



October 4, 2020

PRELUDE *O Worship the King* arr. N. Harmon

GREETING Darren Cushman Wood

ANNOUNCEMENTS Amy Sell

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: O come, let us worship and bow down,  
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

**People: We are the people of the Lord's pasture,  
and the sheep of God's hand.**

OPENING HYMN #73

*O Worship the King*

***O worship the King, all glorious above, O gratefully sing God's pow'r and God's love;  
our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days, pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.***

***The earth with its store of wonders untold, Almighty, thy pow'r hath founded of old;  
hath stablished it fast by a changeless decree, and round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.***

***Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;  
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain, and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.***

BLESSING OF THE BIBLES

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jacey Bonner

**God, by your Word the world was made  
and by your Word we are saved.**

**Reveal your Word through the reading of scripture  
that we may learn to serve and praise you,  
through the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

Acts 17:22-31

So Paul stood up in front of the council and said: 'People of Athens, I see that you are very religious. As I was going through your city and looking at the things you worship, I found an altar with the words, "To an Unknown God." You worship this God that you do not know. So I want to tell: This God made the world and everything in it. This God is the sovereign of heaven and earth, and does not live in temples built by human hands. This God does not need help from anyone. This God gives life, breath, and everything else to all people. From one person God made all nations who live on earth and decided when and where every nation would be.

'God has done all this, so that we will look for and reach out and find God. The Lord is never far from any of us, and is the one who gives us the power to live, to move, and to be who we are. "We are God's children," just as some of your poets have said. Since we are God's children, we must not think that God is like an idol made out of gold or silver or stone. The Lord is unlike anything that humans have thought up and made. In the past, God forgave all this because people did not know what they were doing. But now God says that everyone everywhere must repent. God has set a day to judge the world's people with fairness, and has chosen the man Jesus to do the judging. God has given proof of this to all of us by raising Jesus from death.'

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

HYMN OF PRAYER #2050

*Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth*

***Mothering God, you gave me birth in the bright morning of this world.***

***Creator, source of every breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun.***

***Mothering Christ, you took my form, offering me your food of light,  
grain of life, and grape of love, your very body for my peace.***

***Mother Spirit, nurt'ring one, in arms of patience hold me close,  
so that in faith I root and grow until I flow'r, until I know.***

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray for all God's creation.

Maker and Protector of all life,

by faith we see the goodness of your creation

and hear your call to be caretakers of the world.

Hear our prayers for the restoration of the skies and the seas

that have been damaged by our pollution.

**People: Awaken our praise and renew our commitment.**

Leader: Hear our prayers for the renewal of the land and vegetation

that have been injured by our greed.

**People: Awaken our praise and renew our commitment.**

Leader: Hear our prayers for the repair of the atmosphere

that has been damaged by our global warming.

**People: Awaken our praise and renew our commitment.**

Leader: Hear our prayers for the revival of habitations

for the birds of the air, animals of the land, and creatures of the sea

that are threatened by our neglect.

**People: Awaken our praise and renew our commitment.**

Leader: Hear our prayers for all people

that we will use the knowledge and creativity you have given us

to advance human flourishing in harmony with our fellow creatures.

**People: Awaken our praise and renew our commitment.**

Leader: May your glory, O Lord our God, endure forever and may you delight in all your works.

**People: Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

DOXOLOGY #94

*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!***

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Robin Reagan, Chair, Stewardship Committee

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ANTHEM

*Variations on Amazing Grace*

J.S. Warbinton

Warbinton Quartet: Jeff, Kelley, Lauren; Meredith Warbinton-Weir

SECOND LESSON

Psalm 148

Praise the Eternal!

All you in the heavens, praise the Eternal;  
praise God from the highest places!

All you, His messengers and His armies in heaven:  
praise God!

Sun, moon, and all you brilliant stars above:  
praise God!

Highest heavens and all you waters above the heavens:  
praise God!

Let all things join together in a concert of praise to the name of the Eternal,  
who gave the command and they were created.

God put them in their places to stay forever  
God declared it so, and it is final.

Everything on earth, join in and praise the Eternal;  
sea monsters and creatures of the deep,

Lightning and hail, snow and foggy mists,  
violent winds all respond to God's command.

Mountains and hills,  
fruit trees and cedar forests,

All you animals both wild and tame,  
reptiles and birds who take flight:  
praise the Lord.

All kings and all nations,  
princes and all judges of the earth,

All people, young men and women,  
old men and children alike,  
praise the Lord.

Let them all praise the name of the Eternal!

For God's name stands alone above all others.

God's glory shines greater than anything above or below.

The Lord has made the people strong;  
the praise of all who are godly,

the praise of the children of Israel, those whom God holds close.  
Praise the Lord!

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*The Singing Garden: Hymns of Creation and History*

Darren Cushman Wood

HYMN OF DEDICATION #2008

*Let All Things Now Living*

***Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God the Creator triumphantly raise,  
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us, who guides us and leads to the end of our days.  
God's banners fly o'er us; God's light goes before us, a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,  
till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished, as forward we travel from light into light.***

***The law God enforces, the stars in their courses and sun in its orbit obediently shine;  
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains, the deeps of the ocean proclaim the Divine.  
We, too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing; with glad adoration a song let us raise,  
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving: To God in the highest hosanna and praise!***

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDE

*Psalm 19*

B. Marcello

*The Heavens Declare the Glory of God*

*The flowers on the altar are given for the glory of God and  
in celebration and memory of Joan and Ralph Lafuze's wedding anniversary on World Communion Sunday  
and in memory of Dorothy and Jim Esterline's wedding anniversary October 2<sup>nd</sup>.*

*Given by the family in memory of Ralph, Dorothy and Jim and to honor Joan and their marriages.*

*Additional flowers on the altar are given for the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of  
Jack Leonard and Jacqueline Blackwell at North Church on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.*

This week's worship leaders:

Darren Cushman Wood

*Senior Pastor*

Amy Sell

*Minister of Discipleship & Formation*

John Hague & Dick Tiller-Luchtman

*Audio Visual*

Jacey Bonner

*Liturgist*

Heather Hinton

*Organist*

Jeff & Kelley Warbinton

*Song Leaders*

Annual Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, Oct 4 at 5 p.m. in the north parking lots

Update on Public Safety and Police Reform

Meet virtually on Thursday, October 8, 6:30 p.m.

To receive Zoom link email: [lmansfield@northchurchindy.com](mailto:lmansfield@northchurchindy.com)

Drive-In Movie Night

*The Addams Family*

Friday, October 16 at Dusk (about 7:15 p.m.)

Women in Early Christianity

Sunday School study led by Dr. Perry Kea

Meets virtually 9:45-10:45 a.m., Sundays Oct 11-Nov 15

To receive Zoom link email: [asell@northchurchindy.com](mailto:asell@northchurchindy.com)