

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.

The Communion Anthem

O Lamb of God

Sergei Rachmaninoff
Op 37, No. 6

Lamb of God You take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us. Amen.

- ed. D.H. Clark

*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.**

Departing to Respond to God’s Love

*The Closing Hymn and Recessional No. 459
(Stanzas 1 & 4)

Come, O Fount of Every Blessing
NETTLETON

*The Benediction

Rev. Hankamer



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

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The Worship of God

The Third Sunday in Lent

March 23, 2025

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.

Fugue on a Kyrie by Corelli - J. S. Bach
Aria - Andrew Carter

Adagio in g - Tomaso Albinoni
Ashokan Farewell - Jay Unger, arr. James Welch

The Chiming of the Hour

11:00 a.m.

The Welcome and Opportunities

Rev. Jillian Hankamer

The Call to Worship

Rev. Hankamer

The Processional

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

*The Opening Hymn No. 209
(Stanzas 1 – 4)

O Love, How Vast, How Flowing Free
DEO GRACIAS

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.

Listening for God in Word, Prayer, and Song

The Voluntary

Sonatine: mvt. 2
Maurice Ravel

The Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:1-9

One: The Word of God.
Many: Thanks be to God.

The Prayer of Confession

Holy God, there are days when we fail to rest. We stretch ourselves too thin. We say “yes” to every invitation. We run a million miles a minute. We ignore your command to rest. There are also days when we fail to act. We wait for someone else. We take the easy road. We find excuses and justify our inaction. God, forgive our imbalance. Remind us that birds rest, and they also fly. Show us how to do the same. Amen.

The Words of Forgiveness

Rev. Hankamer

One: Family of faith, I have good news! Our God does not keep score. Our God does not hold grudges. Our God does not assume the worst about us. No, our God offers grace, and endless second chances, and boundless joy. So, join me in proclaiming the good news of the gospel:

Many: God’s grace is deeper than the ocean. God’s love is wider than the sky. We are seen. We are claimed. We are forgiven. May this realization change and inspire us. Thanks be to God, Amen!

*The Hymn (See insert)

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms
SHOWALTER

The New Testament Reading

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

One: Words about the faithfulness of God.
Many: Thanks be to God.

*The Gospel Acclamation

D.H. Clark

Return to God, maintain love and justice, and wait for God alway. Glory be to you, O Christ.

*The Gospel Reading

Luke 13:6-9

One: The Gospel of the Lord.
Many: Thanks be to God.
Choir: God, let your light guide our way, and your spirit bring us peace. Praise be to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

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.

**Please rise, if able.*