



**NORTH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
INCLUSIVE. INSPIRED. INVOLVED.

September 13, 2020

PRELUDE

*Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*

arr. R. Hobby

WELCOME

Darren Cushman Wood

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Diane Gattone

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, Wise Counselor

**People: and fill us with your truth.**

Leader: Come, Mighty Advocate

**People: and fill us with your hope.**

Leader: Come, Holy Comforter

**People: and fill us with your peace.**

OPENING HYMN #598

*O Word of God Incarnate*

***O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,  
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:  
we praise you for the radiance that from the hallow'd page,  
a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.***

***O make your church, dear Savior, a lamp of purest gold,  
to bear before the nations your true light as of old.***

***O teach your wand'ring pilgrims by this their path to trace,  
till, clouds and darkness ended, they see you face to face.***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Carolyn Svirsky

**Holy God, we need your wisdom.**

**Teach us your will,**

**show us your way,**

**and fill us with your Spirit.**

**Put our hearts in tune**

**with the hymn of the universe**

**through Jesus Christ our life and hope. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

1 Corinthians 3:18-23

Do not deceive yourselves. If you think that you are wise in this age, you should become fools so that you may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, 'He catches the wise in

their craftiness', and again, 'The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are futile.'  
So let no one boast about human leaders. For all things are yours, whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future—all belong to you, and you belong to Christ, and Christ belongs to God.

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

HYMN OF PRAYER #601

*Thy Word Is a Lamp*

***Refrain: Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.***

***When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way, still you're there right beside me,  
and nothing will I fear as long as you are near. Please be near me to the end. [Refrain]***

***Now I will not forget your love for me and yet my heart forever is wandering.  
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to your side, and I will love you to the end. [Refrain]***

LITANY

Diane Gattone

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray for the church, here and around the world:

God of grace,  
by the baptism of Christ's death and resurrection,  
you gave birth to your church,  
delivered us from sin and death,  
and made us a new people by water and the Spirit.  
Spirit of renewal, ignite us with holy passion  
to seek your truth and to do your will.

**People: By your grace, make us living members of the body of Christ.**

Leader: Spirit of unity, bind us together with holy peace  
to remove all barriers that limit your love  
and to forgive one another as you have forgiven us.

**People: By your grace, build us up on Christ who is the cornerstone.**

Leader: Spirit of compassion, lead us with holy vision  
to bear witness to your mercy  
and to work for justice in the world.

**People: By your grace, send us to be ambassadors for Christ.**

Leader: Spirit of courage, guide all pastors and leaders with holy wisdom  
to lead your church with patience  
and to build up your people with hope.

**People: By your grace, show us how to be citizens of your commonwealth of peace.**

Leader: With your holy people of all ages, nations, and races,  
on earth below and in heaven above,  
we praise your name, through Jesus Christ,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Leader: God, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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.**

DOXOLOGY #94 (PLEASE STAND)

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

***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!***

SOLO

*The Lord is My Shepherd*

Psalm 23

A. Kaplan

Kate Roberts, soloist

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures.  
He restoreth my soul, He leadeth me in the path of righteousness for His namesake.  
Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil, for thou art with me.  
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies.  
Thou anointest my head with oil, my cup runneth over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life  
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

SECOND LESSON

Psalm 1

Blessed is the one  
who does not walk in step with the wicked  
or stand in the way that sinners take  
or sit in the company of mockers,  
but whose delight is in the law of the Lord,  
and who meditates on God's law day and night.  
That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,  
which yields its fruit in season  
and whose leaf does not wither—  
whatever they do prospers.  
Not so the wicked!  
They are like chaff  
that the wind blows away.  
Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*The Singing Garden: Psalms of Wisdom*

Darren Cushman Wood

HYMN OF DEDICATION #454

*Open My Eyes, That I May See*

***Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me;  
place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!***

***Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear;  
and while the wavenotes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!***

***Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere;  
open my heart and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!***

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDE

*Allegro in G*

J. Hawes

*Prayer requests can be sent to [prayers@northchurchindy.com](mailto:prayers@northchurchindy.com).*

*The flowers on the altar are given for the glory of God and in memory of Genieve (Mother), Charles (Daddy), Hosea (Brother), and Kyle Anderson (Godson) by Jacqueline Blackwell.*

**This week's worship leaders:**

Darren Cushman Wood  
*Senior Pastor*  
Diane Gattone  
*Pastor of Care & Nurture*  
John Hague &  
Dick Tiller-Luchtman  
*Audio Visual*  
Carolyn Svirsky  
*Liturgist*  
Kate Roberts  
*Soloist*  
Heather Hinton  
*Organist*

Upcoming Worship Services:

Sunday, Sept. 20 at 11 a.m. via Livestream  
Parking Lot Vesper Services  
Sundays, September 13, 20 & 27 at 6:00 p.m.

The Book of Psalms Small Groups Forming  
7-week study to follow the sermon series  
Virtual groups begin meeting the week of Sept. 13  
Monday - Wednesday 7pm; Wednesday 10:30am  
To register email [asell@northchurchindy.com](mailto:asell@northchurchindy.com)