

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

Lamb of God

German Chorale, 1540

Arr. F. Melius Christiansen

Lamb of God most holy! Who on the cross did suffer patient still and lowly. Thyself to scorn did offer; our sins by thee were taken, or hope had us forsaken: Have mercy on us, O Jesu!
-Text Nicolaus Decius, 1531; Tr., Arthur T. Russell, alt.

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. 575

*O for a World***
AZMON

*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 First Sunday in Lent

March 9, 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 (** denotes women composers and authors) 10:45 a.m.
*Reflection on KINGSFOLD - Maureen Howell**; Prayer - Brenda Portman**
Adagio in c minor - Miriam Reveley**; Petite Canon - Nadia Boulanger**
Prayer for Ukraine - Paul F. Page*

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

The Welcome and Opportunities Rev. Jillian Hankamer

The Call to Worship Rev. Hankamer

One: Here is this place we can ask big questions.

**Many: Who is my neighbor? How can I help? What do I have to learn?
Where is God in it all?**

One: Here in this place, we can ask big questions.

**Many: So may we listen. May we learn. May we stay curious, as we look
for God.**

One: This is our invitation to lean in. Let us worship our holy God.

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

*The Opening Hymn (see insert) *I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light***
HOUSTON

The Children's Message Rev. Hankamer
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 and Prayer

The Voluntary *Luce Della Neve* Rachel Portman**

The Old Testament Reading Deuteronomy 30:9-14
One: The Word of God.
Many: **Thanks be to God.**

The Prayer of Confession
Holy God, you have told us to love our neighbors as ourselves, but we get tripped up on logistics. We want to know: who is our neighbor? Do we have to love the stranger? Must we have compassion for our enemy? Forgive our human tendency to create exceptions in the face of love. Rewire our hearts so that we might see the face of a neighbor in every stranger we pass. With hope we pray, amen.

The Words of Forgiveness Rev. Hankamer
One: Family of faith when we set limits on love,
Many: **God loves extravagantly.**
One: When we forget that we are neighbors,
Many: **God claims us as God's own.**
One: When we judge, hold back, or harm,
Many: **God surrounds us with grace.**
One: There is nothing we can do or leave undone that could separate us from the love of God.
Many: **This is good news of the gospel.**
All: **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

The Hymn (see insert) *How Great Thou Art*
O STORE GUD

The New Testament Reading Colossians 1:1-14
One: Words about what it is to walk worthy of the Lord.
Many: **Thanks be to God.**

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

*The Gospel Reading Luke 10:25-37
One: The Gospel of the Lord.
Many: **Thanks be to God.**
Choir: *Manna to sustain us. Praise be to you, O Christ.*

The Sermon ***Dangerous Unselfishness*** Rev. Hankamer

The Anthem *You Do Not Walk Alone* Elaine Hagenberg**
May you see God's light on the path ahead when the road you walk is dark. May you always hear, even in your hour of sorrow, the gentle singing of the lark. When times are hard may hardness never turn your heart to stone, may you always remember when the shadows fall, you do not walk alone.
-Traditional Irish Blessing

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.*