

Northminster Presbyterian Church

Welcomes You to Worship

March 19, 2023

4th Sunday in Lent

10:00 a.m.

Ministers: Everyone in the Congregation

The Reverend Dwight McCormick II, Pastor

Prelude "Adorn Thyself My Soul" CALLAHAN

Welcome and Announcements Lois Shroyer

Lenten Candle Liturgy by Rev. Jeanyne Slettom Process and Faith blog

Meditation

Silence

Let us pray:

All: Loving God, we thank you that you are with us, and that we may call upon you no matter where we are, or what we are feeling. Keep us mindful of your presence and trusting in your promise—that you are working with us in the moment-by-moment unfolding of our lives. Amen.

***Call to Worship** Lois Shroyer

Leader: The Lord leads us like a shepherd.

People: God nourishes our lives and restores our souls.

Leader: The Lord is with us, even in the darkest valley.

People: God's goodness and mercy are always close.

Hymn No. 69 "Here I Am, Lord" Glory to God

Call to Confession Lois Shroyer

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of perfect love, you continually bring forth life, transforming sadness to joy, and despair to hope. We are weak, but you are strong. Our ways are flawed, but your ways are true. We are seldom right, but you are never wrong. Forgive us, redeem us, transform us. Take away the sin that burdens us and restore us to the people you would have us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Silence is kept for individual confession of sins

Leader: Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Relentlessly, God seeks us out. With abundant grace and boundless mercy, God seeks us out. This is good news!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Lois Shroyer

***Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Joys and Concerns (Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer)

Lois Shroyer

Pastoral Prayer and Prayer of Illumination

I cast all my cares upon You.

I lay all of my burdens down at your feet.

And anytime that I don't know what to do,

I will cast all my cares upon You. (sing through twice)

Meditation

"Jesus, Be With Us"

Matthew 25 Video

First Reading

Old Testament Lesson

1 Samuel 16:1-13

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

People: Thanks be to God

Second Reading

New Testament Lesson

John 9:1-41

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

People: Thanks be to God

Sermon

Rev. Dwight McCormick

Responding to the Word

Stewardship Reminder (Offering plate is outside the sanctuary on the table by door)

***Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Belhar Confession

Rev. Dwight McCormick

It was 1986, and apartheid, the separation and treatment of people based on race, raged in South Africa. Some white Christians used scripture to justify this system, and so the Dutch Reformed Church wrote the Belhar Confession in protest, insisting that God's vision for humanity was one of liberation, equality, unity, and communion. Let us listen to the words of our ancestors, translated to English from the original Afrikaans.

***Affirmation of Faith (From the Belhar Confession)**

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 true faith in Jesus Christ is the only condition for membership of this church. Therefore, we reject any doctrine which denies that a refusal earnestly to pursue this visible unity as a priceless gift is sin; Jesus is Lord. To the one and only God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be the honor and the glory for ever and ever.

Hymn No. 451 "Open My Eyes, That I May See" Glory to God

Benediction

Closing Chorus "Go Now in Peace" BESIG

Postlude "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" Hymn Tune

*Those who are able are invited to stand

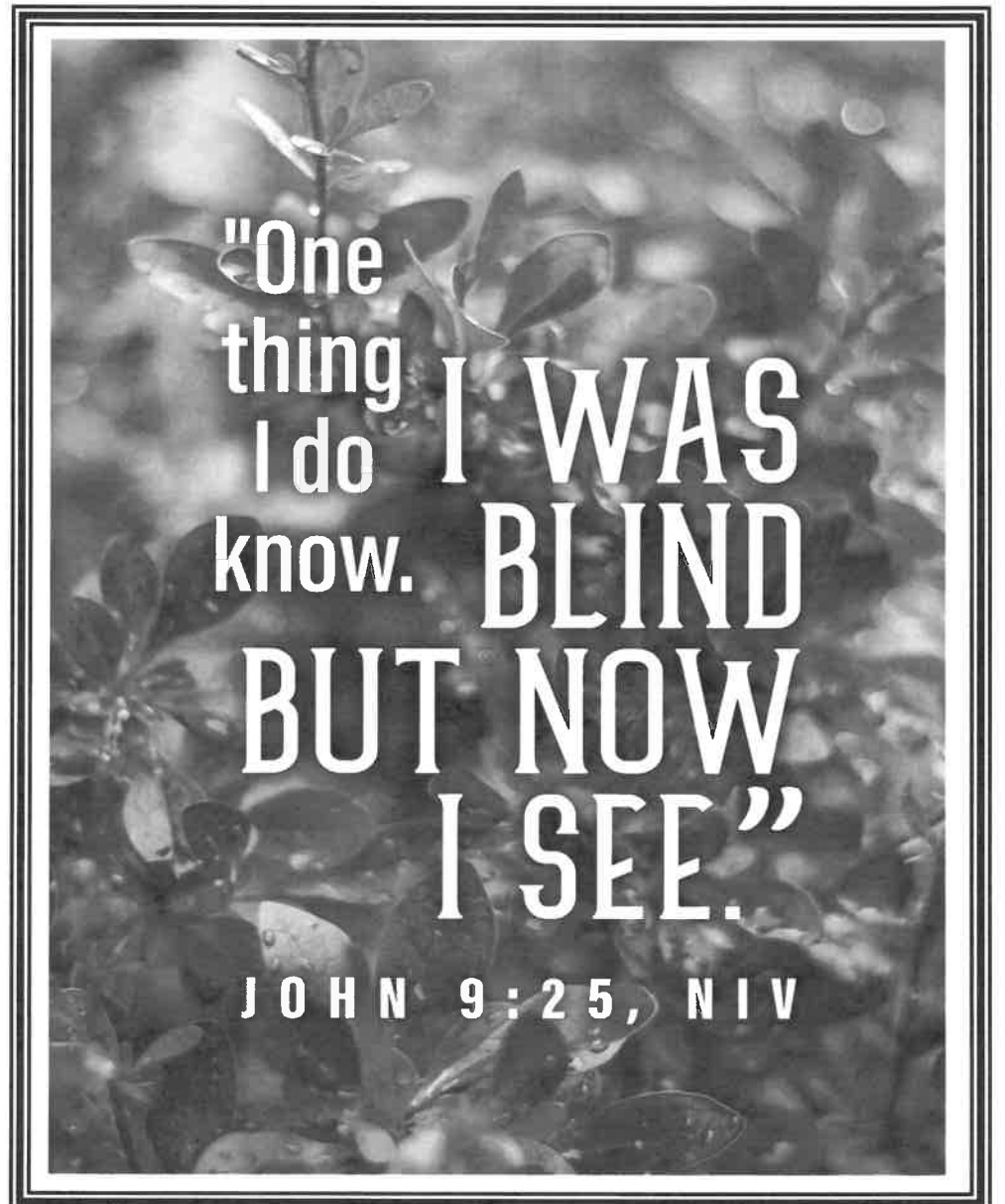
Thank you to David Hapner and Dawn White for leading us in song

Today's liturgy is provided by John Wurster and The Presbyterian Outlook

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

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