

## 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

*His Voice, As the Sound of the Dulcimer, Sweet*

Arr. Charles Elkins

*His voice as the sound of the dulcimer, sweet, is heard thru the shadows of death; the cedars of Lebanon bow at His feet, the air is perfumed with His breath. His lips as the fountain of righteousness flow, that waters the garden of grace; from which their salvation the gentiles shall know and bask in the smiles of His face. O Thou, in whose presence my soul takes delight, on whom, in affliction, I call; my comfort by day, and my song in the night, my hope, my salvation, my all. Where dost Thou at noontide resort with Thy sheep, to feed on the pastures of love? Say why in the valley of death should I weep, or alone in the wilderness rove? The Roses of Sharon, the lilies that grow in the vales, on the banks of the streams, on His cheeks in the beauty of excellence blow, and His eyes are as quivers of beams. His voice as the sound of the dulcimer, sweet, is heard thru the shadows of death: the cedars of Lebanon bow at His feet, the air is perfumed with His breath.*

—Southern Folk Hymn

## \*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. 212

*O Jesus Christ, May Grateful Hymns*

CHARTERHOUSE

## \*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 Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 30, 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 *Intermezzo and Nocturn* – Alexander Borodin 10:45 a.m.  
*Come Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove* – John B. Dykes, arr. Tedd Smith  
*Chanson sans Paroles: No. 1 & 2* – Carl Czerny

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

The Welcome and Opportunities Rev. Jillian Hankamer

The Minute for Missions Jeff Sebastian

The Call to Worship Rev. Hankamer

One: Our God is a shepherding God.

**Many: Our God knows us by name.**

One: Our God will never stop searching for us. So, if you feel lost,

**Many: then know that God will never leave.**

One: This is a promise of scripture.

**Many: This is the promise of God's love.**

One: Let us worship our with-us God.

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

\*The Opening Hymn No. 289

*Come Forth, O Love Divine*  
DOWN AMPNEY

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

*I Cry to You, Lord Jesus Christ*

J. S. Bach

The Psalm

Psalm 32

One: A song of David celebrating God's forgiveness.

**Many: Thanks be to God.**

The Words of Confession

Rev. Hankamer

One: If God is a painter,

**Many: let us be the brush.**

One: If God is a musician,

**Many: let us be the song.**

One: If God is an architect,

**Many: let us be the tools. Let us be the hands. Let us be the builders.**

One: But if God is a shepherd who never stops seeking,

**Many: let us be willing to be found, no matter how lost we feel.**

One: Our God is never far away.

**Many: Forgive us for forgetting this good news. Amen.**

The Words of Forgiveness

Rev. Hankamer

One: Family of faith, we are all a little bit lost, and a little bit found. We grumble. We push back. We doubt God. We doubt ourselves. We leave the flock and lose our way. But fortunately for us, our God is a shepherding God who is always by our side. So, hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

**Many: No matter how far we wander, we can never wander from the bounds of God's grace. We are loved. We are forgiven. We are not alone. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

\*The Hymn (See insert)  
(Stanzas 1, 2, 4)

*Softly and Tenderly*  
THOMPSON

The New Testament Reading

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

One: How through Jesus, God reconciled the world.

**Many: Thanks be to God.**

\*The Gospel Acclamation

D.H. Clark

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

\*The Gospel Reading

Luke 15:1-7

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

*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

Arr. Virgil Thompson

*My Shepherd will supply my need, Jehovah is his name. In pastures fresh he makes me feed beside the living stream and brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake his ways. He leads me for his mercy's sake in paths of truth and grace. When I walk through the shades of death, thy presence is my stay. One word of thy supporting breath drives all my fears away, thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread. My cup with blessings overflows, thine oil anoints my head. The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days, O may thy house be my abode and all my work be praise. There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come, no more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.*

– Metered text of Psalm 23 by Isaac Watts

## 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.*