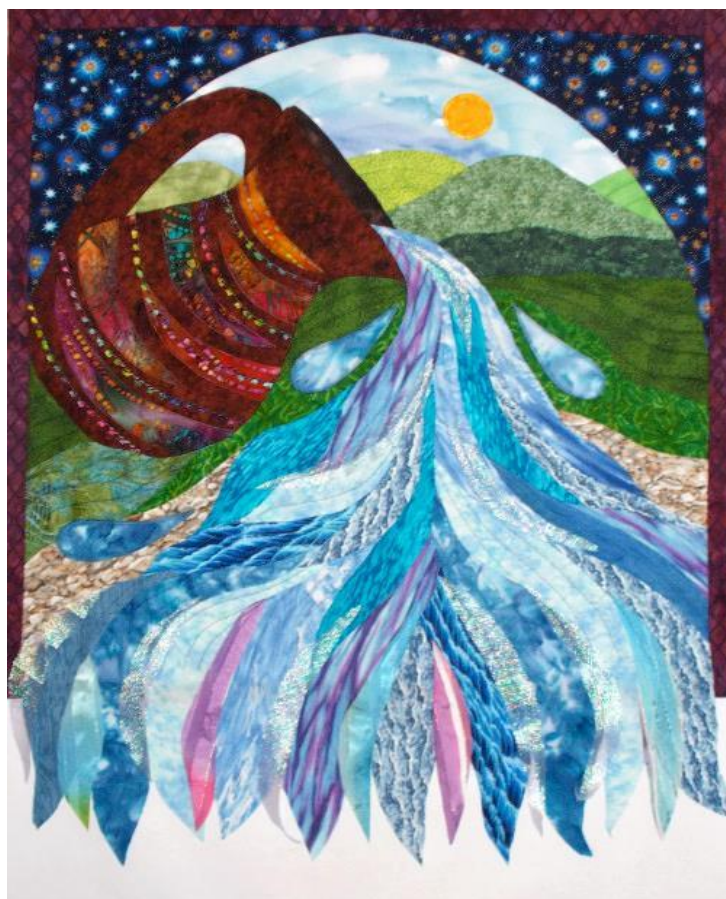


SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 12, 2017 COMMITMENT SUNDAY TRIO: THE RESPONSIBILITY IS OURS!



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 for Organ

P. Ben-Haim

A Thought as You Prepare for Worship

"Imagination is a danger, thus every totalitarian regime is frightened of the artist. It is the vocation of the prophet to keep alive the ministry of imagination, to keep on conjuring and proposing alternative futures to the single one the king wants to urge as the only thinkable one."

—Walter Brueggemann

This quilt, "Let Justice Roll Down Like Water," was made by Kit Tossman.

The rose in the chancel celebrates the birth of Pat Drinkwine's 6th great-grandchild! Olivia Juliet, born on October 22nd, is the first daughter of Pat's granddaughter Jaimie and her husband Michael Flores. We rejoice with Olivia's family that she is here, and praise God for the miracle of new life!

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.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Heidelberg Catechism, Question 1 and M. Kirby

What is your one comfort in life?

***That I am not my own,
but belong with body and soul,
both in life and in death,
to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ....
Therefore, by his Holy Spirit,
Jesus also assures me of eternal life,
and makes me heartily willing and ready
from now on to live for him.***

What then can we say about these times?

***That held in the love of God in Christ,
we will not fear, but will live in joyful hope,
living in the truth of our calling to love God and neighbor,
and to also love who God has made me and us to be.
God's Holy name be praised!***

*OPENING HYMN *When the Morning Stars Together* Purple, No. 689

*OPENING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR NEED OF GRACE

***Loving God, Mother of the Church,
We confess that we have not loved you with our whole
heart nor served you with all our strength; we have been
blind to your vision of a renewed world and deaf to your
call to costly discipleship. In your mercy, Lord, pardon and
restore us, that together in the ministry of Christ we may
serve you with joy all the days of our lives. Amen.***

ASSURANCE OF RESTORATION

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

The grace of God in Christ is never apart from us.

The hope of tomorrow is that we are freed from the failures and wrongs of the past.

***We are forgiven! In thanksgiving to God, let us be at peace
and boldly seek the promise of the day. Amen.***

*RESPONSE

Verse 1, Purple, No 435

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

*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 *Spirit of the Living God* Purple, No. 288

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of the Ages, we seek the wisdom of your Spirit, the same Spirit who spoke through the prophets and inspired the saints of every age. Open us to your Word, your will, and your way, that we might hear, obey and follow. In the name of your Word made flesh, our Savior and friend, Amen.

ANTHEM *For the Beauty of the Earth* arr. R. Mallory

SERMON READING Amos 1:1-2, 5:10-15, 21-24 OT, pp. 853-854
This is the word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

SERMON *We Are Yours, O God:
We Are Justice-Seeking Waters*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR PLEDGES FOR 2018

*HYMN *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples* Purple, No. 757

PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF OUR PLEDGES

As those who have been called into your family, we rejoice that we are yours, O God. We come in gratitude for all we have...we come knowing the responsibility to give is ours.

As those in whom the Spirit is even now bearing fruit of hope, justice, compassion and peace, we come.

We dedicate our pledges and our lives to you, O God.

Multiply our work, service and worship to your glory, and make us both vessels of your grace and bearers of your justice.

We dedicate the programs and people these funds will support to you, O God.

Guide all in their discipleship, including our leaders as they prepare us in all ways, including financially, for next year.

Teach us, O God, to be your work in this world.

Encourage us to see that we are all ministers called into the Body of Christ. Use us in your service. In your name, Amen.

This week in Sunday school the children will be learning about Jonah and the big fish.

During the hymn, you are invited to bring your pledge card and/or time and talent pledges forward. Those who have difficulty coming forward are invited to place your pledges in the offering plate when it is passed.

OUR WORSHIPFUL WORK

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Call to Offering

Offertory *Bound for the Promised Land* arr. D. Hakes

*Response *A Grateful Heart* Verse 1, Purple, No. 652

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN *For the Healing of the Nations* Purple, No. 346

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CLOSING RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Fanfare

John Cook

*The Chancel Flowers today are given to the Glory of God by
Mary Sheppard in loving memory of James and Helen Sweeney
and Jennifer Sweeney LeVan.*

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

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Preaching—Rev. Jessica C. Gregory

Liturgist—Rev. Michael D. Kirby

A Time with the Children—Miss Meredith

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

Steve Uliana, tenor; Gabriel Walker, baritone

Ushers—Tom Buess & Leslie Noble

Acolytes—Jasper Brown & Calvin Wooldridge

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*

Lisa Martinez—*Sunday Nursery Supervisor*

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

Claudinetta Voltaire—*Mom's Morning Out Assistant/
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*

***Northminster Presbyterian Church, 2515 Central Park Ave., Evanston IL 60201
847.869.9210 www.northminpres.org***