

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 11, 2018

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY



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

Deep River

Dennis Janver

A Thought as You Prepare for Worship

*The only thing worse than being blind is having sight but no vision.
—Helen Keller*

INTROIT

Come into God's Presence

*CALL TO WORSHIP

United Methodist Clergywomen, alt.

Like the sun that is far away and yet close at hand to warm us,

So God's Spirit is ever present and around us.

Come, Creator, into our lives;

We live and move and have our very being in you.

Open now the eyes of our hearts;

Open now the windows of our souls. Amen.

The rose in the chancel celebrates the birth of Jude Beckham Wagley, born on January 17th, to the joy of new parents Brant and Alisha! Brant grew up at Northminster. He and his family now live in Carmel, Indiana. Jude's grandparents, Harv and Gayle, rejoice that their first grandchild has joined us! We give thanks to God for the precious 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 on the liturgy printed in **bold italics**.*

This morning's opening hymn was written in 1931 by English author Eleanor Farjeon. It was made famous by artist Cat Stevens' 1971 recording of it, and enjoyed time in the top 10 of US Billboard top 100 in 1972.

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

*OPENING HYMN *Morning Has Broken* Purple, No. 664

*OPENING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR NEED OF GRACE *re: worship, alt.*

Creator God, we confess that we fail to question our own sightlessness. Being so sure that we "see," we miss the truths you would teach us. With the balm of your love, cure this blindness. Open our eyes to our own misunderstandings, our own failures, and our own faults. Make our "shadow side" known to us and help us to diminish it with the light of your grace. For it is only when we see ourselves clearly that we can worship you truly. Set us free, we pray, to be whole human beings and to live our lives graciously and without fear as we bear witness to the One who came to save not only us, but all the world—Jesus Christ, our Brother, Savior and Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF RESTORATION

Let us lift up our eyes! God loves the world, loves you and me, so much that Jesus came to grace us with life.

Our hope comes from God, who lifts us up when faith has fallen, to place us on the Way of Peace and Grace and Truth. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*RESPONSE *O God, You Are My God* Purple, No. 743

*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 Verse 2, Purple, No. 451

Open My Eyes, That I May See

This week in Sunday School Northminster's youngest will be learning about Jesus' visit to see Mary and Martha.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Word and words, O God. Out of the many, may we hear the One...the One who calls us, leads us, instructs us, and guides our living now and all our days. Amen.

ANTHEM

There Is a Balm

Dawson

SERMON READING

John 9:1-41

NT, pp. 102-103

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Eyes Opened

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*SERMON HYMN

Be Thou My Vision

Purple, No. 450

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

RESPONSE

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Purple, No. 422

OUR WORSHIPFUL WORK

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Call to Offering

Offertory

Declare Your Maker's Praise!

L. Larson

*Response

Take, O Take Me as I Am

Purple, No. 698

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy God, we rejoice in your goodness. There is no one like you! You restore us to right relationship with you and one another. You send your Spirit and abundant blessings into our lives. It is an honor to contribute to the wonders you are doing here and throughout your world. In gratitude, we return a portion of your bounty to us. May the Spirit of Christ use all to uplift people in our community and the world. Amen.

The ninth chapter of John, which begins with Jesus instructing a man to wash himself in the Pool of Siloam to regain his sight, emphasizes the transformative power of water. Because of this, the story appears in early catacomb art most frequently as an illustration of Christian baptism.

Our Sermon hymn was originally a poem written in the 8th century by Irish monk Dallan Forgaill in remembrance of missionary St. Patrick. In the 5th century, St. Patrick protested a pagan festival and demonstrated his love for God by illuminating the darkness with a fire on Slaine Hill. Though the king forbade the light, he was so impressed with St. Patrick's devotion that he allowed him to continue his ministry. The poem was translated in the early 20th century by Mary Elizabeth Byrne and given the verses we sing today by Eleanor Hull in 1912.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN *Open the Eyes of My Heart* Purple, No. 452

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*RESPONSE *Praise the Lord Together*

POSTLUDE *Allegro Maestoso* F. Mendelssohn

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 Kurt Peters and Elizabeth Hopp-Peters in thanksgiving for our Northminster family.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Preaching—Rev. Jessica C. Gregory

Liturgists—Rev. Michael D. Kirby, Nicholas Antonoglu

A Time with the Children—Pastor Michael

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

Soloists—Johanna Mofitt, soprano; Jackie King, alto; Steve Uliana, tenor; Doug Balkin, bass

Ushers—Greg Boyer, Tom Buess, Leslie Noble

Acolytes—Luke Hayes & Ashlyn Rogowski

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*

Gretchen Wooldridge—*Moderator of the
Board of Deacons*

Members—*Ministers*

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