

## **THE WORSHIP OF GOD**

For the one whom Jesus loves has truly spoken,  
The holier worship which God deigns to bless.  
Restores the lost, and binds the spirit broken,  
And feeds the widow and the fatherless.

-John Greenleaf Whittier

***NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH***  
***3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211***

**THE ACT OF WORSHIP**  
**The Third Sunday in Lent**

March 15, 2020  
Ten-thirty o'clock

**PREPARATION AND PRAISE**

The worship of God begins this morning as you enter the Sanctuary. You are encouraged to use these moments for meditation, reflection and prayer. Following the service, greet our visitors and share your fellowship with those around you.

**The Meditation of Preparation**

Liturgy has been defined as "the work of the people," in worship and in ministry. God's work has brought us together in praise this day. The benediction sends us forth to be the Church, as God's people in the world. Amen. So be it!

The Prelude "To Thee, Lord Jesus, Thanks We Give" Bach  
"Fairrest Lord Jesus" Wood

The Call to Worship "Drop, Drop, Slow Tears" Gibbons  
Drop, drop slow tears, and bathe those beauteous feet,  
which brought from heav'n the news and Prince of peace.  
Cease not, wet eyes, his mercies to entreat;  
to cry for vengeance sin doth never cease.  
In your deep floods drown all my faults and fears;  
nor let his eye see sin, but through my tears.

\*The Procession of the Lenten Banner Mary Elise Byrd

\*The Processional Hymn No. 29 "O Worship the King" LYONS

\*The Litany of Praise Ellie Caraway

Leader: The Lord be with you;

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: O come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;  
Let us shout joyfully to the rock of our salvation.

**People: Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving;  
Let us sing to God with psalms.**

Leader: Let us worship and bow down;  
before the Lord our maker.

**People: For God is our God;  
We are the people of God's pasture.**

**All: Come, let us worship, and sing for joy to the Lord.**  
-Psalm 95, *adapted*

\*The Gloria Patri No. 807: "Glory Be to the Father" MEINEKE

\*The Prayer of Invocation Ellie Caraway

The Greeting Lesley Ratcliff

The Lessons Exodus 17:1-7  
Romans 5:1-11

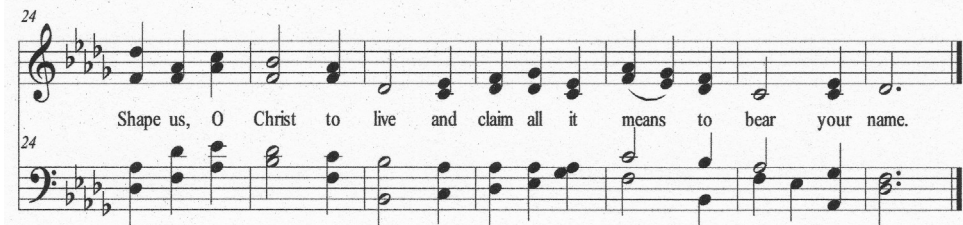
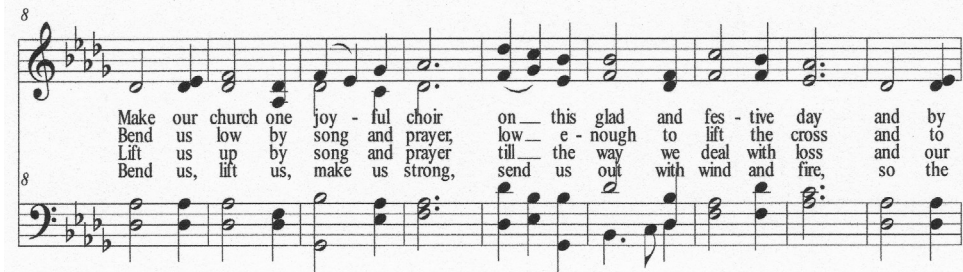
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Shape Us, O Christ, to Live and Claim**

Mark 8:34

**THE CROSS-FORMED LIFE**



Text: "Make Our Church One Joyful Choir" by Thomas H. Troeger, taken from *Borrowed Light*. Oxford University Press. 1994. Assigned to Oxford University Press 2010. Reproduced with permission. All Rights Reserved.

Tune: *Cross-Formed Life* by Timothy C. Coker. Majors Press. 2016.

Copyright 2018 by Majors Press  
All Rights Reserved

## COMMITMENT

Northminster is an open fellowship that wants to share its gift of life and ministry with others. During the Time of Response, this church extends to you an invitation to membership by your request for baptism, by letter from a sister church, or by statement of your Christian experience in another denomination. If you would like to unite with this covenant community, please express this desire by coming forward at this point of the service.

## TIME OF RESPONSE

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,  
Forgive our foolish ways.  
Reclothe us with our rightful mind,  
In purer lives Thy service find,  
In deeper reverence, praise.  
-John Greenleaf Whittier

\*The Recessional Hymn No. 802 “Brethren, We Have Met to Worship” *HOLY MANNA*

\*The Benediction Charles Poole

\*The Postlude “In Thee Is Gladness” Bach

*\*The congregation will please stand.*

**The Lectionary passages for March 15 are found on the following pages in the Pew Bible:**

Exodus 17:1-7 ~ page 56  
Psalm 95 ~ page 479  
Romans 5:1-11 ~ page 917  
John 4:5-42 ~ pages 864-865

## CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

We confess, Lord, that we have not always realized the immensity of the opportunity that is before us. We have regarded “worship” as what takes place on Sunday morning. We have avoided taking worship and liturgy to the next dimension, that of being the worshiping church among your people, from adoration into service. Forgive us Lord, and make us whole.

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

The Morning Prayer and Lord’s Prayer Major Treadway

## INTERCESSION AND DEDICATION

\*The Offertory Hymn “Shape Us, O Christ” (see insert)

\*The Offertory Prayer Ellie Caraway

The Offertory “What Wondrous Love Is This” Wood

\*The Doxology *OLD HUNDREDTH*

## PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Gospel John 4:5-42 Charles Poole

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem “I Sought the Lord” Marrolli

I sought the Lord, and afterward I knew  
he moved my soul to seek him, seeking me;  
it was not I that found, O Savior true;  
no, I was found of thee.

Thou didst reach forth thy hand and mine enfold;  
I walked and sank not on the storm-vexed sea;  
'twas not so much that I on thee took hold,  
as thou, dear Lord, on me.

I find, I walk, I love, but O the whole of love  
is but my answer, Lord, to thee;  
for thou wert long beforehand with my soul,  
always thou lovedst me.

The Sermon “The Hour Is Coming, And Is Now Here” Charles Poole