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 *Come, Share, All Are Welcome Here* Arr. Don Schlosser

Come, share, all are welcome here; come as you are. Give, take, share from a wooden plate and earthenware jar; come as you are. Souls are fed, hearts made new by a common uncommonly spirit. At this table many have found their heart's true home. And as often as you return, you'll know you are not alone.

-Antonin Dvořák, *Romance,* op. 11; Lyrics by David Mears

*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.

*The Closing Hymn No. 52 *There Is a Name I Love to Hear*
O HOW I LOVE JESUS

The Benediction Rev. Hankamer

*The Postlude and Recessional *Fanfare* Nicolas Jacques Lemmens
(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 Intern: Miss Naomi Kilpatrick **Admin. Assistant:** Ms. Renee Decker
In Memoriam Rev. Dr. C. Welton Gaddy, Senior Pastor 1992-2016

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2701 Lamy Lane | Monroe, LA 71201 | 318-388-3717 | www.northmin.org

Do Justice, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly with God. MICAH 6:8
NORTHMINSTER Church

The Worship of God

The Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 26, 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.

Prelude on "The God of Love My Shepherd Is" - Henry Ley
Master Tallis' Testament - Herbert Howells
Song of Peace - Jean Langlais

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

The Welcome and Opportunities Rev. Jillian Hankamer

The Call to Worship

One: Jesus says, "The thief comes only to steal and destroy."
Many: We know those voices and we will not follow them.
One: "The Shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out."
Many: We are known. We are called out of fear and into life.
One: "I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will find pasture."
Many: We reject every gate that excludes and cages.

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

One: "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

Many: We choose that life – full and free for all.

One: Listen for the Shepherd's voice.

Many: We gather to follow and to worship. Amen.

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

*The Opening Hymn No. 86 *When Morning Gilds the Skies*
LAUDES DOMINI

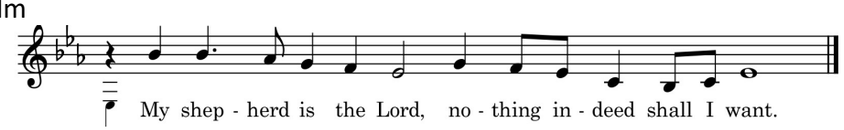
Listening for God in Word, Music, and Prayer

The Children's Message Beth Mayfield

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.

The Voluntary *Christo Redentor* Jon Batiste

The Psalm Psalm 23



The Pastoral Prayer Rev. Hankamer

The Epistle Reading 1 Peter 2:19-25

One: The Scripture speaks.

Many: Thanks be to God.

*The Hymn No. 247 *My Shepherd Is the Living God*
CONSOLATION

*The Gospel Acclamation D.H. Clark

Be still O soul. Our God is on our side. God's word comforts and guides us. Glory be to you, O Christ.

*The Gospel Reading John 6:56-69

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Choir *God's word be our stay in life's tempests and gales. Praise be to you, O Christ.*

The Sermon Rev. Hankamer

The Anthem *Be Thou My Vision* John Rutter

Be now my vision O Lord of my heart. Be all else but naught to me, save that you art. Be thou my best thought in the day and the night. Both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light. Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word, I ever with you, and you with me, Lord. Be thou my great parent and I thy true child. Be thou in me dwelling and I with thee one. Be thou my breastplate, my strength for the life, be thou my whole armor, be thou my strong might. Be thou my soul's shelter; be thou my strong tower. O raise thou me heavenward, Great Power of my power. Riches I heed not nor life's empty praise. Be thou mine inheritance, now and always. Be thou and thou only the first in my heart. Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art. Sovereign of heaven, thou heaven's bright sun. O grant me its joys after victory is won. Great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

Ancient Irish Text, translated by Mary Elizabeth Byrne, alt.

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.*