

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AUGUST 21, 2016

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

Veni Creator Spiritus

Andrew Carter

A Thought as You Prepare for Worship

*Whenever I want to laugh, I read a wonderful book, "Children's Letters to God." You can open it anywhere. One I read recently said, "Dear God, thank you for the baby brother, but what I prayed for was a puppy." **Maya Angelou***

*CALL TO WORSHIP

re:worship.com, alt.

We have come to worship God, the living God,

Who calls prophets and teachers to bear witness.

We have come to praise God, the almighty, all-loving One,

Who answers the forces of hatred and hurt with the power of grace.

We have come to worship God, all-gracious Parent,

Who chooses even you and me to receive and carry the Word of life and hope. Let us worship God!

Today's cover photo is a detail from the larger work "The Call of Jeremiah" by Marc Chagall. The original is part of the collection of the Jewish Historical Museum in Amsterdam.

*Please join in speaking or singing all words 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.*

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.

We traditionally use the "debts" and "debtors" form of The Lord's Prayer.

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

*OPENING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR NEED OF GRACE

God of Love, 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 ten lepers healed, based on Luke 17:12-19.

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 who we seek to follow day by day. Amen.

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Blue, No. 2128

Come and Find the Quiet Center

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

Isaiah 58:9b-14

OT, pp. 688-689

ANTHEM

Sonata in D Major, IV. Vivace
Claire Whitney, violin

Vivaldi

SERMON READING

Jeremiah 1:4-10

OT, p. 698

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

For Such a Time as This

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

Purple, No. 69

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

RESPONSE

Shepherd Me, O God
Refrain, 3 times

Purple, No. 473

***Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants
Beyond my fears, from death into life.***

SHARING OUR LIFE AND MINISTRY

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Call to Offering

Offertory Meditation on *Beautiful Savior*
Adult Bell Choir

arr. by Moglebust

*Response

Doxology

Purple, No. 607

Commonly known as "Here I Am, Lord," this popular hymn celebrates its 35th anniversary this year. It's unique among contemporary hymns in having us sing in the voice of God, drawing on many scripture passages as a way to inspire our response.

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

*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

*HYMN *Lord, When I Came into This Life* Purple, No. 691

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Deo Gracias* David Johnson

The Chancel Flowers today are given to the Glory of God by Nan Rowell in celebration of girlfriends everywhere, for they lift us up.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Preaching—Rev. Michael D. Kirby

Liturgist—Rev. Jessica Gregory

A Time with the Children—Miss Meredith

Musicians—Dr. Christopher Owen, Paul Vander Weele, Claire Whitney, Adult Bell Choir

Ushers—Lee Knohl, Ken Lewandowski, Molly McDowell, Elaine Wall

Acolytes—Calvin & Merritt Wooldridge

Greeters—Betty Mack & Steve Davies

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*

Margaret Parcell—*Director of Northminster Nursery School*

Meredith Rogowski—*Director of Children's 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*

Mike Jin—*Financial Secretary*

Davit Hovakimyan—*Facilities Manager*

Alex Villegas—*Sunday Sexton*

CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Greg Boyer—*Clerk of Session*

Jim Kirk—*Moderator, Deacon Board*

Members of NPC—*Ministers*

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