

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 27, 2019

3RD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

ANNUAL MEETING 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

Tallis' Canon

Richard Purvis

A Thought as You Prepare for Worship

With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan--to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations. —Abraham Lincoln, 2nd Inaugural

INTROIT

Give Thanks for Those Whose Love Is Pure

Parry

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted from Romans 12:4-21

We are the hands of Christ.

Christ, fill us with kindness.

We are the feet of Christ.

Christ, speed us with joy.

We are the eyes of Christ.

Christ, expand our vision.

We are the arms of Christ.

Christ, use our strength for your service.

We are the lips of Christ.

Christ, speak your love in our words and our actions.

Let us worship God!

Today's cover photo is "word cloud" from the NRSV version of the Beatitudes, the first 12 verses of today's scripture passage.

*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 traditionally use the "debts" and "debtors" form of The Lord's Prayer.

Today's Confession Sequence is one Pastor Michael originally constructed from many sources for a worship service at the chapel of Columbia Seminary.

The rose in the chancel this morning celebrates Eric Lounsbury (parents Bob and Carol) and Yumiko Asukai's recent marriage. They were married in London on January 10th in a ceremony celebrated with family—a small but diverse group of 10 representing three religions and four continents. We give God thanks for the gift of love and the gift of sharing that love with another.

Today in Sunday School, Northminster's children will be learning about the Beatitudes from the Book of Matthew.

*OPENING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR NEED OF GRACE

Merciful God, you call us ... justice and mercy.

We confess that too often our lives become so cluttered with personal baggage that we worship you with distracted minds and drifting thoughts.

Forgive us if we worship you ... hearts centered on you;
so that our rituals, words and gestures become trite and emptied of meaning.

Forgive us when concern ... than our generosity of spirit;
so that we fail to identify and own the longings of your heart, O God.

Forgive us when we choose to ignore ... mercy is truly experienced;

where the oppressed are set free; the hungry are fed; the homeless are given shelter and peace is experienced by all. Lead us on this way. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen

ASSURANCE OF RESTORATION

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

Know that we are forgiven and live into hope.

Freed, restored, and challenged to remain faithful, let us live as the children of God, the followers of Christ. Amen.

*RESPONSE

Change My Heart, O God

Purple, No. 695

*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 *Jesus Loves Me!* Purple, No. 188, v. 2

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Open our hearts and minds, O God, by the power of your Holy Spirit, so that as the word is read and proclaimed, we may hear your message with joy and respond with conviction and hope. Amen.

ANTHEM *Bless the Lord O My Soul* M. Ippolitof-Ivanof

SERMON READING Matthew 5:1-20 NT, p. 4
This is the word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

SERMON *An Inaugural Address*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN *Blest Are They* Purple, No. 172

STATEMENT OF FAITH

***We believe in God the Creator,
By whom every being in heaven and earth is called into life.
We believe in God the Son,
Who lives in our hearts through faith,
And fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
Who strengthens us with power from on high.
We believe in One God: Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.
Amen.***

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

RESPONSE *Jesus Loves Me!* Purple, No. 188, v. 1

OUR WORSHIPFUL WORK TOGETHER

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Call to Offering

Offertory *I Will Give Thanks unto the Lord* T. Matthews

*Response *Doxology* Purple, No. 607

*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, so that others may come to know you and experience your grace. Amen.

Both our sermon hymn and closing hymn are based upon the Beatitudes. You are invited to compare how the sermon hymn takes a more literal approach and the closing hymn, a more recent text set to a familiar tune, is far less literal, yet still clearly reflects the message of the Beatitudes.

Today's statement of faith is modified from the Creed of Grace Episcopal Cathedral in San Francisco, California.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN

Purple, No. 731, vs. 1-3

Give Thanks for Those Whose Faith Is Firm

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CLOSING RESPONSE *Give Thanks for Saints of Ages Past* Parry

POSTLUDE

New Britain

Kevin Norris

ANNUAL MEETING

*The Chancel Flowers today are given to the Glory of God by
Hortie Kellogg in loving memory of his beloved Marge
and their daughter, Karen Kellogg James.*

*All are welcome to
remain for the Annual
Meeting and potluck
lunch to follow. Only
those who are
confirmed members
may vote.*

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Preaching—Rev. Michael D. Kirby

Liturgist—Rev. Jessica C. Gregory

A Time with the Children—Youth Sunday School Members

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

Solotists—Johanna Moffitt, soprano; Jackie King, alto;

Steve Uliana, tenor; Doug Balkin, bass

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

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*

Margaret Parcell—*Director of Northminster Nursery School*

Meredith Rogowski—*Director of Children and Family Ministries*

Dr. Sarah Bartolome—*Director of Youth Music*

Rev. Autum Lum—*Interim Director of Youth Ministries*

Carey Garrison—*Director of My Morning Out*

Lisa Martinez—*Sunday Nursery Supervisor*

Claudinetta Voltaire—*My Morning Out Coordinator
& Sunday Nursery Assistant*

ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT STAFF

Sharyn Wilson Woods—*Parish Administrator*

Athina Sato—*Financial Secretary*

Alex Villegas—*Sunday Sexton*

Mark Larsen—*Interim Facilities Manager*

CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Greg Boyer—*Clerk of Session*

Bob Wooldridge—*Deacon Moderator*

Members of NPC—*Ministers*

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

847.869.9210 www.northminpres.org