

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

## NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

APRIL 8, 2018

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER



### 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

*Alleluias*

Robert Lau

#### A Thought as You Prepare for Worship

*“Jesus’ willingness to accommodate Thomas’ unbelief is a reminder that God can handle our doubt. And that the rationalist doesn’t need to see, touch, or run a lab test in order to believe in the resurrected Christ.”*

*— Religion blogger and Brethren in Christ pastor David D. Flowers*

#### INTROIT

*Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks*

D. Fishel

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

We have not seen the risen Christ,

*But we see him in the lives of those transformed by grace.*

*Today’s cover art is “The Doubt of St. Thomas” by He Qi, © 2001, all rights reserved.*

*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**.*

*Our Call to Worship and Confession/Grace sequence today are both written by Presbyterian pastor Rev. Thom Shuman.*

We have not seen Jesus face-to-face,  
***But we have seen him in the faces of everyone whose love encourages us.***

We have not touched the wounds from the cross,  
***But we have been called to bring healing to the scarred of the world. Let us worship God.***

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

\*HYMN                      *Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!*                      Purple, No. 248

\*OPENING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR NEED OF GRACE AND ASSURANCE

***God of empty tombs and empty people:***

***When we hesitate to speak of your hope,  
forgive us, and give us voice.***

***When we find it difficult to love another,  
forgive us, and give us new compassion.***

***When we want to stand with the high and mighty,  
forgive us, and put us next to the poor and oppressed.***

***When we stay locked behind our fears and doubts,  
forgive us, and send us out to share your grace.***

***When we cannot believe your Word of new life,  
forgive us, and fill us with your joy.***

*Silence is kept*

Amen. Christ comes into every shadowed corner of our lives with the light of Easter.

***Christ comes into the locked rooms of our faults,  
and gifts us with grace and hope.***

Christ comes, to fill us with peace, that we may proclaim the good news of mercy and forgiveness.

***Thanks be to God.***

\*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

Purple, No. 451, Verse 1

*Open My Eyes, That I May See*

*Please join us for worship next Sunday when our service will include a sending liturgy for beloved members Karl and Joan de Jonge who are moving to Michigan later this month.*

*This week in Sunday School Northminster's youngest will also be learning about Doubting Thomas from John 20:19-31.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

*Light of the World, in an era shrouded in conflict and division, draw your people together as one this day to hear your word read and proclaimed. Help us to surrender to your call to vulnerability and openness so that in this time together each of us might be changed and all of us together might be shaped into the community you are calling us, loving us, into being. Amen.*

ANTHEM                                      *Easter*                                      Ralph Vaughan Williams  
Steve Uliana, Soloist

SERMON READING                      John 20:19-31                                      NT, p. 115  
This is the word of the Lord.                      ***Thanks be to God.***

SERMON                                      *He Knows*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\*HYMN                                      *The Risen Christ*                                      Purple, No. 257

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

RESPONSE                                      *Rain Down*                                      Purple, No. 48

OUR WORSHIPFUL WORK TOGETHER

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Call to Offering

Offertory                      *River in Judea*                      Linda Marcus & Jack Feldman  
arr. Leavitt

\*Response                      *Take My Life*                      Purple, No. 697, Verse 1

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*We rejoice in all you have given us, O God, and delight in sharing it with others. We want others to experience what we have begun to realize as we hope in you. To that end, take, bless, and use all that we offer today, even our very lives. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

*Today's sermon will be the first Sunday that Pastor Michael has preached on a text for the second time at Northminster. He last preached on this text on the Sunday after Easter in 2016. Today's sermon is largely shaped by two papers written by members of The Well, Pastor Michael's clergy study group, in 2010 and 2017. He leaves for the 2018 gathering of The Well in Charlotte, North Carolina, next Sunday afternoon.*

*The text of our closing hymn was originally written in French by 15th Century Parisian Friar Jean Tisserand and translated in the mid-1800s by Anglican priest Rev. John Mason Neale. Both Tisserand and Neale were disdained by many contemporaries for spending much of their careers working with orders of women religious in their Catholic and Anglican contexts.*

*If you leave during the Postlude, please show respect for those who remain in their seats to*

## BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

\*HYMN

Purple, No. 255, Verses 1, 3 & 5

*O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing*

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

*Alleluia*

POSTLUDE

*God's Son Has Triumphed*

J.S. Bach

*The Chancel Flowers today are given to the Glory of God by the Whitney Family in celebration of the life of Bill Whitney.*

### TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

*Preaching—Rev. Michael D. Kirby*

*Liturgist—Jackie Eddy*

*A Time with the Children—Greg Boyer*

*Musicians—Dr. Christopher Owen, Paul Vander Weele*

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

*Steve Uliana, tenor; Doug Balkin, bass*

*Ushers—Greg Boyer, Tom Buess, Andy Eloff, Leslie Noble*

*Acolytes—Daniel & Henry Fennell*

### 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 & Family Ministries*

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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