

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

Our beliefs are just things we say unless they lead to things we actually do.

- Barbara Brown Taylor, *Holy Envy*

*The Recessional Hymn No. 558: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" *BEECHER*

*The Benediction *Charles Poole*

*The Postlude "Give to Our God Immortal Praise" *Powell*

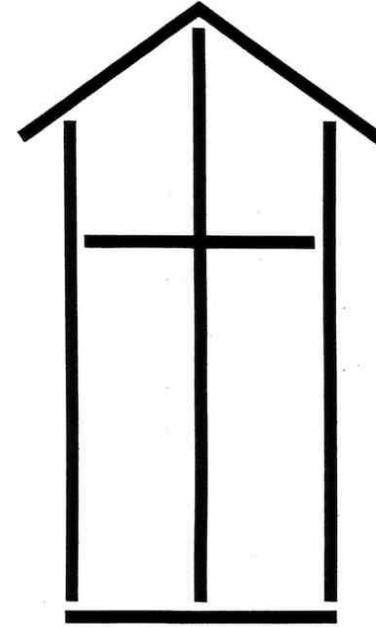
**The congregation will please stand.*

The Lectionary passages for October 20 are found on the following pages in the Pew Bible:

Jeremiah 31:27-34 ~ page 642
Psalm 119:97-104 ~ page 495
II Timothy 3:14-4:5 ~ pages 967-968
Luke 18:1-8 ~ page 853

Musicians for today:

Marta Szlubowska, *violin I*
Vince Massimino, *violin II*
Ausra Jasineviciute, *viola*
Veronica Parrales, *cello*



"Choose life." That is God's call for us, and there is not a moment in which we do not have to make that choice.

- Henri J. Nouwen, *Bread for the Journey*

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 20, 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

Creating silence is a choice. We are not choosing an emptiness but rather a fullness of being. We are not sitting as solitary beings but as a community of faith. We are not passive but actively reaching with our souls for the connection for which we were formed — the relationship with Creator and the created.

Prelude "Menuet gothique" Boëllmann

The Call to Worship "O Be Joyful in the Lord" Yarrington
O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands!
Serve the Lord with gladness,
and come before his presence with a song
Bless the Lord!

*The Processional Hymn No. 16: "Give to Our God Immortal Praise" DUKE STREET

*The Litany of Praise Ella Boykin

Leader: The Lord be with you;

People: And also with you.

Leader: Gracious God, from the depths of our inward focus you call us out -- to notice the need, to include the lonely, to share God's love and all of its promise.

People: We are here. Who has need of us?

Leader: Creative God, from our meetings, our carpools, our responsibilities, our work, and our play, we are called out -- to use our talents, our gifts, our skills and abilities.

People: We are here. What can we do?

Leader: Omnipresent God, you call us by name as individuals and as a community of faith.

People: We are here. Where will you send us?

Leader: Everlasting God, others came before us, and others will come after us. Our time is now. How will we respond?

All: We listen. We believe. We come forth.

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

*The Prayer of Invocation Ella Boykin

The Greeting Major Treadway

The Lessons Jeremiah 31:27-34
II Timothy 3:14-4:5

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

A crucial eccentricity of the Christian faith is the assertion that people are saved by grace. There's nothing you have to do. There's nothing you have to do. There's nothing you have to do. The grace of God means something like: "Here is your life. You might never have been, but you are, because the party wouldn't have been complete without you. Here is the world. Beautiful and terrible things will happen. Don't be afraid. I am with you. Nothing can ever separate us. It's for you I created the universe. I love you." There's only one catch. Like any other gift, the gift of grace can be yours only if you'll reach out and take it. Maybe being able to reach out and take it is a gift, too.

- Frederick Buechner, *Beyond Words*

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer Charles Poole

INTERCESSION AND DEDICATION

*The Offertory Hymn No. 531: "O Love That Will Not Let Me Go" ST. MARGARET

*The Offertory Prayer Ella Boykin

The Offertory "String Quartet in D: Andante" Mozart

*The Doxology OLD HUNDREDTH

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Gospel Luke 18:1-8 Major Treadway

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Anthem "Gloria in excelsis" Mozart

Glorious is Thy name, Almighty Lord,
All the angels stand, stand round about Thy throne;
Let all nations bow before Thee, and declare Thy wondrous works.

We praise Thee, we give thanks to Thee, we adore Thee, we glorify Thee.
Lord, we thank Thee for Thy great glory.

Heav'n is Thy throne, and earth is Thy footstool. Thou art King over all the world.
Blessing and honor be to God, forever and ever.

The Sermon "Concerning the Parable of the Persistent Widow" Charles Poole