

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JULY 22, 2018 9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST WHY GOD/JESUS? WHY CHURCH?

בְּרִית

b'rit

(beh-REET)

"covenant"

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

Tallis's Canon

Richard Purvis

A Thought as You Prepare for Worship

"God didn't make a contract with us; God made a covenant with us, and God wants our relationships with one another to reflect that covenant. That's why marriage, friendship, life in community are all ways to give visibility to God's faithfulness in our lives together."

—Henri J. M. Nouwen, "Bread for the Journey"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Each day is a gift from God:

each moment is that opportunity to reach out in service to all creation.

Each day is a reminder of the new covenant:

not written on stone tablets easily broken, but inscribed on our hearts filled with joy and hope.

Each day we draw closer to God:

who has forgotten more than we ever learn; who has forgiven us more than we ever acknowledge. Let us worship God!

*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**.*

We typically use
"debts" and "debtors"
when reciting The
Lord's Prayer.

*HYMN *God Is Calling through the Whisper* Purple, No. 410

*OPENING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR NEED OF GRACE

Teach us Your ways, Lord, that we may come down from our heights and be open to the same Spirit who moved over the face of the waters in the first day of creation and moves also over the chaos of this time to fashion a day like this, a world like ours, a life like ours, a communion acting as leaven in the bread of earth. Teach us Your ways, Lord, that we may love Your kindness and practice it toward the hungry of the world, the poor and sick and oppressed, that we may learn the healing humility that comes from You. Teach us Your ways, Lord, so that our hearts are flooded with Your mercy—emptying them of what makes them firmly opposed to Your ways, so that they will beat more in rhythm with Your love and grace. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF RESTORATION

In Love, Christ came for us.

In Surrender, Christ died for us.

In Power, Christ was resurrected for us.

In Hope, let us live as the forgiven and restored.

Alleluia! 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 Purple, No. 286, verse 1

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of wisdom and truth, by your Holy Spirit, open our hearts to your transforming word. In our hearing and responding, may we be led into your truth and taught your will, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING

2 Samuel 7:14-18

OT, p. 282

This week in Sunday
School Northminster's
youngest will continue
to celebrate Christmas
in July by learning
about the birth and
mission of John the
Baptist.

ANTHEM *Partita No. 2 in D minor movement 1 Allemande* J.S. Bach
Claire Whitney, violin; Kate Whitney, flute

SERMON READING Jeremiah 31:31-34 OT, p. 735
This is the word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

SERMON *Why God, Why Jesus, Why Church?:
Covenant Bonds*

*Today we continue our
month-long series:
"Why God, Why Jesus,
Why Church?"
exploring the unique
witness that Christians
can bring to the current
challenges and
competing claims on
our lives.*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*SERMON HYMN Purple, No. 833
O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

STATEMENT OF FAITH *Modified from 'A Declaration of Faith'*
***God sends the church into the world. God has not taken
God's people out of the world, but has sent us into the
world to worship there and serve all humankind. We
worship God in the world by standing before the Lord on
behalf of all people. Our cries for help and our songs of
praise are never for ourselves alone. Worship is no retreat
from the world; it is part of our mission. We serve all
people by discerning what God is doing in the world and
joining God in that work. We find guidance in God's deeds
in the past and in God's promises for the future, as they
are witnessed to in Scripture. We affirm that the Lord is at
work, especially in events and movements that free people
by the gospel and advance justice, compassion and peace.***

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

RESPONSE *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* Purple, No. 286, verse 3

OUR WORSHIPFUL WORK TOGETHER

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Call to Offering

Offertory *Cannon in D* J. Pachelbel
Claire Whitney, violin; Kate Whitney, flute

*Response *Doxology* Purple, No. 607

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of grace and glory, strengthen us, we pray, to be Jesus' faithful followers, with his love inscribed on our hearts and woven into all our actions. May these gifts and our lives, which we offer in response to your love and your mercy, be used in fruitful ways to proclaim Christ's resurrection love and power. Amen.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN

O God, Who Gives Us Life

Purple, No. 53

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune

Andrew Carter

The Chancel Flowers today are given to the Glory of God by Bella Kim in loving memory of her mother, Wonja Moon.

If you leave during the Postlude, please remember some remain in a prayerful state of worship until it concludes.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Preaching—Rev. Michael D. Kirby

Liturgist—Becky Wanberg

A Time with the Children—Kelly Brest van Kempen

Musicians—Paul Vander Weele, Claire & Kate Whitney

Ushers—Tom Abendroth, Linda Beckstedt, Bruce Eddy, Scott Kellogg

Acolytes—Alec Carroll & 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*

Margaret Parcell—*Director of Northminster Nursery School*

Meredith Rogowski—*Director of Children and Family Ministries*

Alex DeMarco—*Director of Youth Ministry*

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

Lisa Martinez—*Sunday Nursery Supervisor*

Claudiette Voltaire—*Mom's Morning Out Coordinator
& Sunday Nursery Assistant*

ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT STAFF

Sharyn Wilson Woods—*Parish Administrator*

Athina Sato—*Financial Secretary*

Alex Villegas—*Sunday Sexton*

CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Greg Boyer—*Clerk of Session*

Gretchen Wooldridge—*Deacon Moderator*

Members of NPC—*Ministers*

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