

# Northminster Presbyterian Church

*Welcomes You to Worship*

September 13, 2020

15th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m.

**Ministers: Everyone in the Congregation**  
The Reverend Dwight McCormick II, Pastor

## Prelude

“Prelude and Fugue in F”

LANG

## Welcome and Opening Prayer

### \*Call to Worship

Bob Triebelhorn

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God’s holy name.

**People: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all God’s benefits —**

Leader: who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

**People: who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**

Leader: who satisfies you with good as long as you live

**People: so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.**

## Hymn No. 435

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

Glory to God

## Call to Confession

Bob Triebelhorn

### Unison Prayer of Confession

**Lord Christ, you declare: Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.**

**You instruct us to forgive seventy-seven times, to remember God’s grace toward us and extend it to one another. Despite your clear word to refrain from judging others, we pronounce others guilty and unworthy of our compassion. We quarrel over opinions and sow division when you call us to cultivate relationships and demonstrate our unity in Christ. Instead of responding to your grace with gratitude, we attempt to limit the love you command us to share. Forgive our hard-heartedness. Expand our circles of concern. Enliven our communities with your boundary-breaking, reconciling Spirit.**

*Silence is kept for individual confession of sins*

Leader: Amen

### Assurance of Pardon

Bob Triebelhorn

Leader: For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is the Lord’s steadfast love toward those who fear God; as far as the east is from the west, so far the Lord removes our transgressions from us.

**People: As a father has compassion for his children, so the God has compassion for those who fear the Lord.**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news, through Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

## Joys and Concerns

### Pastoral Prayer and Prayer of Illumination

#### First Reading

Old Testament Lesson

Exodus 14:19-31

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

**People: Thanks be to God**

#### Second Reading

New Testament Lesson

Matthew 18:21-35

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

**People: Thanks be to God**

#### Special Music

“Promised Land”

arr. CARTER

#### Sermon

“Forgiveness”

### 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—from The Confession of Belhar

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family. We believe that Christ’s work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God’s Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain; that this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and accordingly that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted; that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another; that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another; that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another; that we share one faith, have one calling, are of one soul and one mind; have one God and Father, are filled with one Spirit, are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup, confess one name, are obedient to one Lord, work for one cause, and share one hope; together come to know the height and the breadth and the depth of the love of Christ; together are built up to the stature of Christ, to the new humanity; together know and bear one another’s burdens, thereby fulfilling the law of Christ that we need one another and upbuild one another, admonishing and comforting one another; that we suffer with one another for the sake of righteousness; pray together; together serve God in this world; and together fight against all which may threaten or hinder this unity.

Hymn No. 444

“Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive”

Glory to God

Benediction

Closing Chorus

“Go Now in Peace”

BESIG

Postlude

“Go to the World!”

DUNSTAN

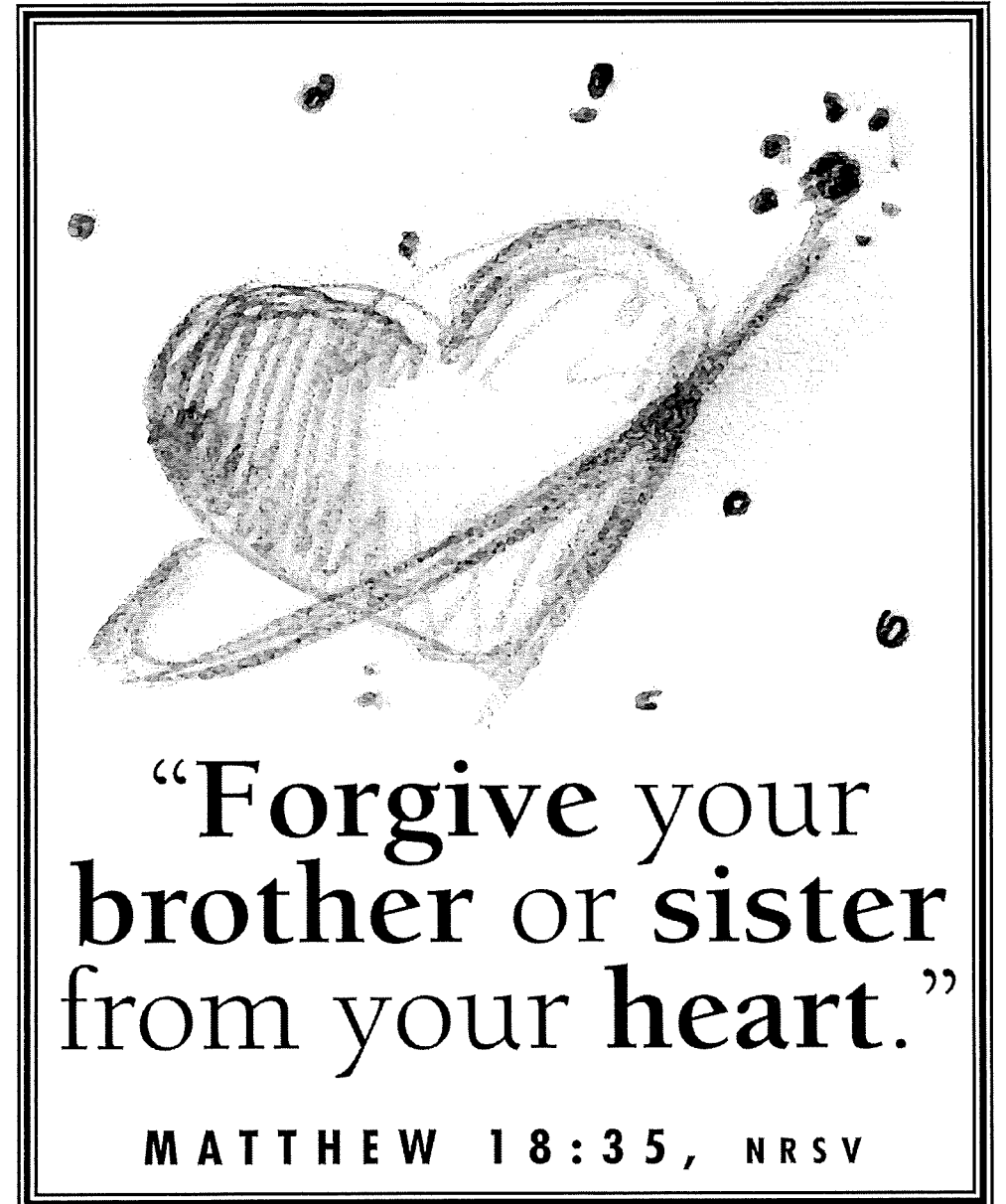
Thank you to David Hapner and Dawn White for leading us in song

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](http://www.northminsterspringfield.org)

[www.facebook.com/northminsterpresbyterianspringfieldohio](https://www.facebook.com/northminsterpresbyterianspringfieldohio)



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