

The Words of Institution

The service of holy communion is a celebration of the presence of God and Christ among us and a feast of bounty for all. In this place, all are welcome to partake. You will be directed, row by row, to come forward. The server will place the bread in your open palms. Gluten-free wafers are available. You are invited to either partake of the common cup containing wine or you may choose to take one of the individual cups containing grape juice. If you wish to take communion using intinction (dipping the bread), please use the individual cups.

The Communion Anthem *Psalms 103: Bless the Lord, My Soul* James Mulholland
Arr. D.H. Clark

Bless the Lord, my soul; bless God's holy name. With all of our being, bless God's holy name! There is pure forgiveness in God's warm embrace; never showing anger; God is love and God is grace! Bless the Lord, my soul, our God understands life on earth shall pass, as a fading flower, like the transient grass. But God's steadfast love shall forever endure, flowing free forever, living ever strong and sure.

*The Communion Response OLD ONE HUNDREDTH
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Christ, all creatures here below.
Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter,
One God Triune, whom we adore. Amen.**

*The Closing Hymn No. 44 *Beautiful Jesus*
SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU

*The Benediction Rev. Hankamer

*The Postlude and Recessional *Improvisation on SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU*
(Following the Choir's recession, you may quietly follow or be seated until the conclusion of the postlude)



At Northminster, Everyone Is a Minister Our Equipping Ministers

Senior Pastor: Rev. Jillian Hankamer **Director of Music:** Rev. Dr. Deborah Chandler
Organist/Musician in Residence: Rev. Dr. D.H. Clark **Music Associate:** Mr. Justin Havard
Choral Associate: Miss Naomi Kilpatrick **Admin. Assistant:** Ms. Renee Decker
In Memoriam Rev. Dr. C. Welton Gaddy, Senior Pastor 1992-2016

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The Worship of God

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2026

Welcome to our service at Northminster Church. We believe that true worship is an active experience for each worshipper. As we become aware of the presence of those seated near us let us enter into the realization that this hour provides us with an opportunity to encounter the Holy. At this time, please silence all electronic devices. Then, please sign and pass the attendance register on the inside aisle of each row so we can know of your presence with us.

Gathering for Worship

The Preludes 10:45 a.m.

Bella Notte - Ludovico Einaudi

Sweet, Sweet Spirit - Doris Akers, arr. Fred Bock

Pad de deux - Samuel Barber

What a Friend We Have in Jesus - Charles Converse, arr. Fred Bock

The Chiming of the Hour 11:00 a.m.

The Welcome and Opportunities Rev. Jillian Hankamer

The Call to Worship

One: Welcome to the weary and the worn.

Many: Welcome to the wiggly and the eager.

One: Welcome to the skeptical and the seeking.

Many: Welcome to the early risers and those still trying to wake up.

One: Welcome to the rule followers and rule breakers.

**Please rise, if able, in body or in spirit.*

Many: Welcome to those hungry for justice and those desperate for mercy.

One: Welcome to the sinners and the saints.

Many: This is God's house.

One: You can make yourself at home here.

Many: Let us worship our just, merciful, and faithful God!

The Introit

*The Processional *(Please rise in body or in spirit as the processional cross passes your row)*

*The Opening Hymn No. 465 *Teach Me, O Lord, Your Holy Way*
ROCKINGHAM

Listening for God in Word, Music, and Prayer

The Children's Message *I see the face of God in you; the love of Christ comes shining through, and I am blessed to be with you, beloved, holy child of God.* Rev. Jillian Hankamer

The Voluntary *Il Tuffatore* Thomas Newman

The Psalter Psalm 139



The Pastoral Prayer Rev. Hankamer

*The Hymn No. 211 *Lord Jesus, Who Through Forty Days*
ST. FLAVIAN

*The Gospel Acclamation *Our bodies, souls, and minds need your word as we journey in the wilderness. Glory be to You, O Christ* D.H. Clark

*The Gospel Reading Matthew 23:23; John 8:2-11

One: The Gospel of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Choir: *Manna to sustain us. Praise be to You, O Christ.*

The Sermon *The Good News Is... Justice, Mercy, and Faithfulness* Rev. Hankamer

The Anthem *And Can It Be?* PLEW, by Dan Forrest
And can it be? Amazing love, how can it be? Amazing love, so vast, so free; so freely shared for all humanity. Love flowed before creation's dawn, the love by which God's plan was drawn. Christ came to us, Incarnate Love, to share with all God's matchless grace, so freely given for every soul, without regard to clan or race, such wondrous grace! Infinite grace so freely shared for you and for me. Then for God's boundless love sing praise through endless ages, countless days! By love we have been reconciled, new life is ours through God's own child. O Love, how vast, how flowing free, the love which Christ has shown to you and me. Amazing love, how can it be that love which Christ has shown to you and me? Amazing love!

Text by D.H. Clark, based on a hymn by Charles Wesley and a 15th century Latin hymn

Dedicating Gifts to God

The Offertory is a time of personal devotion and reflection on the day's teaching, and an opportunity to present silently before God what we can give of ourselves. Monetary gifts, which are an important part of our worship and commitment to our church, may be made privately in the offering plate located in the aisle at the back of the sanctuary or via PayPal by scanning the QR Code found on the insert.

Sharing Holy Communion

The Invitation to Communion

The Prayer of Jesus (Using "Father" or "God" and "trespasses")

**Please rise, if able.*