

SERVICE OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

75TH Anniversary Sunday, October 1, 2017

Within these walls, we assemble. Within these walls, we gather in Your name.
As we join our hearts in a holy union, we come to find communion in Your holiness again.
Within these walls, let there be harmony; a common bond; a Spirit from above.
As Your children, let us love each other as sisters and as brothers united by Your love.
We are the branches, You are the Vine. We are the vessels and You are the Wine.
We are the body, You are the Head. For every hunger, You are the Bread.
Within these walls, let there be refuge, a place for rest when doubts and trials form.
And let us lift each other as we gather to find Your peace no matter how terrible the storm.
Within these walls, give us Your vision. Within these walls, let us understand
that beyond these walls are hurting people who have never felt Your healing hand.
Beyond these walls, send us forward. Beyond these walls, let Your Will be done.
We are Your people, You will never leave us. We shall work together until Your Kingdom comes.
Within these walls, let us listen. Within these walls, let us pray. Within these walls, let us love.
Pepper Choplin

WE GATHER JOYFULLY

LECTIONARY SCRIPTURES TO PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16; Philippians 2:1-13

(Congregants are encouraged to reflect upon these passages to prepare for worship.)

SPECIAL MUSIC

Northminster Men's Quartet

I'll Fly Away

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

O Happy Day

PRELUDE

Paula Jones, Flutist

Allegro from Sonata in F (by Benedetto Marcello)

BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

Rev. Russ Merritt

Minister: Grace, mercy, and peace to each of you,

in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregants: Amen!

GATHERING HYMN

There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit

***There's a sweet, sweet spirit in this place,
and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord.***

***There are sweet expressions on each face,
and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.***

***Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove,
stay right here with us, filling us with Your love;
and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise.***

***Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived
when we shall leave this place.***

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Minister: Lord, You have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

Congregants: You, O Lord, have been a dwelling place for us and for our children.

Minister: Before the mountains were born or You brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting You are God.

Congregants: You, O Lord, have been with us for these seventy-five years!

Minister: God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Congregants: You, O Lord, have been our refuge and strength.

Minister: Your compassions never fail, they are new every morning. Great is Your faithfulness!

Congregants: You, O Lord, have been our faithful One!

Minister: Jesus said, "I will build my Church, and the gates of hell will not overcome it."

Congregants: O Lord, You have built Your Church in this place, and we have been blessed. Thanks be to God!

Minister: Come, let us worship our God!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION (unison)

God of grace and God of glory, we come before You in praise and thanksgiving. Through Your blessed presence with us, we come now to this time and place. For seventy-five years, You have made of us the Church, the Body of Christ in our world.

For seventy-five years, Your Holy Spirit has nurtured and guided us.

For seventy-five years, the Spirit has given us gifts, that we can follow where You lead and serve where You call.

For seventy-five years, You have made us witnesses to the love of Jesus Christ.

For seventy-five years, You have given us loving fellowship with one another.

Bless us now as we celebrate Your goodness, and grant us Your vision for the next seventy-five years of life with You.

Through our Lord and Savior we pray. Amen.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN OF PRAISE

#386

Come Worship God

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Rev. Todd Hester

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You, in thought, word, and deed, and in relationships with one another, by what we have done, and what we have left undone.

We have not loved You with our whole heart and mind and strength, and we have not loved our neighbors and one another as ourselves.

In Your mercy, forgive what we have been, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in Your Will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Hear these our silent prayers.

(Worshippers may enter into a time of silent prayer.)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON (responsive)

Minister: Friends, believe and live the good news of the Gospel.

Congregants: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (unison)

SPECIAL MESSAGE from the Grandview Community Bert Boyd
President, Greater Grandview Neighborhood Association

SPECIAL MESSAGE from the Presbytery of the Peaks Rev. Steve Earl
Associate Presbyter for Ministry, Presbytery of the Peaks

WE GROW SPIRITUALLY

GOSPEL LESSON
Matthew 1:1-17

ANTHEM Sanctuary Choir
Give Me Jesus (arr. Mark Patterson)

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. David Kirk

EPISTLE LESSON
Ephesians 2:19-22

SERMON Rev. Russ Merritt
"OUR HELP IN AGES PAST, OUR HOPE FOR YEARS TO COME"

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT

Christ Is Made The Sure Foundation

***Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the Church in one;
holy Zion's help forever, and our confidence alone.***

***To this temple, where we seek You, come, O Lord of hosts, and stay.
Come, with all Your loving-kindness, hear Your people as we pray,
and Your fullest benediction shed within these walls today.***

***Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,
laud and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever One,
One in might and One in glory while unending ages run!***

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison)

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead,
He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand
of God the Father Almighty.
From there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

I Will Lift Mine Eyes Unto The Hills (Cathy & David Mocklebust)

Bell Choir

*DOXOLOGY

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table of the Lord

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

Breaking, Pouring, Sharing

Communion Hymns

<i>In My Life</i>	#468
<i>Blessed Be the Tie That Binds</i>	#306 (vss. 1, 2, & 5)
<i>Spirit of the Living God</i>	#288

Communion Litany (responsive)

Minister: O God, our help in ages past and our hope for years to come,
We give You thanks for bring us together for this special celebration.

**Congregants: We thank You for claiming us in Jesus Christ and making us
one family.**

Minister: We thank You for those founders of this congregation, the women and men
who followed Your call to build a cornerstone of Your reign here in this place.

**Congregants: We thank You for their vision, their dedication and hard work,
and for their witness to Your grace and Your glory.**

Minister: We praise You, O God, for those next generations who will build upon the
foundations that have been laid by Your Northminster saints past and present.

**Congregants: For the elders, deacons, educators and caregivers, the leaders
of women's programs and groups, those who visit and those who call, those
who smile and those who hug, those whose hands have done much and
those who voices have shared praise, for the visionaries and the workers
who have served and been nurtured here, we praise You, our God.**

Minister: For all who have received, receive today, and will receive here Your
comfort, Your healing, Your joy, Your challenge, and Your love, we thank You for
the power of Your Holy Spirit. Continue to bless us all, continue to lead
Northminster, and continue to fill our lives with the presence of Christ, in whose
magnificent name we pray. Amen!

WE GO FAITHFULLY

*HYMN OF DEDICATION

God of Grace and God of Glory

#307

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

In this time of celebration, we would offer special praise
as we think of past and future, vow anew to walk Your ways.
Times of triumph, times of challenge, still this song keeps ringing through:
Lord, Your works cannot be numbered—Northminster Church belongs to You!

*Indicates the People Standing

Worship Leadership

Musical Leadership

Sanctuary Choir

Bell Choir

Men's Quartet

Jeff Midkiff

Paula Jones

Melissa Hudson, Director of Music, Northminster Presbyterian Church

Ministry Leadership

Rev. Dr. David Kirk, Minister, Northminster Presbyterian Church, 1980 – 2003

Rev. Todd Hester, Minister, Northminster Presbyterian Church, 2006 – 2014

Rev. Dr. Steve Earl, Associate Presbyter for Ministry, Presbytery of the Peaks

Bob Newman, Elder, Northminster Presbyterian Church

Ray Williams, Elder, Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church

Richard Claterbaugh, Elder, Green Ridge Presbyterian Church;

and Moderator, Synod of the Mid-Atlantic

Members of the Session, Northminster Presbyterian Church

Rev. Dr. Russ Merritt, Transitional Minister, Northminster Presbyterian Church

Ushers

Jyke Jones

Bob Newman

Dave Snider

Holly Woodson

75th Anniversary Chair (to whom we all owe a great word of thanks!)

Judy Ferrell