

Northminster
EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MADISON HEIGHTS, VIRGINIA



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

April 11, 2021

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Second Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP- Psalm 103: 2-13

Liturgist: Judy Reyburn

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

People: Bless the Lord, who forgives all iniquities and redeems life from the pit.

Leader: Praise the Lord, who crowns us with steadfast love and mercy!

People: He fills our lives with good things. Our youth is renewed like the eagles.

Leader: The Lord works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed.

People: The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Leader: As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.

***HYMN #71**

O Bless the Lord, My Soul

1. *O bless the Lord, my soul!
Let all within me join
and help my tongue to praise his name,
whose mercies are divine.*

3. *For God forgives our sins,
and God relieves our pain:
the Lord who heals our sicknesses,
renews our strength again.*

2. *O bless the Lord, my soul!
Let not his mercies lie
forgotten in unthankfulness,
from lack of praise to die.*

4. *He crowns our life with love,
when ransomed from the grave,
he who redeemed my soul from hell
has sovereign power to save.*

***OPENING PRAYER**

***HYMN #72**

To God Be the Glory

1 *To God be the glory,
great things he hath done:
so loved he the world that he gave us his son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the lifegate that all may go in.*

2 *Oh, perfect redemption,
the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God.
The vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.
[Refrain]*

*Refrain: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath
done.*

3 *Great things he hath taught us,
great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son,
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.
[Refrain]*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

O God of new beginnings, you teach us to pray for the in breaking of your Spirit, and yet we acknowledge a level of comfort with the status quo. O God of new creation, you invite us to pray for the coming of your kingdom, and yet we confess a stubbornness about our own sense of direction. We have journeyed to sanctuary, and we have wandered from your ways. We have prospered in abundance, and we have taken your blessings for granted. Have mercy on us.

(A time for silent confession and prayer)

Lord of empty tomb, crown, and cross, you disrupt the patterns of our everyday lives, and yet at times we are resistant to change. Break our hearts of stone with your words of healing and hope, risen Lord. Forgive us and walk with us into a new future.

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH –Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, begotten from the Father before all ages, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made: of the same essence as the Father.

Through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven; He became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made Human. He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried. The third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead. His Kingdom will never end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life. He proceeds from the Father and the Son, and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. He spoke through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and to the life in the world to come. Amen

ANTHEM

Resurrection Alleluias

Stan Pethel

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

WORSHIPING GOD WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory

*Doxology– Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

SCRIPTURE:

Jeremiah 3: 12-14

Pastor: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON:

"A Great Return"

"Return, faithless Israel...for I am merciful, declares the Lord" Jeremiah 3: 1)

***CLOSING HYMN #502**

*1 Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.*

*2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!*

*3 The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.*

*Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound
4 Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come:
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.*

*5 When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shinning as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.*

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**