

SERVICE OF THE LORD'S DAY

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AUGUST 13, 2017

TENTH 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

Christian hope does not promise successful days to the rich and the strong, but resurrection and life to those who must exist in the shadows of death. Success is no name of God. Righteousness is.

-Jurgen Moltmann

PRELUDE

Wach auf, mein Hort (Sonata III)

Paul Hindemith

*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Psalm 100

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us and we are his;

We are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

***Reprinted by permission from The Worship Sourcebook ©2004, Faith Alive Christian Resources.*

Moltmann, a preeminent 20th century German theologian, held the view that God suffers with humanity, while also promising humanity a better future through the hope of the resurrection, which he has labelled a "theology of hope."

*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**.*

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.

***For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his
faithfulness continues through all generations.***

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

*OPENING PRAYER

*SHARING THE PEACE

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

*Our Acknowledgement
of our Need for Grace
was written by Revs.
Susan A. Blain and Scott
Ressman, in a collection
of Resources called All
Things New, created to
celebrate the 50th year
of the United Church of
Christ back in 2007.*

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR NEED OF GRACE *Blain and Ressman*
***God, you know us better than we know ourselves. You
know our thoughts, our weaknesses, our motivations,
our sins. And You love us still. Forgive us when we
don't believe such love is true or possible; when we
wonder how You could love us just as we are, when
we forget our intricate construction, fearfully and
wonderfully made in Your image! Remove from our
minds every thought which keeps us from You. Break
down the walls, push aside the pride, help us receive
Your grace, and help us to trust anew. You know our
hearts. And You love us still. Amen.***

ASSURANCE OF RESTORATION

It is written for our encouragement and peace: "The love of
God is shown to us, in that while we were still sinners

Christ died for us. Christ rose for us.

Christ reigns for us. Christ prays for us."

Friends, let us believe this remarkable Gospel and live with
and in the liberty of Christ.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen!

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

*SHARING THE PEACE

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

*This week in Sunday
School, Northminster's
children will be learning
about the songs of King
David.*

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Verse. 2, Purple, No. 451

Open My Eyes, That I May See

***Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth
thou sendest clear.***

***And while the wave notes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.***

***Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

***Un-stop our ears, O God, that we may hear your Word
proclaimed this day. Open our minds and hearts to be
changed. Free us from the distractions of worry, fear, envy
and pride. Teach us, Lord, that we may follow you more
faithfully. Amen.***

PSALTER READING

Psalm 139:1-18

OT, pp. 577-578

SERMON READING

Mark 15:33-39

NT, p. 54

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

SERMON

Our Keeper

*HYMN

O God, You Search Me

Purple, No. 29

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

STATEMENT OF FAITH

The United Church of Canada

***We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in
God: who has created and is creating, who has come in
Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God.
We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's
presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and
serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim
Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life,
in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not
alone. Thanks be to God.***

Our Sermon Hymn is based on Psalm 139, which is one of the most introspective and most intimate of all the psalms, showing an acute mindfulness of God's presence in all aspects of one's life. Sometimes resisted, this omnipresence ultimately becomes a ground of hope, a promise that we never stray beyond God's care.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

RESPONSE

Shepherd Me, O God(3 times)

Purple, No. 473

OUR WORSHIPFUL WORK

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Call to Offering

Offertory *Here I Am Lord* D. Schutte

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

*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 *I Will Come to You* Purple, No. 177

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Carillon* Herbert Murrill

*The Chancel Flowers today are given to the Glory of God
by Nan Rowell in celebration of all those courageous souls
who have volunteered to lead "A Time with the Children."*

*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 C. Gregory

Liturgist—Mary Rosic

A Time with the Children—Joan LePontois

Musicians—Dr. Christopher Owen, Paul Vander Weele, the Summer Choir

Ushers—Tom Buess & Leslie Noble

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*

Claudinette 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*

Northminster Presbyterian Church, 2515 Central Park Ave., Evanston IL 60201

847.869.9210 www.northminpres.org