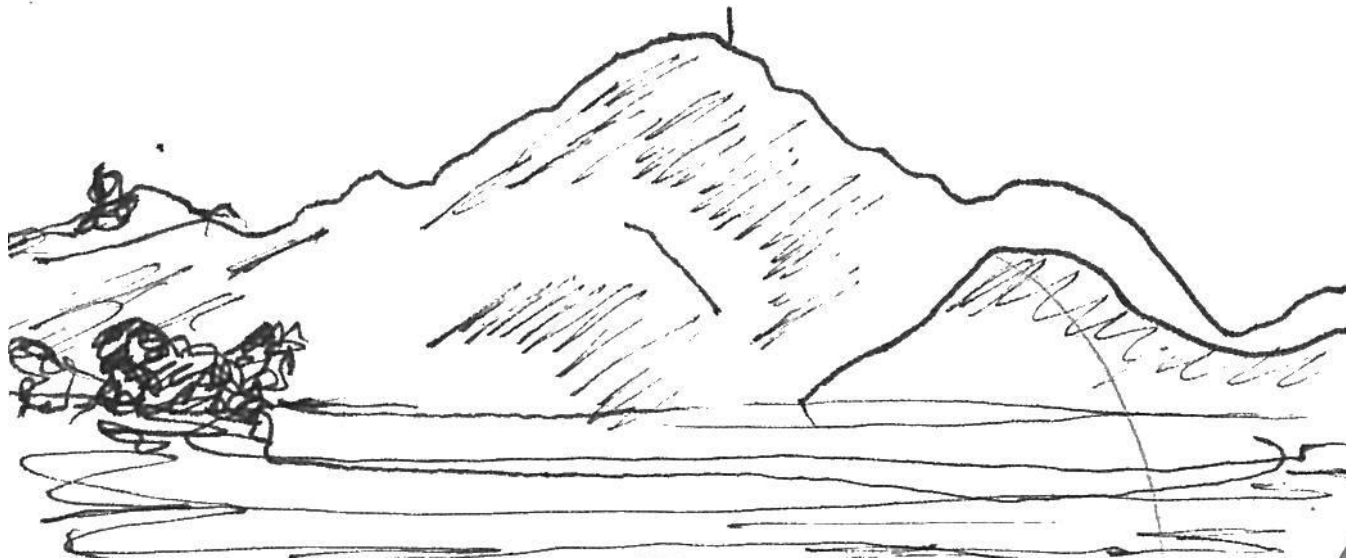


SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JULY 16, 2017

SIXTH 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

Psalm 42

B. de Vries

A Thought as You Prepare for Worship

"Here are the two best prayers I know:

'Help me, help me, help me' and 'Thank you, thank you, thank you.'"

—Anne Lamott

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed be the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth!

Praise be to God, the giver of many gifts!

Our help is in God's name, the One who calls us here.

We come with songs of praise,

with prayers too deep for words.

Blessed be the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth!

Blessed be the Lord!

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

*Please join in on the liturgy printed in **bold italics**.*

*HYMN

We Gather Together

Purple, No. 336

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

Thom M. Shuman is a poet and Presbyterian (PCUSA) pastor in Cincinnati, Ohio. He began to focus his ministry on spiritual writing while spending three months on a renewal time at the Abbey of Gethsemane, Iona, the Taize Community.

In Sunday School today, the elementary children will be reading the story of Israel's demand for a new king, as Samuel grows old in 1 Samuel 8:1-13, 14. The preschool children will be learning about Moses and the burning bush.

*OPENING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR NEED OF GRACE

Thom Shuman, alt.

Everlasting God, it is easy to forget your presence and power in our lives as we move through our schedules from dawn until dusk. Focused on our daily planners, we do not pay attention to chirping birds and blooming flowers, nor the night sky and the stars that glitter. Surrounded by the sounds of anger, violence and despair, we have trouble listening to your whispers of hope, grace and love. As we live in this world, we easily become a part of it, neglecting your truth and the freedom from fear it offers us.

Forgive us. Help us to receive your mercy and live into hope rather than despair. Lift us to our feet so we may walk with you; fill us with your strength so we may serve your people; shower us with grace that we might be empowered to live fully, knowing that we are enough; touch us with your healing so we may shine your light of life and love into the dark places of this world. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF RESTORATION

The Good News is this:

God never tires; God is always with us;

God heals us with mercy; God strengthens us for service.

***The One who numbers the stars
knows each of us by name.***

Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.

*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

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Come and Find the Quiet Center

Blue, No. 2128

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Guide us, wise Spirit, as we hear with fresh ears your Living Word. In your light let us see light, in your truth let us embrace freedom, and in your will let us discover peace. Amen.

CANTED PSALM Psalm 133 OT, p. 575

***The Lord anoints and blesses,
Gives life forevermore.***

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

SERMON READING Psalm 121 OT, p. 571

SERMON *A Reassuring Melody*

Psalmody is the use of the biblical psalms in worship. The distinction goes back to the Bible, in Paul's command to edify one another through the use of "psalms and hymns and spiritual songs." (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16)

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN *I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes* Purple, No. 45

STATEMENT OF FAITH Purple, paragraph 3, pp. 37-38
A Brief Statement of Faith

Paragraph 3 is the "God Section" of "A Brief Statement of Faith."

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

RESPONSE *Shepherd Me, O God* Purple, No. 473

SHARING OUR LIFE AND MINISTRY

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Call to Offering

Offertory

*Response *Take, O Take Me as I Am* Purple, No. 698

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of grace and truth, in gratitude we present these fruits of our toil. Receive and bless all that we offer in response to the blessings you bestow on our lives and our world. We dedicate ourselves anew to be living witnesses to the love and servanthood of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN *How Firm a Foundation* Purple, No. 463

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Psalm 19* B. Marcello

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

The Chancel Flowers today are given to the Glory of God by Jane Hawley in celebration of her grandson, Harrison Frederick Morgan.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Preaching—Rev. Jessica C. Gregory

Liturgist—Rev. Michael D. Kirby

A Time with the Children—Pastor Michael

Musicians—Dr. Christopher Owen and Paul Vander Weele

Ushers—Lee Knohl, Molly McDowell, Ethan Sparrow

Acolytes—Abby Perry & Maddie Sitz

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*

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 of Deacons*

Members—*Ministers*

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