

SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AUGUST 6, 2017

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

STUMP THE PASTOR



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.

A Thought as We Prepare for Worship

"This much is certain, that we have no theological right to set any sort of limits to the loving-kindness of God which has appeared in Jesus Christ. Our theological duty is to see and understand it as being still greater than we had seen before."—Reformed Theologian Karl Barth, responding to a critique that his theology was Universalist

PRELUDE

Agnus Dei

Paul Halley

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted from Psalm 67

May God be gracious to us and bless all the earth.

May the light of God's holy face shine on us,

That the Lord's way may be known,

That the God's saving love might be seen in us.

Today's cover art is a screen captured from "Homer Goes to Heaven," episode 19 of season 16 of The Simpsons. Printed here under the "Fair Use Doctrine." All copyrights of Matt Groening and Fox Television are retained and unaffected.

Paul Halley attended Trinity College, Cambridge. He was organist and choirmaster of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City from 1977-1989. During that tenure, he also was a composer and performer for the Paul Winter Consort.

As 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**.

This week in Sunday School, Northminster's gradeschoolers will be learning about how Abigail calmed King David's wrath from 1 Samuel 15:2-42, and preschoolers will learn about Naomi and Ruth from chapter 1 of the Book of Ruth.

Text to "Thy Word" by Amy Grant © 1984, printed by permission, all rights reserved.

Today's question was submitted by Emily Eloff.

Let all people praise God.

***Let all people be thankful and sing for joy!
Let us worship God!***

*HYMN *God of Grace and God of Glory* Purple, No. 307

*OPENING PRAYER

*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 Purple, No. 458

Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet

(Refrain) ***Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.***

***Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.***

***When I feel afraid, and I think I've lost my way,
Still you're there right beside me.***

Nothing will I fear, as long as you are near.

Please be near me to the end.

(Refrain)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRELIMINARY READINGS NT, pp. 155-156

Romans 5:6-11; 11:28b-36

SERMON READING

John 3:14-21

NT, p. 94

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

*A Parent's Love:
Responding to Emily's Question*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OUR WORSHIPFUL WORK TOGETHER

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Call to Offering

Offertory *City Called Heaven* Josephine Poelinitz

*Response *Doxology* Purple, No. 607

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ, all people here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

***God of all, in thanksgiving we come before you
bringing these our gifts. We humbly submit all
to your sovereign will. We offer ourselves as well,
as ambassadors for your peace. We give of our
substance to feed those who hunger and know
want. You are the means by which all the earth
shall prosper; through us, send your blessing to all
the nations. Amen.***

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*HYMN *I Come With Joy* Purple, No. 515

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Let us be thankful for the presence of the risen Lord Jesus with us:

We give thanks with joyful hearts.

Jesus, dispeller of doubts, source of our faith,

We praise you with wonder for caring for us so deeply.

We praise you, give glory to you:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory!

Hosanna in the highest!

***Blessed is the One who comes
in the name of the Lord.***

THE LORD'S PRAYER (using "debts" and "debtors")

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Today's communion hymn is another written by one of Pastor Michael's mentors, Brian Wren. Professor Wren notes that the hymn begins with "I" language and concludes with "we" language, a sign of our being joined together by the loving actions of Jesus in the Lord's Supper and what it celebrates.

Today, as a sign of our response to God's gracing love, we will come forward and receive communion by intinction. You are invited to take a piece of bread (it is all gluten free) and either dip it in the common cup or take a cup from the tray provided. Those who have difficulty coming forward are invited to remain in their seats and a server will bring communion to you.

RECEPTION OF THE ELEMENTS

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD
INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN *Standing on the Promises of God* Purple, No. 838

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Winchester New* William Lloyd Webber

*The Chancel Flowers today are given to the Glory of God
by Betty Mack in memory of her parents and brother.*

*If you leave during the
Postlude, please be
aware that some will
remain in a state of
attentive worship until it
has concluded.*

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Preaching—Rev. Michael D. Kirby

Liturgist—Rev. Jessica Gregory

A Time with the Children—Meredith Rogowski

Musicians—Dr. Christopher Owen, Paul Vander Weele

Soloists—Johanna Moffitt, Jackie King, Dennis Kalup, Steve Uliana

Instrumentalist—Stuart Bogie

Ushers—Pat Drinkwine, Kent Geibel, Ryan Gregory, Dennis Trautvetter

Acolytes—Thomas & Ginevra Kellogg

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*

Claudnette 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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