

SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AUGUST 5, 2018

11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WHY SCRIPTURE?



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

Reprise

Paul Manz

A Thought as You Prepare for Worship
*I rejoice at your Word like one who finds great treasure.
I hate and abhor falsehood, but I love your law.
-Psalm 119, verses 162-63*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

This is a new day filled with fresh possibilities.

We gather to participate in the new things God is doing.

May God be gracious to us and bless all the earth.

May the light of God's holy face shine on us,

Adapted from Psalm 67

When you see an asterisk () you are invited to stand in body or in Spirit as you feel led and are able. Please join in speaking or singing all parts in **bold italics**.*

Our opening hymn is one of the most popular in Christendom. The text was derived from two 1866 poems written by Katherine Hankey as she recovered from a lengthy illness. The poems featured 49 quatrains. Early hymnal editors shortened the work to five verses and a refrain derived from the first and last verses. Time and shifting theologies have shortened the hymn to the three verses in our hymnal.

Today in Sunday School the children are learning about Jesus' healing of the Roman Centurion's servant.

Today, in advance of new learning opportunities to deepen our understanding of scripture coming this fall and winter, we start a month-long series of sermons about the Bible itself called "Why Scripture?"

That the Lord's ways may be known,
That God's gracing and loving power might be seen in us.
Let all people praise God.
Let all people be glad and sing for joy!
Let us worship God!

*HYMN *I Love to Tell the Story* Purple, No. 462

*OPENING PRAYER

*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. 463, verse 1
How Firm a Foundation

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Loving God, there is great mystery in your Word and great truth. By your Spirit, welcome us into this magnificent library of your love. May the light of your truth shine on us today, dispelling the shadows and revealing the path you would have us follow. Amen.

SERMON READING Numbers 20:1-13 OT p. 138

SERMON *Why Scripture?: The Story of Stick*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OUR WORSHIPFUL WORK TOGETHER

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Call to Offering

Offertory *Down in the River to Pray* Arr. C. Davidson
Quartet: Heidi & Ned Lott, Laurie & Chad Davidson

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

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Generous God, we offer ourselves with our gifts, confident that you have a purpose for them and for us. We rededicate ourselves at this table where you so often offer yourself to us. May our offerings reach beyond the barriers of our former thinking and doing. In the Spirit of Christ, we would pray and live. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*COMMUNION HYMN *The One Who Brings Us Here* See insert

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Dear friends, the Spirit of God gives life to the world!

Life that never ends!

Here and now Christ feeds the world!

Plenty for all, enough for today!

Come to the table of justice and joy.

No one will be turned away.

No neighbor in need will go wanting.

Let praise go up to God our Life!

From every creature on God's good earth!

How right it is to praise you...

...we give you glory, and we praise your name!

***Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory!***

Hosanna in the highest!

THE LORD'S PRAYER (using "debts" and "debtors")

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

RECEPTION OF THE ELEMENTS

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pastor Michael wrote today's communion hymn for a Presbytery of Chicago gathering in 2011. The text has been revised this year.

Today, as a sign of our response to God's gracing love, we will come forward and receive communion by intinction. You are invited to take a piece of bread (it is all gluten free) and either dip it in the common cup or take a cup from the tray provided. Those who have difficulty coming forward are invited to remain in their seats and a server will bring communion to you.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN *Be Thou My Vision* Purple, No. 450

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Cwm Rhondda* Manz

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

The Chancel Flowers are given by Margaret and Channing Philbrick to the Glory of God for family.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Preaching—Rev. Michael D. Kirby

Liturgist—Rev. Jessica C. Gregory

A Time with the Children—Pastor Jessica

Musicians—Dr. Christopher Owen, Paul Vander Weele,
Heidi & Ned Lott, Laurie & Chad Davidson

Ushers—Pat Drinkwine, Kent Geibel, Stephanie Mitchell, Dennis Trautvetter

Acolytes—Alec Carroll & Shane Macris

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*
Claudinetta 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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