

The Anthem "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" Young

There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in God's justice that is more than liberty.
There is welcome for the sinner and more graces for the good!
There is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood.

But we make God's love too narrow by false limits of our own;
And we magnify God's strictness with a zeal God will not own.
There is grace enough for thousands of new worlds as great as this;
There is room for fresh creations in that upper room of bliss.

For the love of God is broader than the measure of our mind;
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our lives were but more simple, we would trust God's faithful word;
Then our lives would be more loving in the likeness of our Lord.

The Sermon "Concerning the Way We Read Our Bibles" Charles Poole

COMMITMENT

Northminster is an open fellowship that wants to share its gift of life and ministry with others. During the Time of Response, this church extends to you an invitation to membership by your request for baptism, by letter from a sister church, or by statement of your Christian experience in another denomination. If you would like to unite with this covenant community, please express this desire by coming forward at this point of the service.

TIME OF RESPONSE

When anxious cares threaten our peace, help us to run to you, that we may find rest, and be strong, for calm endurance and valiant service.

-W. Lewis Milan

*The Recessional Hymn No. 612: "How Firm a Foundation" *FOUNDATION*

*The Benediction Charles Poole

*The Postlude "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" Phillips

**The congregation will please stand.*

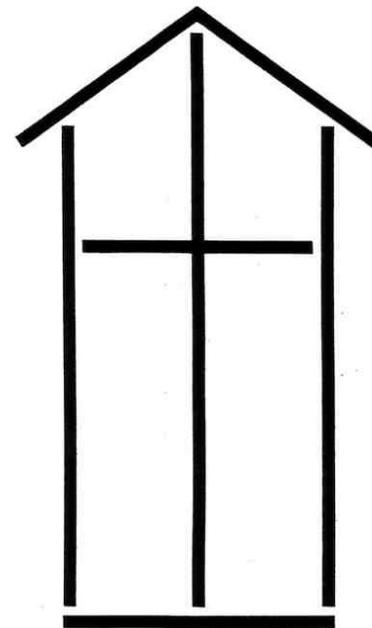
The Lectionary passages for August 25 are found on the following pages in the Pew Bible:

Jeremiah 1:4-10 ~ pages 609-610

Psalm 71:1-6 ~ page 463

Hebrews 12:18-29 ~ page 979

Luke 13:10-17 ~ page 848



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

We give thanks, O God of sacred stories, for the witness of Holy Scripture. Through it, you nurture our imaginations, touch our feelings, increase our awareness, and challenge our assumptions.

-Ann Day

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
August 25, 2019
Ten-thirty o'clock

PREPARATION AND PRAISE

The worship of God begins this morning as you enter the Sanctuary. You are encouraged to use these moments for meditation, reflection and prayer. Following the service, greet our visitors and share your fellowship with those around you.

The Meditation of Preparation

Bless, we pray, our hearing of your word this day. Speak to each of us; speak to all of us; and grant that by the power of your Spirit we may be hearers and doers of your word.

-Ann Day

Prelude "I Sing the Mighty Power of God" Travis
The Call to Worship "Bless Ye the Lord" Ippolitof-Ivanof

*Bless ye the Lord our God, all ye His angels, bless the Lord.
Bless the Lord all His angels fair, that so rejoice in His strength.
He is gracious, kind, and full of compassion, ever just,
But He doth not always chide, nor keepeth His wrath.
As the heav'n is high above the earth, so great His mercy
to all that trust in His word.*

*The Processional Hymn No. 311: "God Has Spoken by His Prophets" ODE TO JOY

*The Litany of Praise Linda Mann McDaniel

Leader: The Lord be with you;

People: And also with you.

Leader: O God, fountain of love;

People: Pour your love into our souls, that we may love those whom you love, and think and speak about them tenderly and lovingly.

Leader: And, so loving our brothers and sisters for your sake,

All: May we grow in your love, and, dwelling in love, may we dwell in you.

*-Book of Common Prayer
Edward Bouverie Pusey*

*The Gloria Patri No. 807: "Glory Be to the Father" MEINEKE

*The Prayer of Invocation Linda Mann McDaniel

The Greeting Lesley Ratcliff

The Presentation of Bibles to First Graders

Mary Phillips Beard Andrew Graham Levanway William Vaughn Strum
Iyanu Brielle Carson Hallie Grace McGinnis

Pastor: This is an exciting time for the children who are gathered before us. They have entered first grade, and many of them have also begun worshipping with us in the sanctuary for the first time.

People: It is our privilege to make a place for them, for they belong to us, just as we all belong to God.

Pastor: As we officially welcome our first graders to worship today, we present them with Bibles inscribed with their own names, praying that, as the Scripture is placed into their hands, so it will become written upon their hearts.

All: Together we give thanks for the children of our congregation and for the Bible; both gifts from God to help us all learn and grow.

The Lessons Psalm 71:1-6
Hebrews 12:18-29

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Dear God, we look out into our world and wonder if it is possible to have faith. Dear God, we believe, help our unbelief.

Dorothy McRae-McMahon, adapted

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer Major Treadway

INTERCESSION AND DEDICATION

*The Offertory Hymn No. 310: "O Word of God Incarnate" MUNICH

*The Offertory Prayer Linda Mann McDaniel

The Offertory "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus" Manz

*The Doxology OLD HUNDREDTH

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Gospel Luke 13:10-17 Charles Poole

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.