

GATHERING

PRELUDE *Prisms* Bill Payne
Morning Has Broken Anna Laura Page
Cathedral Ringers; Martin Ellis, director

(The Prelude begins our worship service. You are encouraged to enter into a time of prayer, actively opening your spirit to God's presence in our midst.)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Brian K. Williams

*CALL TO WORSHIP Janet Lilly Wanner

Leader: The Lord, our God, shines light in the winter of darkness.

People: God shines in justice and establishes equity.

Leader: Fear, pride, and indifference veil the light.

People: Still, God shines a light, guiding hearts towards God's glory.

Leader: "Let light shine out of darkness," says the Lord.

People: Shine through us and on us. Let the light from the holy mountain shine within us.

*HYMN #103 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* DENIO

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

HOLY BAPTISM (11:00 a.m.) Robin Ellen Ebert
Abigail Marie Vester, daughter of Melissa and Jamey Vester

With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround Robin and Abigail with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

SUNG RESPONSE *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise* W ZLOBIE LEZY

*Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign;
With this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.
Child of joy, our dearest treasure, God's you are, from God you came.
Back to God we humbly give you; live as one who bears Christ's name.*

**If you are comfortable doing so, please stand.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Allison Galloway

**Lord, open wide the window of our spirits
and fill us full of light;
open wide the door of our hearts,
that we may receive and enjoy your word
with all our powers of adoration and love. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING Exodus 34: 29-35 Pew Bible, OT p. 78

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM *Gloria* William Mathias
Voices in Accord/Cathedral Singers; Mark Gilgallon, director

Glory be to God on high and in earth peace, good will towards all.
We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee;
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King,
God, Creator Almighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesu Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Creator, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Creator,
have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ,
with the Holy Ghost, art the Most High, in the glory of God Creator.
Amen.

INVITATION TO PRAYER Lisa D. Schubert

You may share your prayer requests on the yellow prayer cards found in the pew and place the cards in the offering plate later in the service. If you wish to pray with a Stephen Minister after the service, one will join you at the sanctuary prayer rail after the 8:30 a.m. service or in the chapel after the 11:00 a.m. service.

Leader: Lord, in your mercy ...

People: ... Hear our prayer.

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

MOMENT FOR MISSION Mardi Gras

OFFERTORY PRAYER Lisa D. Schubert

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Agnus Dei* William Mathias
Voices in Accord; Mark Gilgallon, director

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

*DOXOLOGY #94

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***



11:00 a.m. *At this time during the service, children in grades K-3 are invited to go to Children's Alternative Worship. Parents, please pick up your kindergartener in the K room and older children in room 202 after the service.*

*GOSPEL READING Luke 9:28-43 Pew Bible, NT, p. 65
Janet Lilly Wanner

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON *When God is Linked In* Brian K. Williams

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN # 2151 *I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me* I'M SO GLAD
Faith We Sing Supplement

PRAYER OF BLESSING (11:00 a.m.) 30-Hour Famine

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

*CHORAL AMEN (11:00 a.m.)

(The Postlude is the final Amen to our worship service. You are invited to be seated to enjoy this musical offering given to God and to you. If you must depart, please depart in silence.)

Ash Wednesday February 17th

Teri Crouse, preaching

WORSHIP: 7:30 a.m., 12:30 & 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 21st

The Prodigal God
Kevin R. Armstrong, preaching

New Members Received

WORSHIP: 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 a.m.
CHURCH SCHOOL 9:45 a.m.

1. *recklessly extravagant*
2. *having spent everything*

The Parable of the Prodigal Son is one of the best known stories in the Bible. Two sons: One who kept the rules religiously and one who broke them all. One Father who loved both lost sons beyond anything they could imagine.

Beginning next Sunday and continuing through the season of Lent we'll read with fresh eyes this familiar story. We'll focus particularly on how the story guides us to live as a forgiven and forgiving people. I like the way Timothy Keller describes how the Prodigal Son story reminds us of our resistance to practicing forgiveness:

*Here, then, is Jesus's radical redefinition of what is wrong with us. Nearly everyone defines sin as breaking a list of rules. Jesus, though, shows us that a man who has violated virtually nothing on the list of moral misbehavior's [the elder brother] can be every bit as spiritually lost...sin is not just breaking the rules, it is putting yourself in the place of God. (*The Prodigal God*, pg. 43)*

In practical, everyday ways, we'll listen to this parable during Lent and ponder how we – as individuals and as a congregation – can find that home God tries to give us rather than the home we often try to create for ourselves.

Tuck a bookmark in Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32 and read this memorable passage a few more times in the next month. Imagine being among the crowd who first heard the story. Remember a time when you've been the younger brother, the elder brother, or the anxiously waiting father. Where is this story true to your experience? Where do you see the story living again in your family, community, or in our world?

The parable of the prodigal son is about every one of us seeking the hope we call home. Not a home we've created for ourselves, but a home that has been made for us and has a chair at the table waiting for us to sit down and join the party.

I hope you'll find home this Lent.

Shalom,

Kevin

NORTH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Celebration of Holy Baptism

February 14, 2010
8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Our Mission:

North Church invites, welcomes, and encourages all people to become deeply committed Christians who witness God's transforming love at home and in the world.