



# NORTHMINSTER

## *Presbyterian Church*

...making disciples, growing in faith together and serving others in Christ

March 27, 2022

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

10:30am

### GATHERING

Greeting

Prelude

*Aria*  
Jaris Tobler, viola

J.S. Bach

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship — based on Psalm 32

How happy is the one whose wrongs are forgiven,  
whose sin is hidden from sight.

**How happy is one whose sin the Eternal will no more take into account.  
How happy are those who no longer lie, to themselves or others.**

When I finally saw my own lies,  
I owned up to my sins before You,  
and I did not try to hide my evil deeds from You.

**I said to myself, "I'll admit all my sins to the Eternal,"  
and You lifted and carried away the guilt of my sin!**

So let all who are devoted to You  
speak honestly to You now, as You are listening.

**You are our hiding place.**

**You will envelop us with songs that remind us we are free.**

**With grateful hearts, let us continue this Lenten journey together.**

Hymn #37

*Let All Things Now Living*

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God our Creator triumphantly raise;  
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us, by guiding us on to the end of our days.  
God's banners are o'er us; pure light goes before us, a pillar of fire shining forth in the night:  
till shadows have vanished, all fearfulness banished, as forward we travel from light into light.

By law God enforces, the stars in their courses, the sun in its orbit obediently shine;  
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains, the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.  
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing; with glad adoration, a song let us raise,  
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving: to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

**CONFESSING**

Call to Confession

Prayers of Confession

God of such great mercy,  
you sent Jesus to seek and save the lost.

**We confess how often have strayed from you  
and needlessly turned aside from your way.  
We are misled by wounds and worry,  
for we see ourselves lost when we are found,  
and small when we are now great in your grace.**

**When we have failed in love,  
or neglected your justice,  
or ignored your truths,  
have mercy, O God, and restore our hope.  
Return us to paths of belonging  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

**Hear our prayers in his name ...**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Response to Forgiveness #551

*Lord, have Mercy*

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Affirmation of Faith — based on Matthew 22:37-40

What is the great and first commandment?  
**Love the Lord your God with all your heart  
and with all your soul and with all your mind.**  
What is the second commandment like it?  
**Love your neighbor as yourself.**  
What does this mean?  
**Love is the fulfilling of the law.**  
To what does this call us?  
**To a life of faith working through love.**

\*Passing the Peace

Announcements and Invitations

Gathering our Offerings

Offertory Music

*How Deep the Father's Love for Us*  
Barry Bryant, baritone

arr. Townend/Rouse

### LISTENING

Prayers of Thanksgiving and for Illumination

Scripture – 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

\*Hymn #649 *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

Scripture – Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Sermon in Words

**LENT: The Parable of the Prodigal Padre?**

\*Hymn #647 *Give Thanks*

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One,  
give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son. [*repeat*]

And now let the weak say, "We are strong";  
let the poor say "We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!" [*repeat*]

Give thanks. Give thanks.

### DEPARTING

\*Benediction

\*Sung Response

Northumbria Community

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever he may send you.  
May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm.  
May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you.  
May he bring you home rejoicing, once again into our doors.

Postlude



## Information & Announcements

### Welcome to our guests!

Whether you are sharing in the worship of God with us for the first time, visiting with family or friends, or returning for a visit to your home church, we welcome you today in the name of Jesus. Please share some contact information with us so we can follow up with you and make a place for you in our weekly fellowship. You may email our church office at [admin@northminstermacon.org](mailto:admin@northminstermacon.org).

### PRAYER CONCERNS

If you have a need or a request for prayer, please contact the church office.

Current Member Concerns: Ann R. Smith; Ann Hall; Jane Ebey; Jon Geerlings; Kathy Wheeler;

Betty Barlow; Donna Shuford; Frank Clark; Gene & Janet Kelly; Lynn Southerland; Steve, Helene, and baby Amelia Olk; Ricky Smith; Ann Weaver

Current Friends and Family Concerns: Margaret Yawn; Donna Carole Kitchens; Nelda Crow; Joel Jones; Karen Nobles and family

Military Personnel Prayer List: Austin Riley; Joshua Sulkers; Isaac Falkenstine (Bonnie Diboll's grandson)

### Sanctuary Flowers

Flowers today have been given to the glory of God by Jan Hirsh in loving memory of her mother, Lavenia Kimbell, who would be celebrating her 99<sup>th</sup> birthday.

### Easter Lilies

Due to unforeseen supply issues, this year Northminster will have three Easter arrangements provided by Jean & Hall in place of the potted lilies. Lilies contained in these arrangements will be dedicated to loved ones of the Northminster congregation. If you would like to have one or more lilies dedicated to your loved one(s), please fill out today's bulletin insert along with a donation of \$5 per lily.

## NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Our calling at Northminster is to make disciples, to grow in faith together, and to serve others in Christ.

CONGREGATION: Ministers of the Good News; SESSION of Ruling Elders: Kari Alderman; Barbara Fatkin; Roland Hill; Jan Hirsh; Melissa McDougald; Jinny McDuffie; Ray Mosely; Michael Napier; Minor Vernon; Genny Whitaker

RALPH HAWKINS, Pastor and Teaching Elder PAUL EVANS, Parish Associate SANDRA SMITH, Music Director

KAREN JONES, Clerk of Session JENNIFER WHITEHEAD, Ministry Assistant

**Office hours this week:** Sunday - Thursday 8:30-1:00

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