

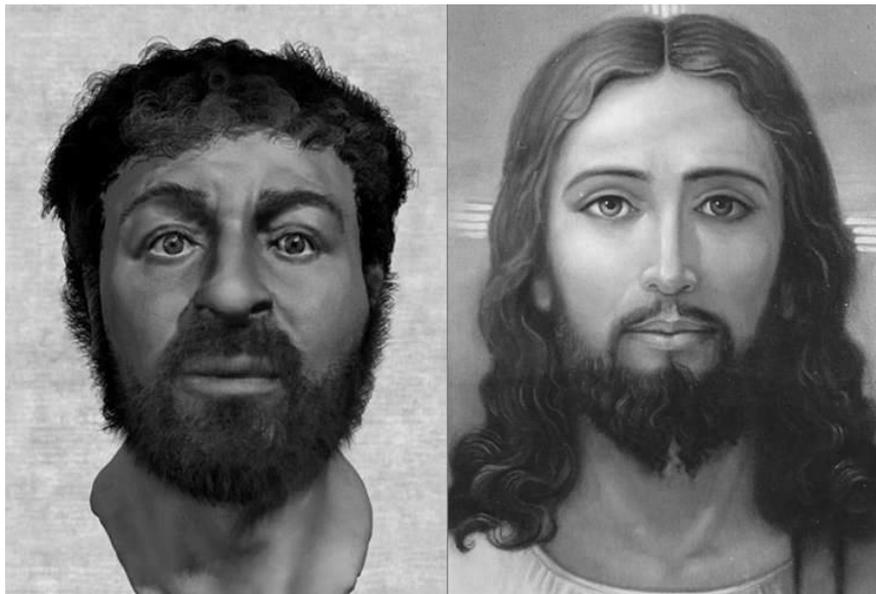
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AUGUST 26, 2018

14TH 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

Prelude to the Kyrie

Jean Langlais

A Thought as You Prepare for Worship

Believing in [Jesus] is not the same as believing things about him...Instead, it is a matter of giving our hearts to him, of come hell or high water putting our money on him, the way a child believes in a mother or a father, the way a mother or father believes in a child."

—Frederick Buechner

*CALL TO WORSHIP

re:worship.com, alt.

Let us joyfully proclaim...

Praise be to God in Christ!

Who dared to take on human flesh and dwell among us.

Praise be to God in Christ!

Who did not turn back in the face of evil and death.

Praise be to God in Christ!

Who continues to dance through our lives even now.

Let all that have breath sing praise to God.

Let us worship and rejoice!

Today's cover photo is a collage of two depictions of Jesus. The one on the left is a collaboration by various scientific sources to determine what a 1st century Jewish man in Palestine would likely have looked like.

re:worship is an online liturgy cooperative where people share liturgical ideas and specific liturgies.

Today's Call is altered from one that originally appeared there.

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.

*HYMN *Lord, the Light of You Love Is Shining* Purple, No. 192

*OPENING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR NEED OF GRACE

God of Love, in Christ's life and ministry we see that when your children suffer, are displaced, persecuted, or worse, your heart is saddened; you cry out for justice. When apathy dulls our hearts and we do not speak out, forgive us. When we are slow to respond, and lives are lost, forgive us. Give us a heart for justice and a prophetic voice, that this world might see your love in action through our lives and words. In your name, 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 rejoice, 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

Gathering of the Backpacks

Prayer of Blessing

Gracious God, we lift to you today these students. They stand here ready to receive your blessings as they commit themselves to study and learning in the school year ahead. We ask your blessing on each of them.

Further, we ask your blessing on these backpacks. They will hold the school work of each student and will be carried from home to school and back again. As these students carry these backpacks, may they be reminded of the love and care of this congregation that surrounds them each school day.

Today in Sunday School, Northminster's children will be learning about parables from Mark 10:46-52 and Luke 15:1-10.

We pray as well for the teachers and administrators in our nursery school and all schools. May they also be sustained by your blessing. May they be reminded that this congregation embraces their call to teaching and learning and surrounds them with love and care as well.

We pray in the name of Jesus, whom we seek to follow day by day. Amen.

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Purple, No. 188, verse 2

Jesus Loves Me!

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

John 1:1-5

NT, p. 91

SERMON READING

John 14:1-7

NT, p. 108

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Why Scripture?: The Unique Witness

Today we continue our sermon series, "Why Scripture?" This series is a prelude to a new Bible study that will be offered this fall.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN

I Will Come to You

Purple, No. 177

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

RESPONSE

Jesus Loves Me!

Purple, No. 188, verse 1

SHARING OUR LIFE AND MINISTRY

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Call to Offering

Offertory

Heaven

Lorie Line

*Response

Doxology

Purple, No. 607

*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.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

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

*HYMN *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say* Purple, No. 182

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Sine Nomine* Leo Sowerby

The Chancel Flowers today are given to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving, from the family of Maryann Strain.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Preaching—Rev. Michael D. Kirby

Liturgist—Rev. Jessica C. Gregory

Musicians—Dr. Christopher Owen, Paul Vander Weele

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

Acolytes—Sydney & Chloe Ross

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*

Margaret Parcell—*Director of Northminster Nursery School*

Meredith Rogowski—*Director of Children and Family Ministries*

Alex DeMarco—*Director of Youth Ministry*

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

Lisa Martinez—*Sunday Nursery Supervisor*

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

ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT STAFF

Sharyn Wilson Woods—*Parish Administrator*

Athina Sato—*Financial Secretary*

Alex Villegas—*Sunday Sexton*

CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Greg Boyer—*Clerk of Session*

Gretchen Wooldridge—*Deacon Moderator*

Members of NPC—*Ministers*

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