



***“It was intended that she should  
save this perfume for the day  
of my burial.”***

**John 12:7**

**NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**Sunday, March 17, 2013**

# Northminster Presbyterian Church

*Welcomes You to Worship*

**5th Sunday  
in Lent**

**March 17, 2013**

**10:00 A.M.**

The Reverend Dwight McCormick II, Pastor

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prayer of Invocation**

**Introit**

**\*Call to Worship**

Don Hughes

Leader: Whatever God did in the past, the future is that much better!  
(even in Jerusalem)

**People: We will not stop looking for the newness God has for us!**

Leader: Whatever we have achieved to this point,  
we have not completed our journey.  
(even into the unknown)

**People: We will quicken our pace to follow Jesus wherever  
he leads.**

Leader: Whatever obstacles we put in the path,  
God will make a way to our hearts.  
(even in the desert of death)

**People: We will move onward, through our doubts and fears.**

**\*Hymn of the Month No. 25** "Psalm 95: Come, Worship God" Green Hymnal

**Call to Reconciliation**

**Unison Prayer of Confession**

**God, whose name is Grace: you are always in the business of surprising us with new lives, new dreams, new hopes. But we are so busy opening up the boxes where we have stored the past, making sure that each item remains safe and unbroken, that we do not recognize what you are doing. We are so blinded by the dull reflection of our old habits, that we cannot see the fresh chances which are given so freely to us. Our senses are so deadened by our desires that we cannot smell the bouquet of joy that is in the air.**

**Forgive us, God of Joy. By your mercy, mend our broken lives. You move through us, rearranging the price tags on everything we value, so we might be able to let go of all that holds us back from faithful living. Then we can press on in following Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, into that kingdom of hope and wonder.**

*Silence is kept for individual confession of sin*

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: God comes to us to give living water to thirsty people;  
God comes to us to anoint us with the grace that wipes away  
our sin; God comes to fill us with joy.

**People: Our tears are turned into rivers of grace;  
our weeping becomes glad cries of praise.  
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### **Congregational Response**

*Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.*

### **Joys and Concerns**

### **Congregational Prayer Response**

*O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer;  
when I call answer me.*

*O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer;  
come and listen to me.*

*The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise.  
All my hope comes from God.*

*The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise.  
God, the well-spring of life.*

### **Anthem**

### **Children's Time**

### **First Reading**

Isaiah 43:16-21

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

**People: Thanks be to God**

### **Second Reading**

Philippians 3:4b-14

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

**People: Thanks be to God**

### **Third Reading**

John 12:1-8

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

**People: Thanks be to God**

**Sermon**

Rev. Dwight McCormick II

**\*Hymn No. 376**

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

Blue Hymnal

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

*Offertory*

**\*Response of Praise**

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Creator, Savior, Holy Ghost. Amen*

**\*Prayer of Dedication (unison)**

**O God, we commit to use all our gifts--wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, working of miracles, prophecy, discernment, tongues, administration, hospitality, and finances--in the service of acting as co-workers with you and each other for peace and justice to flow like a mighty stream. Amen.**

**\*Hymn No. 371**

“Lift High the Cross”

Blue Hymnal

**\*Benediction  
and Response**

**\*Postlude**

\*Those who are able are invited to stand.

**Please stay for fellowship in the  
Family Room following worship.**

Thank you to Rev. Thom Shuman for his ongoing creativity  
in providing us with liturgy for our worship services.  
His take on the weekly lectionary lessons add to our weekly worship.