

The Communion Anthem *Gracious Spirit, Dwell With Me* arr. K. Lee Scott
Gracious Spirit dwell with me, I would gracious be; help me now thy grace to see, I would be like thee. And with words that help and heal, thy life would mine reveal; and with bold and meek, for Christ, my Savior speak. Truthful Spirit, dwell with me, I would truthful be; help me now thy truth to see, I would be like thee; and with wisdom kind and clear, thy life in mine appear; and with actions brotherly speak Christ's sincerity. Holy Spirit dwell with me, I would holy be; show thy mercy tenderly, make me more like thee. Mighty spirit dwell with me, I would mighty be; help me now thy power to see, I would be like thee. Against all weapons hell can wield, be thou my strength and shield; let thy word my weapon be, Lord, thine the victory. Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would be like thee!

*The Communion Response LAAST UNS ERFREUEN
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Christ, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter,
One God Triune, whom we adore. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.**

Departing to Respond to God's Love

*The Closing Hymn and Recessional No. 23 *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*
IN BABILONE

*The Benediction

The Postlude *Short Prelude in G Minor* J. S. Bach

***The floral offering is given to the glory of God
And in loving memory of Christina Tweet
By Craig Henry and D.H. Clark***

**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 Intern: Miss Naomi Kilpatrick **Admin. Assistant:** Ms. Renee Decker
In Memoriam Rev. Dr. C. Welton Gaddy, Senior Pastor 1992-2016



The Worship of God
The Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 21, 2025

Welcome to our service at Northminster Church. We believe that true worship is an active experience for each worshipper. 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.

Gathering for Worship

The Preludes *Lullaby* - Edvard Grieg 10:45 a.m.
Shall We Gather at the River - Robert Lowry, arr. V. Collinsworth
Girl with the Flaxen Hair - Claude Debussy
Shepherd of Love - John W. Peterson, arr. Tedd Smith

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

The Welcome and Opportunities Rev. Jillian Hankamer

The Call to Worship
One: Blessed are the poor in spirit – for heaven breaks in through open hands.
Many: We come, longing and uncertain, yet welcomed and called.
One: Blessed are those who grieve – for mercy flows where hearts are tender.
Many: We bring sorrow and hope, held in love that does not let go.
One: Blessed are the gentle, the merciful, the pure in heart, the builders of peace.

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

Many: We come not to watch from a distance, but to walk the way of compassion and courage.		
One:	Blessed are those who hunger for justice, and all who stand firm in love, even when it costs.	
Many: We come ready – to risk, to rise, to follow the call.		
One:	Now is the time.	
Many: This is the way.		
All:	Let us worship the One who blesses all and calls us to be a blessing.	
The Processional <i>(Please rise in body or in spirit as the processional cross passes your row)</i>		
*The Opening Hymn No. 8		
<i>Praise to the Living God</i> DIADEMATA		
Listening for God in Word, Prayer, and Music		
The Children’s Message		
<i>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.</i>		
The Voluntary		
<i>Live in Peace</i>		
Gwyneth Walker		
The Scripture Reading		
Revelation 21:1-7		
One: Words about the nature of God.		
Many: Thanks be to God.		
*The Hymn No. 58		
<i>Spirit of Love</i> PERFECT LOVE		
The Pastoral Prayer		
Rev. Hankamer		
*The Gospel Acclamation		
D. H. Clark		
<i>Your word is love, Your truth is love, You, O God, are Love. Glory be to you, O Christ.</i>		

*The Gospel Reading	Matthew 5:1-9
Leader:	The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.	
Choir:	<i>Teach us to love even as You love. Praise be to you, O Christ.</i>

The Sermon	Rev. Hankamer
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The Anthem	<i>Blessed Are You</i>	Craig Courtney
<i>Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the makers of peace: for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for righteousness: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile and persecute you, and speak evil against you, for my sake. Rejoice, be glad: for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets which were before you. Blessed are you.</i>		
From Matthew 5:3-12		

Dedicating Gifts to God

The Offertory is a time of personal devotion and an opportunity to present silently before God what we can give of ourselves. Monetary gifts 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”)

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 take your own cup.

**Please rise, if able.*