



# NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Seek, Serve, Embrace | Engaging with neighbors near and far in Christ's love

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

First Sunday in Lent | March 9, 2025, 10:00 am

### WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

#### WELCOME

#### GATHERING SONG

"Our Darkness Is Never Darkness in Your Sight" | *Traditional Taize*

Our dark - ness is nev - er dark - ness in your sight: the  
deep - est night is clear as the day - light.

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

The season of Lent sets us on a journey.

**The journey begins in the wilderness.**

We follow the way of Jesus, who faced trials, trouble, temptation and testing.

**Like Jesus, we are not alone. The Holy Spirit is with us.**

**God leads us not only into the wilderness, but also through the wilderness.**

#### \*HYMN NO. 618

"O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High" | *DEO GRACIAS*

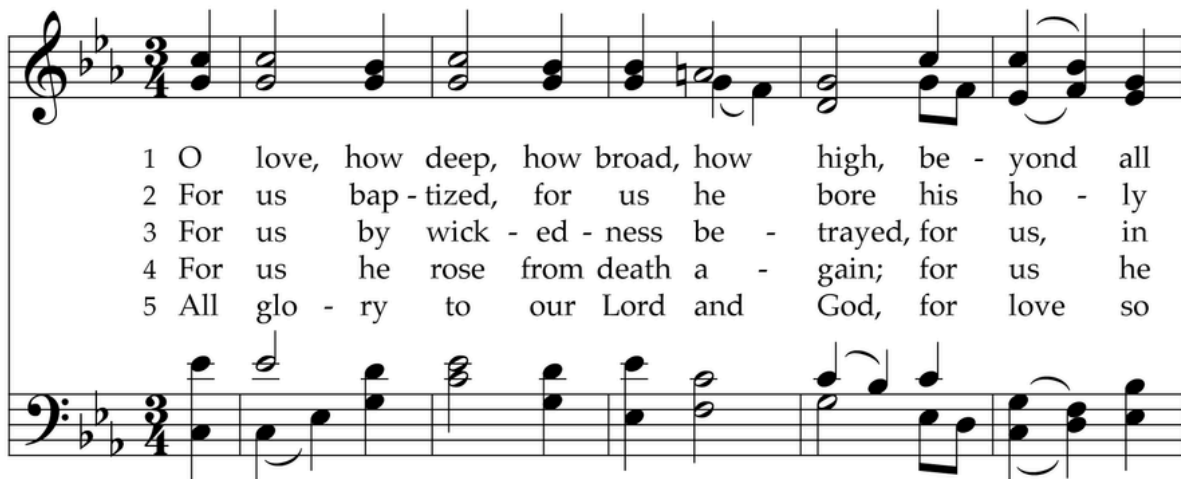
#### \*CALL TO CONFESSION

*\*For those who are able, please stand.*

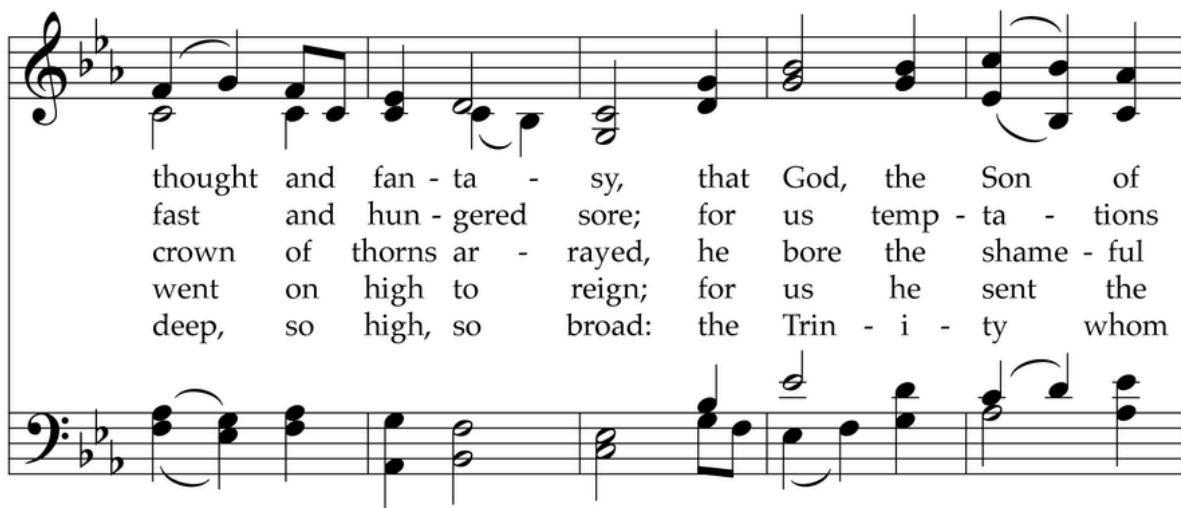


618

# O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, be - yond all  
 2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly  
 3 For us by wick - ed - ness be - trayed, for us, in  
 4 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he  
 5 All glo - ry to our Lord and God, for love so



thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of  
 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions  
 crown of thorns ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful  
 went on high to reign; for us he sent the  
 deep, so high, so broad: the Trin - i - ty whom



God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.  
 sharp he knew, for us, the tempt - er o - ver - threw.  
 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.  
 Spir - it here to guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.  
 we a - dore for - ev - er and for - ev - er - more.

Reducing a twenty-three-stanza Latin text to these five English stanzas intensifies this survey of the mystery of the Incarnation and strengthens the repeated reminder that all was done "for us." A comparable tone of proclamation animates this 15th-century song celebrating a military victory.

## \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, as Lent unfolds before us, we see how far we have to go to Jerusalem.  
The road is long, our sins are heavy, and our burdens hold us down.  
We cannot imagine new life, Easter life,  
because our current lives are filled with bad choices and failed efforts.  
Our sins are ever before us.  
Meet us in our weakness.  
Take up our sins. Ease our burdens.  
Carry us on the way. Bring us to Jerusalem at last.  
Show us a love that is stronger than death, a love no tomb can hold.

## \*SILENT CONFESSION

### \*KYRIE

Hal Hopson (b. 1933)

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Come — and heal us.

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

## **\*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

In Christ's own experience with the struggles of the world,  
he has compassion upon us.

**Christ offers us his compassion through mercy and forgiveness.**

Friends, know that Christ has forgiven our sins  
and invites us into his loving care.

## **\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all;

**And also with you.**

*(Worshippers may greet one another with words of Christ's peace.)*

## **WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

### **CHILDREN'S TIME**

*(Offerings added to the Joyful Noise Pail are for mission partner Heifer International)*

### **ANTHEM**

"Calling" | *Mark Patterson*

Help us to hear your voice, Lord;  
Teach us to pray and listen for your word as you lead us.  
Help us to see your hand here,  
Guiding our steps and showing us the way; give us faith, Lord

Help us to know in all things that your love will carry us through.  
Help us to hear your voice, Lord; help us to trust in you.

In the noisy clamor of this careless world;  
In the silent void so vast and deep;  
When we lose our way, Lord, help us hear you calling us,  
like a loving shepherd to your sheep.  
Give us faith to follow where you lead.

Help us to hear your voice, Lord;  
Teach us to pray and listen for your word as you lead us.  
Help us to see your hand here,  
Guiding our steps and showing us the way; give us faith, Lord

Help us to know in all things that your love will carry us through.  
Help us to hear your voice, Lord; help us to trust in you.

*(Children are dismissed to Church School)*



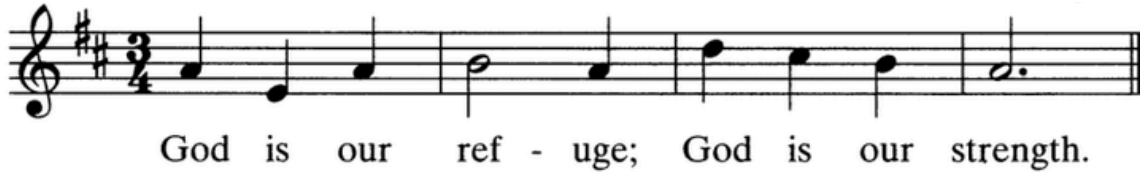
## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### FIRST LESSON | PROPHET

Deuteronomy 26: 1-11 | *OT p. 180-181*

### SECOND LESSON | PSALM

Psalm 91: 1-6, 9-16 | *OT p. 548*



### THIRD LESSON | GOSPEL

Luke 4: 1-13 | *NT p. 61, Spark Bible p. 248*

### SERMON

“Imposter Syndrome” | *Brian Shivers*

## WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Adapted from the Confession of 1967*

The reconciling work of Jesus  
was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind.  
His cross and resurrection become personal crisis  
and present hope for all  
when the gospel is proclaimed and believed.  
In this experience,  
the Spirit brings God’s forgiveness to all,  
moves people to respond in faith,  
repentance, and obedience,  
and initiates the new life in Christ.

### ANTHEM

“Jesus, So Lowly” | *Harold Friedell (1905-1958)*

Jesus, so lowly, Child of the earth:  
Christen me wholly, bring me new birth.  
Jesus, so lonely, weary and sad;  
teach me that only love maketh glad.  
Jesus, so broken, silent and pale;  
be this the token love will not fail.  
Jesus, victorious, mighty and free;  
teach me how glorious death is to be.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

### OFFERING

(please sign the pew pad and pass it to your neighbor)

### OFFERTORY

"Be Thou My Vision" | *SLANE*, arr. Doug Shafer-Johnson

### \*DOXOLOGY

"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow" | *OLD 100TH*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit, evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore.

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

#### WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

### \*HYMN NO. 166

"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days" | *ST. FLAVIAN*

### \*BLESSING AND CHARGE

Send us into the world, O God.

**Encourage us to cast hope into the darkness.**

Send us into the world, O Christ.

**Empower us to embody faith to the distressed.**

Send us into the world, Holy Spirit.

**Embolden us to light the way to your presence.**

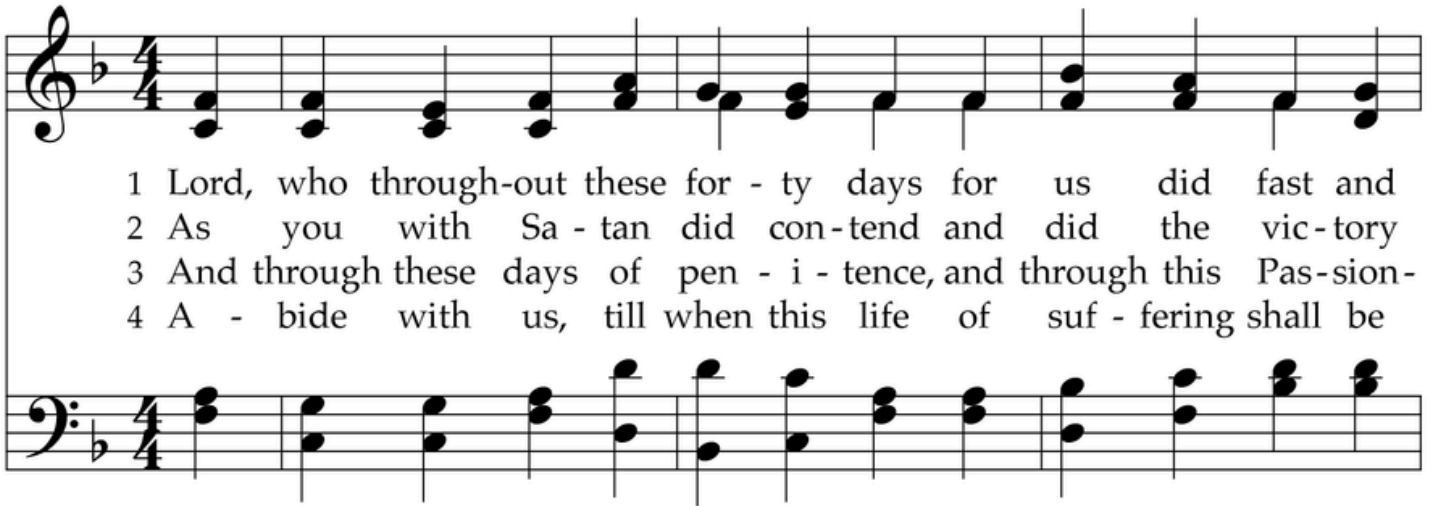
Go now into the world, Lenten travelers.

**We go, in the name of the Triune God  
in whom there is no shadow at all.**

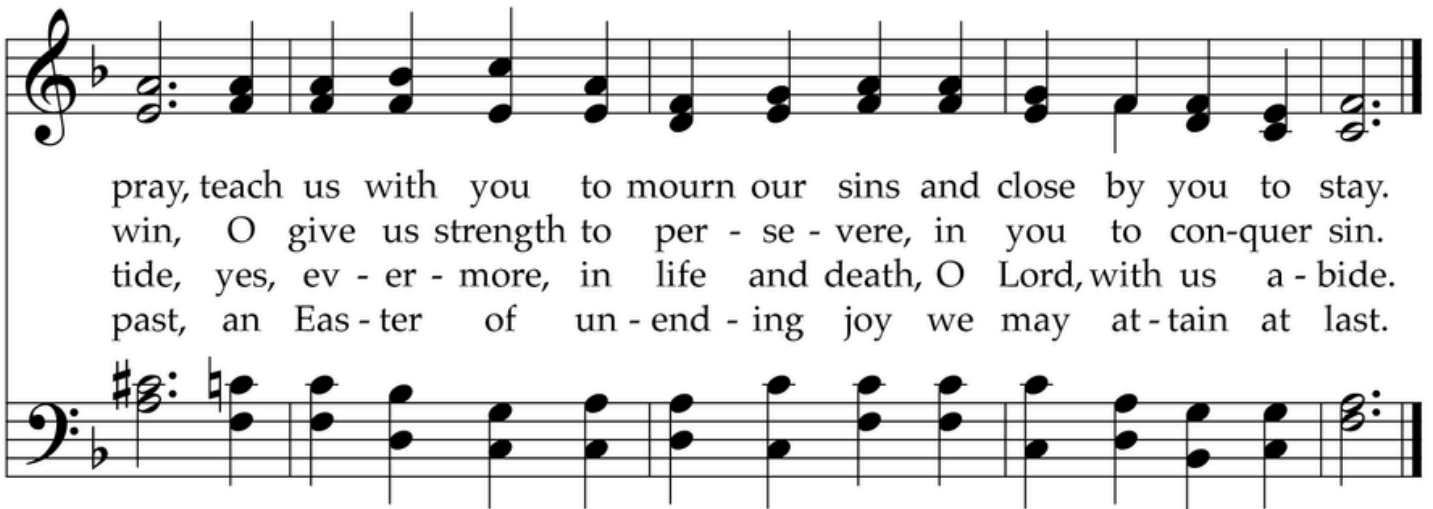
**Amen.**

# Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

## 166



1 Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for us did fast and  
2 As you with Sa - tan did con - tend and did the vic - tory  
3 And through these days of pen - i - tence, and through this Pas - sion -  
4 A - bide with us, till when this life of suf - fering shall be



pray, teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.  
win, O give us strength to per - se - vere, in you to con - quer sin.  
tide, yes, ev - er - more, in life and death, O Lord, with us a - bide.  
past, an Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy we may at - tain at last.

Like many of this author's hymns, this text was written primarily for children but works equally well in reminding adults how Lent connects us with Christ's temptation in the wilderness and prepares us for Easter. The 16th-century English psalm tune provides sturdy support.

## POSTLUDE

“Ah, Holy Jesus” | *Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)*

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### IN WORSHIP

Today’s Psalm, Psalm 91: 1-6, 9-16, opens with the comforting statement that all those who “take shelter in the most high” will find their home and consider themselves under the protection of the Almighty. Verses 1 – 13 are addressed to one who has found security in the Lord. This front section of the Psalm is an extended assurance and reads like a personal testimony of someone whose own experience makes the assurance of faith convincing and authentic. In the final verses, 14 – 16, a priest or prophet speaks in the name of the Lord: “I will deliver those who cling to me, I will lift up those who know my name.” In this final section, the last word belongs to Yahweh, and the last word is caring protection. It is the ground for confidence that the last word is not spoken by us, but to us – “Those who are in trouble I will save.”

This morning’s final hymn, No. 166, “Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days,” connects with our Gospel lesson regarding Christ’s fasting in the wilderness. It was written by Claudia Frances Hernaman in 1873 and first published in *The Child’s Book of Praise*, London. As an expression of the teaching of a hymn for children, this text is careful to draw parallels, especially between the forty days of Christ’s temptation and fast, and the forty days of Lent. “Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days” is cast as a prayer addressed to Christ, with the hymn’s final two stanzas centering on the petition for Christ to “abide with us,” not only in this season of penitence but throughout our lives.

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### TODAY’S WORSHIP LEADERS

Brian Shivers | *Pastor*  
Marko Petričić | *Organist*  
Mae Dinwiddie | *Liturgist*  
Karen Herbst-Kim | *Pastor*  
Peace Choir  
Chancel Choir  
Lucas Shafer-Johnson | *Saxophone*

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# Events and Announcements

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## **Planning Your Celebration of Life | Today | 11:15 am - 4:00 pm**

Join Carol McDonald and Emi Johnson for *Planning Your Celebration of Life*. Lunch will be followed by workshops exploring funeral planning, financial legacy, planning your Celebration of Life service, and crafting an obituary.

## **Exodus Refugee Presents: Refugee 101 | Mar. 11th | 6:30 - 8:00 pm**

Northminster is a proud host site of one of several “Refugee 101” presentations. Learn more about refugees in the US and Indiana and how Exodus provides support services. Reserve your spot today!



## **Prayers & Priorities | Mar. 11th | 7:00 pm**

Join us on 3/11 at Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation and 3/23 at NPC for conversations with Pastor Shivers and Rabbi Chernow-Reader about the changing landscape of religion in the United States. All are welcome!

## **Contemplative Prayer and Practice Circle (CPPC) | Mar. 12th | 4:15 - 5:15 pm**

Join us in the Knox Room starting Wednesday, March 12th, for a weekly silent prayer session, including body prayer, chanting, walking, and meditative reading. Contact Mary Beth Riner for details!



## **Writing Our Faith Legacy Stories | Mar. 12th | 6:00 - 7:00 pm**

Join us for a four-part workshop (3/12, 3/19, 3/26, 4/9) on writing faith legacy stories, led by Mary Beth Riner, Girtha Perkins, and Emi Johnson. Attend as many sessions as you'd like! No registration is needed.



## **Sound & Spirit: Requiem - Gabriel Fauré | Mar. 16th | 4:00 pm**

The Northminster Chancel Choir and orchestra, featuring Michael Preacely (Baritone), perform Gabriel Fauré's *Requiem*, along with repertoire by Tye, Lauridsen, Hogan, and Trotta.



## **March Mission Collection: Toothbrushes/Toothpaste**

The Mission Team is collecting toothbrushes and toothpaste for our mission partner, Westminster Neighborhood Services! Help us restock the low shelves at Westminster by donating in the yellow bin in The Gathering Place.

## **Movie Night at Northminster | Apr. 11th | 6:00 - 8:30 pm**

Join us for a fun, family-friendly movie night! We'll be screening Dreamwork's "The Wild Robot" in Calvin Hall. Doors open at 6:00 and the movie starts promptly at 6:30. Light snacks and drinks are provided!

*Additional events and information can be found on our website at [northminster.church/events](http://northminster.church/events)*

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*Christ-Centered | Grounded in the Word | Relevant | Inclusive | Nurturing | Serving*

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**Brian Shivers**  
*Pastor/Head of Staff*

**Karen Herbst-Kim**  
*Associate Pastor*

**John Wright**  
*Director of Music Ministries*

**Carol McDonald**  
*Parish Associate*

**Marko Petričić**  
*Music Associate/Organist*

**Cheryl Plunkett**  
*Office Administrator*

**Melissa Hopkins**  
*Director of Children's Ministry*

**Timothy Foster**  
*Director of Communications*

**Denise Harrington**  
*Director of Senior Ministries*

**Emma Moore**  
*Operations Administrator & Youth Ministry Coordinator*

**Krista Wright**  
*Spiritual Wholeness and Wellness Coordinator*

**Elisabeth Kleinsmith**  
*Family Engagement Coordinator*

**Ynfinity Taylor**  
*Bookkeeper*

**Shiloh O'Rourke**  
*Director of Preschool*

**Tim McElroy**  
*Lead Custodian*

**Jonathan McGee**  
*Custodian*

**Nate Boak**  
*Custodian*

**Donald R. Durrett**  
*Associate Pastor Emeritus*

**Teri Thomas**  
*Pastor Emerita*

**Tony Dzwonar**  
*Stephen Ministry Leader*

**Rod Mail**  
*Stephen Ministry Leader*

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## Matthew 25

As a Matthew 25 congregation, we focus on building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism, and eradicating systemic poverty.

## Covenant Network of Presbyterians

As a member of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians, we seek equity for LGBTQIA2S+ people in church and society. We welcome, honor, celebrate, and include all.

## Weekly Email Newsletters

Stay up to date with everything going on at Northminster by subscribing to our newsletter at [northminster.church/newsletter](http://northminster.church/newsletter)

## Prayer Lists

The prayer list is available 24/7 online! Visit [northminster.church/prayer](http://northminster.church/prayer)

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## Connect With Us



@Northminsterindy



@northminsterindy



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[office@northminster-indy.org](mailto:office@northminster-indy.org)

9am - 3pm (M-Th) | Closed Friday

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