

Northminster Presbyterian Church

Welcomes You to Worship

August 2, 2020

9th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m.

Ministers: Everyone in the Congregation

The Reverend Dwight McCormick II, Pastor

Prelude

“O God Thou Faithful God”

PEETERS

Welcome and Opening Prayer

*Call to Worship

Judy Heaton

Leader: Hear a just cause, O LORD; attend to my cry; give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit.

People: From you let my vindication come; let your eyes see the right.

Leader: If you try my heart, if you visit me by night, if you test me, you will find no wickedness in me; my mouth does not transgress.

People: As for what others do, by the word of your lips I have avoided the ways of the violent.

Leader: My steps have held fast to your paths; my feet have not slipped.

People: I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God; incline your ear to me, hear my words.

Leader: Wondrously show your steadfast love,

People: O savior of those who seek refuge from their adversaries at your right hand.

Hymn No. 460

“Break Thou the Bread of Life”

Glory to God

Call to Confession

Judy Heaton

Unison Prayer of Confession

Lord of abundance and compassion, we confess that when we see the overwhelming needs of your beloved world, we want to turn away, seek our own security and retreat from the chaos all around us. Forgive us for failing to heed Jesus’ command to provide for the crowds. Forgive us for hoarding what we have, instead of willingly offering it to you that it might be blessed, multiplied and used to sustain everyone. We know that you are present in seemingly desolate places, meeting us in our doubts, using even our failings and mistakes for your purposes. In your abounding, steadfast love, grant us mercy and make of us a merciful, gracious and faithful people. Amen.

Silence is kept for individual confession of sins

Leader: Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Judy Heaton

Leader: The Lord is just in all ways, and kind in all that God does. God is near to all who call on the Lord, to all who call on the Lord in truth. Friends, having called on the Lord in truth, we can trust that God is near, just and kind.

People: Believe the good news, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Joys and Concerns

Prayer of Illumination

First Reading

Old Testament Lesson

Genesis 32:22-31

Leader: Hear now what The Spirit is saying to The Church

People: Thanks be to God

Second Reading

New Testament Lesson

Matthew 14:13-21

Leader: Hear now what The Spirit is saying to The Church

People: Thanks be to God

Special Music

“Now Rest Beneath Night’s Shadow”

PEETERS

Communion Meditation

“Compassion to Action”

Responding to the Word

Stewardship Reminder (offering plate at the back of sanctuary as you exit)

Special ongoing offering for Clifton Avenue Food Pantry—use oatmeal box on the table

Affirmation of Faith

We trust in Jesus Christ, Fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

Communion (please refer to the liturgy insert)

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion

Prayer after Communion

Hymn No. 498

“Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken”

Glory to God

Benediction

Closing Chorus

“Go Now in Peace”

BESIG

1
Go now in peace never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of every day.

2
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.

3
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.

4
God will be there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

Aa-aa-men
Aa-aa-men
Aa-aa-men

Postlude

”Into Thy Hands O Lord”

PEETERS

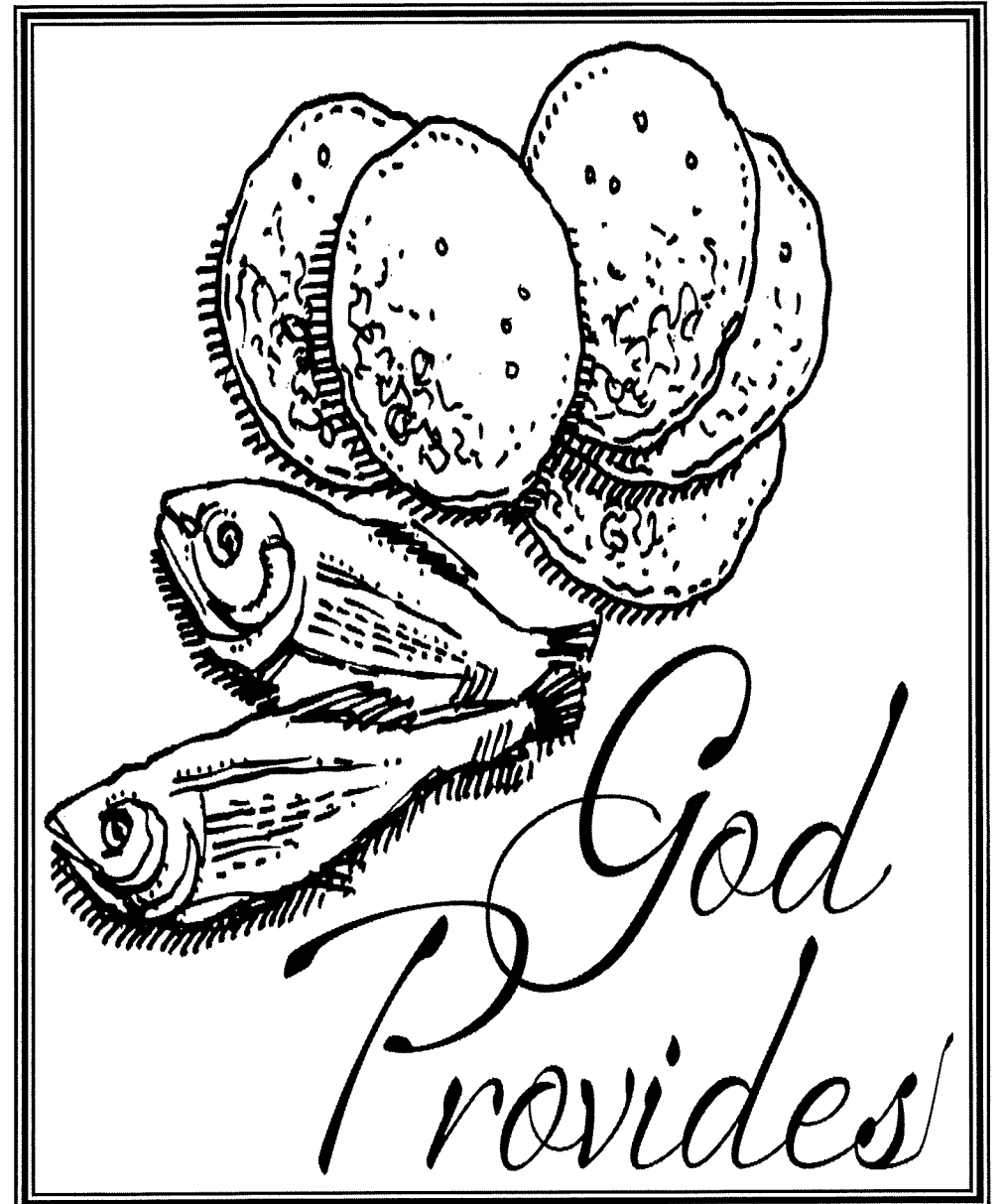
Thank you to David Hapner for leading us in song

Special thanks to the Presbyterian Outlook for today’s liturgy

Please visit these links as we continue to be the Body of Christ in new ways:

www.northminsterspringfield.org

www.facebook.com/northminsterpresbyterianspringfieldohio



NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, August 2, 2020

Communion Liturgy Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Leader: When Jesus sat at tables and broke bread with tax collectors, lawyers, rich elites, and poor peasants, he proclaimed that God's gracious love and abiding presence know no bounds. Through these occasions of sharing food, women and men experienced God, and shared in God's Realm. A Realm, where: all are welcome, worthy, and invited; lives are transformed and empowered; and the fruits of God's gentle justice bloom throughout all Creation.

All: All people, including each of us, are invited to share in this sacred meal of celebration, and be strengthened by the presence of God in this place.

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Leader: We remember that Jesus fed 5,000 hungry people with five loaves of bread and two fish. At this miraculous meal, there was such an abundance of food that everyone ate until they were full – and there were even twelve baskets of food left over.

All: Holy God, we celebrate Your abundant care and solidarity, revealed in this meal.

Leader: We remember that Jesus joined a great banquet with Levi, the despised tax collector. And despite the complaints of some, Jesus welcomed Levi, and invited him to repent and enjoy a fresh beginning at life.

All: Holy God, we celebrate Your transforming presence, revealed in this meal.

Leader: We remember that while sharing a meal with Pharisees, Jesus welcomed a woman viewed as an outsider. As the woman anointed his feet with oil, Jesus declared her dignity before everyone at the meal.

All: Holy God, we celebrate Your gracious inclusiveness, revealed in this meal.

Leader: At these meals, Jesus, and the women and men disciples resisted the divisions, injustice, and violence of society. They lived out an alternative reality – the Realm of God – a place of love, justice, and mutuality. Today we celebrate these meals and ministries.

But we also recognize that not all people liked Jesus' ministry. In fact, for some people, it was scandalous. They said, "Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!" As we know, Jesus' life became endangered.

When his arrest seemed near, Jesus ate a meal in an upper room with the disciples. As he had done so many times before, he took bread and after having given thanks to You, Holy God, he broke it and gave it to the disciples, this time saying, "Do this to remember me." After the meal he shared wine, gave thanks, and said, "I will not drink from this cup again until I drink it with you in the Realm of God."

Jesus was then unjustly killed by the systems of domination of his day.

To some of his frightened disciples it seemed that the bread symbolized his broken body, and the wine his blood. It also seemed like injustice and violence killed Jesus and his ministry.

But the resurrection provided a new hope. There were more meals – and more ministries!
We thank you, Holy God, that the last supper wasn't the last meal – or the last word!

At an evening meal in Emmaus, Jesus once again ate with the disciples. His execution wasn't the end. His presence and ministry continued in a new way. Jesus once more took bread, and having given thanks to You, Holy God, he broke it and gave it to the disciples, revealing that Your steadfast love is stronger than death – and your ministry, with us, for the sake of your Realm, continues.

God's Realm persisted – and persists today – through the many women and men who seek to be your resurrection community. Despite the divisions, violence, and injustice in the world, God continually brings forth renewed hope for love, justice, and mutuality to and through each of us.

Therefore, Holy God, in the sharing of this bread and wine, we joyfully celebrate the hope-inspiring ministry and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Instructions on communion

All: Holy God, bless each of us, and the meal we will share, so we may be: opened to your abiding presence; nourished by your gracious love; and strengthened by your resurrection power. Amen!

Leader: Come taste God's Realm, and know God is present with us here.

Communion of the people

Prayer after Communion

Leader: Amazing God, thank you for your presence in this place. We also thank you for giving us a taste of your Realm in this meal. Please use this food to strengthen us to be your joyful and hopeful Resurrection Community, sharing and experiencing your Realm of love, justice, and mutuality. Flow through us, healing God. Amen!