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## **Welcome to worship at Northminster!**

Thank you for worshipping with us today. If you are visiting with us this morning we hope you feel the presence of God and the hospitality of this congregation. If you have any questions about our church please ask one of the pastors or a greeting host wearing a red “Ask Me” badge.

## **SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY**

**SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**

February 25, 2018

««««««««««««««««««

\* *Those who are able, please stand.*

**Congregation responds in bold**

## **CENTERING THOUGHT**

### *Blessing*

After all these years,  
after so much yearning,  
endless disappointments,  
and unfulfilled dreams –  
now a blessing;  
and with it,  
a change of name.

Do I put aside all of my past,  
the woman I have been,

the pains I have endured,  
and become someone totally new?

Or keep it all,  
but the I

who was assured a forlorn finish,  
and avail myself of  
a different ending?

©Neryl McCallum

## **APPROACHING GOD**

*Please silence your cell phone before worship begins.*

**WELCOME**

Teri Thomas

**GATHERING SONG**

**Hymn No. 814** In God Alone      **MON ÂME SE REPOSE**  
*(Worshippers are invited to sing English or French)*

In God a - lone my soul can find rest and peace, in  
 Mon â - me se re - po - se en paix sur Dieu seul: de

God my peace and joy. On - ly in God my  
 lui vient mon sa - lut. Oui, sur Dieu seul mon

soul can find its rest, find its rest and peace.  
 â - me se re - po - se, se re - po - se en paix.

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

People of the covenant, give thanks.

**The Lord is our salvation.**

The Lord is merciful and gracious,  
**slow to anger and abounding in love.**

Children of the living God, draw near.

**Jesus Christ is with us.**

**Let us worship God.**

**\*HYMN NO. 39**      Great Is Thy Faithfulness      **FAITHFULNESS**

1 \*Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;  
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,  
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.  
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove  
 thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.  
 join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness  
 strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:

As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
 bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain

Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!  
오 신 실 하 신 주 오 신 실 하 신 주

Morn - ing by morn - ing, new mer - cies I see.  
날 마 다 자 비 를 베푸 시 며

All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.  
일 용 할 모 든 것 내 려 주 시 니

Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!  
오 신 실 하 신 주 나 의 구 주

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

Lord, For Thy Tender Mercy's Sake

Richard Farrant

(c. 1530-1580)

9:00 Section Leaders

11:00 Chancel Choir

Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake, lay not our sins to our charge, but forgive that is past, and give us grace to amend our sinful lives; to decline from sin and incline to virtue, that we may walk in a perfect heart before thee now and evermore. Amen.

(from *Christian Prayers and Holy Meditations*, 1568)

## **\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Ruth Chadwick Moore

**Eternal God, we are a people of dust and ashes.**

**You have claimed us in your covenant,  
yet we forget your steadfast love.**

**You seek us out in the wilderness,  
yet we continue to wander.**

Forgive us, God of grace.

Wash us clean, once again, so that we may return to you and follow your holy way, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **\*SILENCE FOR PERSONAL PRAYER AND REFLECTION**

**\*KYRIE ELEISON** (Lord, have mercy)

Russian Orthodox

Greek Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.  
 English Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy. Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - - - son.  
 Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - - - cy.

**\*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, with God's loving power for you, with you and through you, there is no failure, nothing that cannot be forgiven.

**With God's loving power behind us and before us, the new way opens up, the dead ends are finished.**

Know that pardon and peace are yours.

**Praise God! We can renew our faith and practice.**

**\*SHARING THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*(Worshippers may greet one another with words of Christ's peace.)*

**LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD**

**ANTHEM (9:00)**

The God of Abraham Praise

LEONI  
Peace Choir

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

Ruth Chadwick Moore

*(Children may be excused to go to Church School at this time.)*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Shema Yisrael

The Shema (Jewish tradition)

(9:00) Section Leaders

(11:00) Chancel Choir

**PSALM 22: 23-31**

Hal Hopson

(9:00) Section Leaders

(11:00) Chancel Choir Men



Lord, in you I trust. You are my God.

**LESSONS**

Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16 (Pg. 13)

Romans 4: 13-25 (Pg. 155)

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

Grace and Guarantee

Teri Thomas

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

**\*STANDING ON THE PROMISES**

**HYMN NO. 838**

**PROMISES**

*(Please sing stanza 1 and Refrain)*

1 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of Christ my king,  
 2 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es that can - not fail,  
 3 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of Christ the Lord,  
 4 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es I can - not fall,

through e - ter - nal a - ges let his prais - es ring;  
 when the howl - ing storms of doubt and fear as - sail,  
 bound to him e - ter - nal - ly by love's strong cord,  
 lis - tening ev - ery mo - ment to the Spir - it's call,

glo - ry in the high - est, I will shout and sing,  
 by the liv - ing Word of God I shall pre - vail,  
 o - ver - com - ing dai - ly with the Spir - it's sword,  
 rest - ing in my Sav - ior as my all in all,

stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.  
 stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.  
 stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.  
 stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.

Refrain

Stand - ing, stand - ing,  
stand - ing on the prom - is - es, stand - ing on the prom - is - es,  
stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God my Sav - ior;

The musical score consists of two systems. The first system has a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat and a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: "Stand - ing, stand - ing, stand - ing on the prom - is - es, stand - ing on the prom - is - es,". The second system also has a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat and a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: "stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God my Sav - ior;".

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Marland Pittman

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in  
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our  
debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into  
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the  
kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**OFFERING** (*Please sign the pew pad and pass it to your neighbor.*)

**OFFERTORY**

Steal Away

African-American spiritual  
arr. Harry Burleigh  
(1866-1949)

Elisabeth Kleinsmith, Soprano

**\*DOXOLOGY**

OLD 100TH

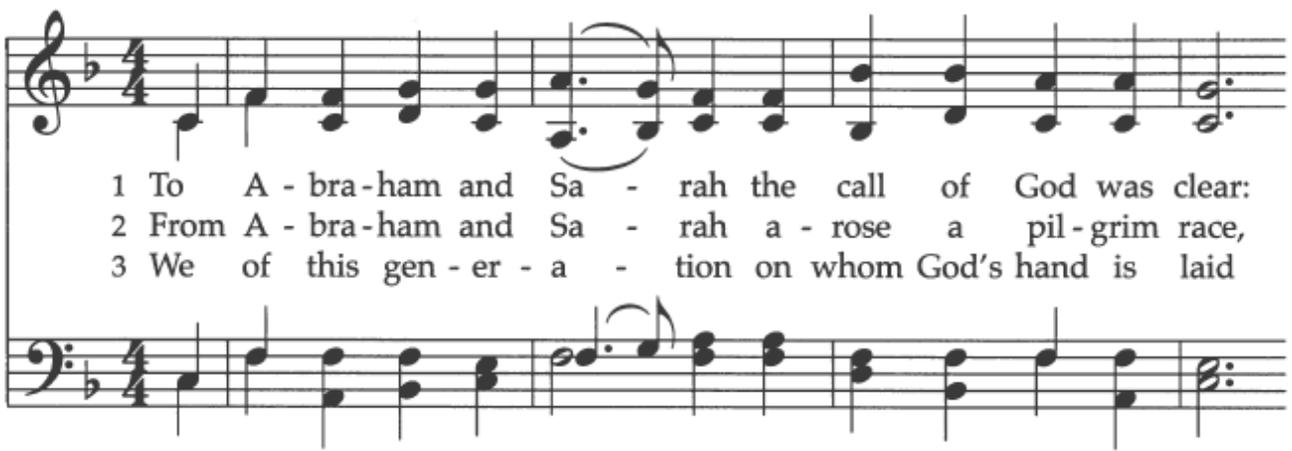
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore.  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore.**

**\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

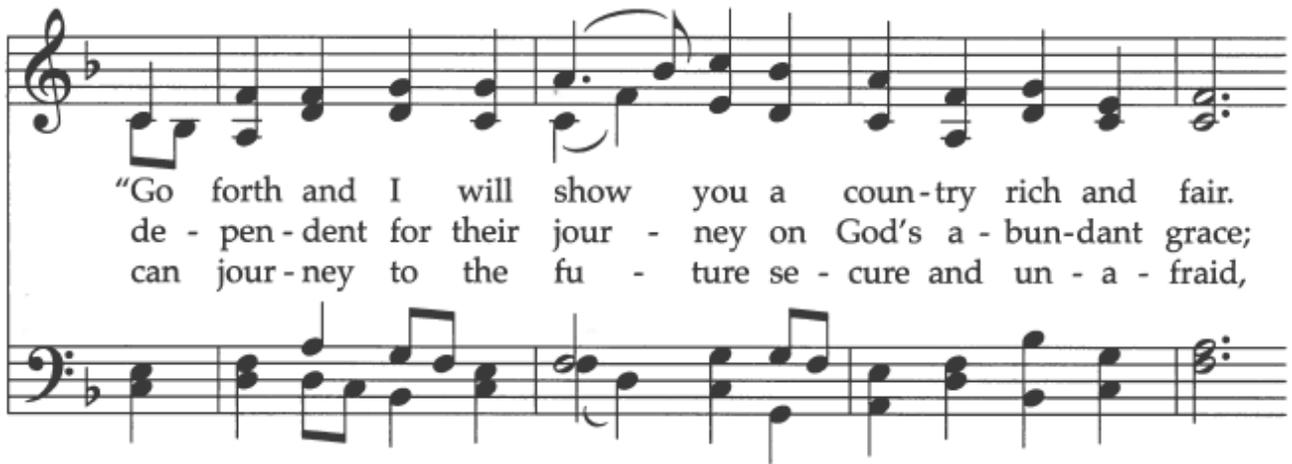
**GOING FORTH**

**\*HYMN NO. 51** To Abraham and Sarah

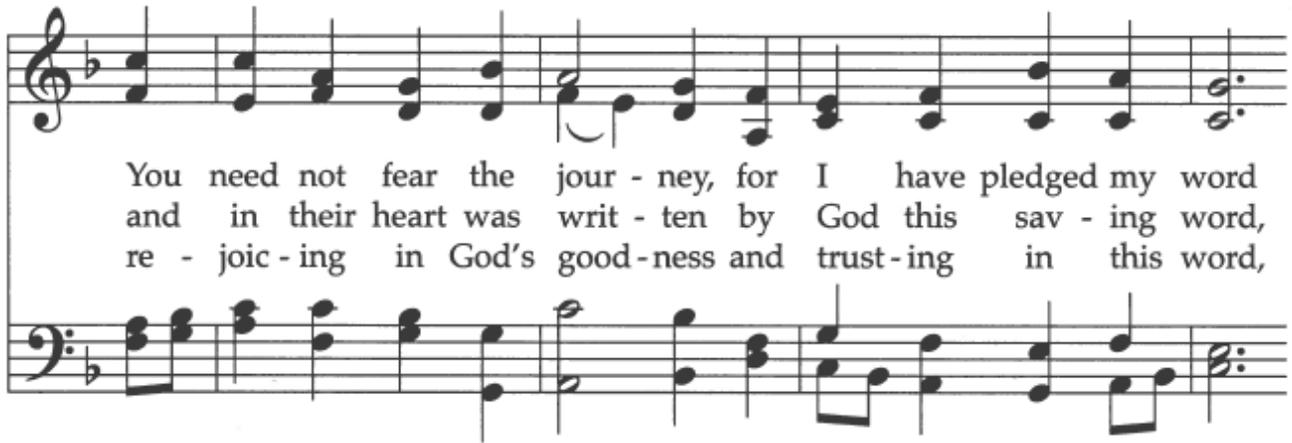
LLANFYLLIN



1 To A - bra - ham and Sa - rah the call of God was clear:  
2 From A - bra - ham and Sa - rah a - rose a pil - grim race,  
3 We of this gen - er - a - tion on whom God's hand is laid



"Go forth and I will show you a coun - try rich and fair.  
de - pen - dent for their jour - ney on God's a - bun - dant grace;  
can jour - ney to the fu - ture se - cure and un - a - fraid,



You need not fear the jour - ney, for I have pledged my word  
and in their heart was writ - ten by God this sav - ing word,  
re - joic - ing in God's good - ness and trust - ing in this word,



that you shall be my peo - ple and I will be your God."  
"That you shall be my peo - ple and I will be your God."  
"That you shall be my peo - ple and I will be your God."

## \* BLESSING AND CHARGE

Brothers and Sisters – walk into the world holding onto the promises of God.

**We go in faith knowing God’s promises are for us.**

Walk boldly, knowing God has established a covenant with the world.

**We go to praise, to love and to serve, confident that God will be with us today, tomorrow, and always. Amen.**

**POSTLUDE** (9:00) Improvisation on LEONI Marko Petričić

**CHORAL RESPONSE** (11:00) Gloria Patri Wolfgang A. Mozart  
(from “Laudate pueri,” *Vesperae solennes de Dominica*)  
(1756-1791)

Gloria Patri, et Filio et Spiritui Sancto,  
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper,  
et in saecula saeculorum. Amen

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and forever,  
and for generations of generations. Amen.*



Acolytes in worship today are Sam Banks and Lily Banks.

## MUSIC IN WORSHIP

**During the season of Lent**, our worship services begin with “In God Alone,” a song from the Taizé tradition. Taizé is a small village in the south of Burgundy, France. It is home to a monastic community devoted to prayer and reconciliation. A worship service at Taizé involves sung and chanted prayers, silence, readings and icons. While the Taizé service cannot be imitated completely, it can and has been adapted by many Christian communities around the world. Unique to the prayer is the use of simple melodies and

harmonies that can be sung repetitively by a whole assembly of various nationalities, languages and denominations. The duration is neither to be timed, nor the number of repetitions calculated beforehand. As we come to worship this Lent, Taizé singing allows us the time to center ourselves and the opportunity to be immersed and carried by this prayer.

**The theme of God's goodness** and faithfulness is portrayed in this morning's opening hymn, No. 39 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness." The author, Kentuckian Thomas Chisholm (1866 – 1960), wrote over 1200 poems. The music was composed in 1923 by William Runyan in Baldwin, Kansas. Both author and composer were ordained in the United Methodist Church. George Beverly Shea sang this hymn regularly in the Billy Graham Crusades in the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### **Sunday Morning Volunteers**

Now is a perfect time to dig a little deeper, step out of our comfort zone, and try something new. Our Nursery, Preschool, and Church School classrooms have available slots in the weeks ahead. (Materials are provided.)

Please take a minute to review the sign up at:

<http://bit.ly/NPCfebHELPERs>. Your commitment to our congregation and specifically to our children is very much appreciated. If you have questions, please contact Cheryl Plunkett at: [cplunkett@northminster-indy.org](mailto:cplunkett@northminster-indy.org) or call/text at 317-698-1567.

### **This is Church**

Have you ever taught a child to fold their fingers inside their hands and say the rhyme, "here is the church, here is the steeple, open the doors and see all the people?" The wiggling fingers teach children, and adults, too, that the church is not the building — the steeples, windows, or structure, but people gathering to worship God. There's

something else in the children's rhyme. As the child breaks open their hands to reveal the people, they move their fingers back and forth, often as fast as they can. This simple move reminds us that the church is the energy and actions that share the love of Christ.

✦ When a disaster strikes, people give, volunteer, and pray so that those impacted receive help and hope, this is church.

✦ When poverty and violence cause hunger and people join together to respond to the need and address its root causes, this is church.

✦ When injustice falls on those who are vulnerable and people join hands with one another and lift their voices against the interests of power, this is church.

The church is the Holy Spirit's transforming power emanating into the world sharing the compassion, justice, love, and peace of Christ. Presbyterians join the movement of the Spirit into every corner of the Earth — and in this season, through our church-wide **One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering**.

### *What's Next?*

#### **Sunday Morning Worship**

*Sunday, March 4* – What is the difference between a covenant and a contract? What does God do when we mess up our end? Are the Ten Commandments restrictive? The Sacrament of Communion will be celebrated.

*Sunday, March 11* – Explore the unbreakable covenant.

*Sunday, March 18* – God promised a new covenant and said it would be written on your heart. Is it there? Can you read it?

#### **Holy Week Worship**

*Sunday, March 25* – Palm/Passion Sunday. Go to Jerusalem for that interesting parade with Jesus and the donkey and the palm branches. It sets the stage for Easter.

*Thursday, March 29* – Maundy Thursday. Communion at 7pm.

Do you ever wonder what the others at the table were thinking or feeling? Shall we ask them?

*Friday, March 30* – Good Friday. Tenebrae at 7pm. Walk through the final hours of Jesus' life through scripture, song, prayer, light and dark.

The moving service concludes in darkness and silence.

*Sunday, April 1* – Easter Sunday. He is risen indeed!

### **Mission and Outreach**

*Deacons' Spring Plant Sale* – order now for delivery in early May. Deadline for orders is March 15.

*Gleaners Food Bank Volunteers* – March 15, 12:30pm

### **Events and Education**

*Public Faith - Lenten Study* – Feb. 18-March 25, 10am

*Italian Night* –February 24, 6pm

*#foodandfaith* – March 11, 12:15pm at Fat Dan's

*Sound & Spirit Mostly Mozart Concert* – March 18, 4pm

For more information, check out our website ([northminster-indy.org](http://northminster-indy.org)), ask to receive our weekly email, pick up a newsletter from an information table, or contact the church office.

**To give by text message on a smartphone, text the amount you would like to give to 317-316-3009. Our online giving system, ShelbyNext, will then prompt you through a one-time set up for giving.**

## MINISTRY

**Teri L. Thomas**  
Pastor

**Ruth Chadwick Moore**  
Associate Pastor

**John M. Wright**  
Director, Music Ministries

**Cheryl Plunkett**  
Acting Director, Christian Education

**Maureen Wilson**  
Acting Director, Youth Ministry and  
Kids Club

**Marko Petričić**  
Music Associate/Organist

**Marland Pittman**  
Seminary Intern

**Denise Harrington**  
Senior Ministry Consultant

**Carol McDonald**  
Parish Associate

**Barbara A. Sloop**  
Parish Associate

**Carol Campbell**  
**John Reed**  
**Tony Dzwonar**  
Stephen Ministry Leaders

**Donald R. Durrett**  
Associate Pastor Emeritus