness, sublimity and awfulness, order and disorder, the world reflects to the eye of faith the majesty and mystery of its Creator.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

SHARING OUR LIFE AND MINISTRY

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Call to Offering

Offertory *Ain'a That Good News* Kevin McChesney
Adult Bell Choir

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

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Generous God, giver of every good and perfect gift, teach us to offer to you all that we have and all that we are, that we may praise you with our whole lives. Take us and our offerings this day and from all, bring your peace, your joy, your love to a world in great need. In gratitude and hope, through Christ we pray. Amen.

Today's Sermon Hymn was nominated by Alice Foote and Mary Sheppard in our "Something Old, Something New" initiative.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

Our closing hymn was nominated by one person anonymously.

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

*CLOSING HYMN *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* Purple, No. 39

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CLOSING RESPONSE *Amen*

POSTLUDE *Komm, Gott, Schöpfer, Heiliger Geist* J.S. Bach

The Chancel Flowers today are given to the Glory of God by Elizabeth, Jeff, Brian & Molly Sedin and Darlene Tennerstedt in memory of Dick Tennerstedt.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Preaching—Rev. Michael D. Kirby

Liturgist—Rev. Jessica Gregory

A Time with the Children—Pastor Jessica

Musicians—Dr. Christopher Owen, Paul Vander Weele,
Northminster Women's Choir and Adult Bell Choir

Choral Soloists—Sarah Schroeder, soprano; Jackie King, alto;
Dennis Kalup, tenor; Steve Uliana, bass

Ushers—Barbara & Bob Janes, Tom Buess

Acolytes—Abby Perry & Valerie Larsen

Greeters—Cindy Clark & Bob Regan and The Wooldridge Family –
Gretchen, Michael, Merritt & Calvin

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*

Dr. Sarah Bartolome—*Interim Director of Youth Music*

Margaret Parcell—*Director of Northminster Nursery School*

Meredith Rogowski—*Director of Children's Ministry*

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

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

Lisa Martinez—*Sunday Nursery Supervisor*

Claudinette 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*

Jim Kirk—*Moderator, Deacon Board*

Members of NPC—*Ministers*

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