



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Lord, who throughout these forty days for us did fast and pray,
Teach us, O Christ, to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.
And through these days of penitence, and through your passiontide,
Forevermore, in life and death, O Christ with us abide.

-Claudia F. Hernaman, 1873

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The First Sunday in Lent
 March 1, 2020
 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

If worship does not change us, it has not been worship.
 To stand before the Holy One of eternity is to change.
 Worship begins in holy expectancy;
 It ends in holy obedience.

-Richard J. Foster

- The Prelude "Jesus, Priceless Treasure" Bach
 "Ah, Holy Jesus" Schroeder
- The Call to Worship "Drop, Drop, Slow Tears" Gibbons

Drop, drop slow tears, and bathe those beautiful feet,
 which brought from heav'n the news and Prince of peace.
 Cease not, wet eyes, his mercies to entreat;
 to cry for vengeance sin doth never cease.
 In your deep floods drown all my faults and fears;
 nor let his eye see sin, but through my tears.

- *The Procession of the Lenten Banner Yates Elfert
- *The Processional Hymn No. 16: "Give to Our God Immortal Praise" DUKE STREET
- *The Litany of Praise Richard Joiner

Leader: The Lord be with you;
People: And also with you.

Leader: We worship you, O God, for helping us deal with what is right and what is wrong .

People: Praise be to God, who showed us the way to live in Christ Jesus.

Leader: Like many of us, Jesus experienced baptism;
People: Praise be to God, who led Jesus to be anointed with water.

Leader: Like many of us, Jesus experienced temptation;
People: Praise be to God for God's Son, who was tempted like we are.

Leader: And, also like us, Jesus would experience suffering and death;
All: Praise be to God who showed us how to live through suffering and death, and gave us the promise of eternal life in the resurrection of Jesus!

- *The Gloria Patri No. 807: "Glory Be to the Father" MEINEKE
- *The Prayer of Invocation Richard Joiner
- The Greeting Major Treadway
- The Lessons Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
 Romans 5:12-19

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Shape Us, O Christ, to Live and Claim

Mark 8:34

THE CROSS-FORMED LIFE

Shape us, O Christ to live and claim all it means to bear your name.

Make our church one joy-ful choir on this glad and fes-tive day and by
 Bend us low by song and prayer, low e-nough to lift the cross and to
 Lift us up by song and prayer, till the way we deal with loss and our
 Bend us, lift us, make us strong, send us out with wind and fire, so the

song in-voke the fire that in-vides our hearts to pray:
 take the weight and bear love's un-ac-count-ed fin-al cost.
 acts and words of care trace the pat-tern of your cross:
 world may hear the song that we of-fer as your choir:

Shape us, O Christ to live and claim all it means to bear your name.

Text: "Make Our Church One Joyful Choir" by Thomas H. Troeger, taken from *Borrowed Light*.
 Oxford University Press. 1994. Assigned to Oxford University Press 2010. Reproduced with
 permission. All Rights Reserved.
 Tune: *Cross-Formed Life* by Timothy C. Coker. Majors Press. 2016.

Copyright 2018 by Majors Press
 All Rights Reserved

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Call to the Table

Charles Poole

The Communion Litany

Pastor: On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples and said, "Take, eat: This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

People: **Thanks be to God for the broken bread.**

Pastor: After supper, he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

People: **Thanks be to God for the cup.**

Pastor: Thanks be to God for the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus.

All: **Thanks be to God for the table of communion.**

The Bread

Worshippers will come forward by the center aisle. Receive the bread and, having received it, return to your seat by the outside aisle.

The Cup

Worshippers will be served the cup seated in the pews. Take the cup, a symbol of your willingness to receive the Grace of God. Once all have been served, drink the cup together.

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

May the ashes and the frank reality of this Lenten season remind us that there is forgiveness, and there is hope for the forgiven life! Praise God for this hope, and let us celebrate the abundant grace that our loving God provides!

*The Recessional Hymn: "Shape Us, O Christ" (see insert)

*The Benediction Charles Poole

*The Postlude "Toccatina in E Minor" Pachelbel

**The congregation will please stand.*

The Lectionary passages for March 1 are found on the following pages in the Pew Bible:

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 ~ page 2

Psalms 32 ~ page 440

Romans 5:12-19 ~ page 917

Matthew 4:1-11 ~ page 785

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

Our safest eloquence concerning God is silence, when we confess that God's glory is inexplicable, and that God's greatness is above our capacity and reach.

-Richard Hooker

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Lesley Ratcliff

INTERCESSION AND DEDICATION

*The Offertory Hymn No. 648: "O Jesus, I Have Promised"

ANGEL'S STORY

*The Offertory Prayer

Richard Joiner

The Offertory Chorale Prelude on "The Cross-Formed Life"

Coker

*The Doxology

OLD HUNDREDDTH

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Gospel

Matthew 4:1-11

Charles Poole

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem

"Ah, Holy Jesus"

Larkin

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended,
that we to judge thee hath in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,
O most afflicted.

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee;
I crucified thee.

For me, kind Jesus, was thine incarnation,
thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation,
thy death of anguish and thy bitter passion,
for my salvation.

Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee,
I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee,
think on thy pity and thy love unswerving,
not my deserving.

The Sermon

"Concerning the Temptations of Jesus"

Charles Poole