

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

## NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

APRIL 30, 2017

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

*O filii et filiae*

Rebeca te Velde

WELCOME

*As the welcome pads are passed down your aisle, please help us to celebrate your worshipping with us today by signing the register.*

A Thought as You Prepare for Worship

*"Nothing in the world is worth having or worth doing unless it means effort, pain, difficulty... I have never in my life envied a human being who led an easy life. I have envied a great many people who led difficult lives and led them well."*

—Theodore Roosevelt

INTROIT

*Come Christians Join to Sing*  
arr. Susan Berry & Janet Van Valey

Youth Bells

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

What does the Lord require of you?

***To do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with our God.***

*E. Buchakjian-Tweedy*

*This simple photo of stepping stones is from Ann C. Sullivan, who used it on her website to illustrate a reflection that included reference to our scripture for today, the stoning of Stephen.*

*Please join in on the liturgy 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.*

*Today's Call to Worship was written by Rev. Eliza Buchakjian-Tweedy, Pastor at First Congregational Church in Rochester, New Hampshire. She is the first woman to serve as Pastor of First Church in its 285 year history.*

*Today's version of the Lord's Prayer can be found in the Purple Hymnal on page 35 and uses "debts" and "debtors."*

What does God command of us?

***To love God with all our heart,  
and all our soul,  
and all our mind,  
and all our strength,  
and to love our neighbor as ourselves.***

God does not call us to ease or to comfort.

***But to presence, and abundance,  
and grace in our struggle.  
Let us worship the God who believes in us,  
trusts in us, and abides with us.  
Let us worship the God who will ask much of us,  
but will be beside us every step of the way. Amen.***

\*HYMN                      *God, Reveal Your Presence*                      Purple, No. 412

\*OPENING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR NEED OF GRACE

*T. Shuman*

***We use a lot of words, Gracious God, but do little to turn them into deeds. Instead of being of one heart and soul, we choose sides and form groups of folks just like us. Blessed with great grace, we have trouble sharing it with those who need it the most.***

***Forgive us, God of love. Forgive us, as we step out of our shadows into your light. Restore us, as we reveal our brokenness. Hear us, as we proclaim Jesus Christ as our Lord and our God! Amen.***

ASSURANCE OF RESTORATION

This is the good news we have declare: God leads us out of the shadows to walk in the light of Christ.

***This is the word we have heard: our faithful God forgives our sins and raises us to new life.  
Thanks be to God. Amen.***

\*RESPONSE                      *As the Deer*                      Purple, No. 626

\*SHARING THE PEACE

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



\*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, Amen.***

## BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

\*HYMN      *God Be with You Till We Meet Again*      Purple, No. 542

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

\*CHORAL RESPONSE      *Alleluia!*

POSTLUDE      *Praised Be God*      Healey Willan

*The Chancel Flowers today are given to the Glory of God by  
Linda Beckstedt in celebration of the life of her father, Robert Nienow.*

*If you leave during the  
Postlude, please show  
respect for those who  
remain in their seats to  
listen. Thank you.*

### TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

*Preaching—Rev. Jessica Gregory*

*Liturgist—Ted Wanberg*

*A Time with the Children—Kate Lee*

*Musicians—Dr. Christopher Owen, Paul Vander Weele, Kate Lee, Chancel Choir, Youth Bell Choir  
and Sunday School Choirs with Chad Davidson, accompanist*

*Choral Soloists—Johanna Moffitt, soprano; Jackie King, alto;*

*Dennis Kalup, tenor; Steve Uliana, bass*

*Ushers—Steve Davies & Ryan Gregory*

*Acolytes—Henry & Ashlyn Rogowski*

### 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*

Athina Sato—*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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