

WORSHIP SERVICE

Northampton Presbyterian Church

SIMPLE GIFTS WORSHIP
Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

June 23, 2024
10:00 AM

PRELUDE

Jesus Loves the Little Children

arr. George Root

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Women's Breakfast at Manny's, Wednesday (6/26) at 9 AM.
- Congregational Meeting, Sunday (6/30), immediately following the worship service for the purpose of electing church officers.
- Strawberry Festival Potluck, Sunday (6/30) at 11:30 AM.
Sign-up sheet in the narthex or email npchurch@comcast.net.

INTERGENERATIONAL CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: When the storms of life arise

**ALL: And the waves threaten to overturn the boat in which
we have placed our lives,**

ONE: Remember the power of Jesus

ALL: To calm, to still, to bring peace.

HYMN

Michael, Row the Boat Ashore

SPIRITUAL

GIRLS/WOMEN: Sister, help to trim the sails, hallelujah
Sister, help to trim the sails, hallelujah

ALL: Michael, row the boat ashore, hallelujah
Michael, row the boat ashore, hallelujah

BOYS/MEN: The river Jordan is chilly and cold, hallelujah
Chills the body but not the soul, hallelujah

ALL: Michael, row the boat ashore, hallelujah
Michael, row the boat ashore, hallelujah

MINI-CAMPERS: The river is deep and the river is wide, hallelujah
Milk and honey on the other side, hallelujah

ALL: Michael, row the boat ashore, hallelujah
Michael, row the boat ashore, hallelujah

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Mark 4:35-41

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Rev. Judith A. Dwyer

RESPONSE TO THE MESSAGE

(Mini-Camp Singers)

Thanks, God

One Big Family

Sam Mizell

Charles Christopher Sligh

A WORD FROM PASTOR JUDY

Rev. Judith A. Dwyer

THE OFFERING

(Scan the QR Code to give online →)



MUSICAL MEDITATION *(Jes Stehr & Trish Conover)*

Be Thou My Vision

arr. Lloyd Larson

DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE FIVE-FINGER PRAYER



- 1. Thumb:** Pray for those closest to you, your family
- 2. Pointer Finger:** Pray for those who point you in the right direction (teachers, doctors, pastors). Ask for wisdom and support.
- 3. Tallest Finger:** Pray for those who lead us (the government). Ask for guidance and wisdom.
- 4. Ring Finger:** Pray for those who are weak, in trouble, or in pain. We cannot pray too much for them.
- 5. Little Finger:** Pray for yourself and your own needs.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

HYMN

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

WHOLE WORLD

He's got the whole world in his hands.

He's got the whole world in his hands.

He's got the whole world in his hands.

He's got the whole world in his hands.

He's got the little tiny baby in his hands.

He's got the little tiny baby in his hands.

He's got the little tiny baby in his hands.

He's got the whole world in his hands.

He's got you and me, brother, in his hands.

He's got you and me, brother, in his hands.

He's got you and me, brother, in his hands.

He's got the whole world in his hands.

He's got you and me, sister, in his hands.

He's got you and me, sister, in his hands.

He's got you and me, sister, in his hands.

He's got the whole world in his hands.

He's got ev'rybody here in his hands.

He's got ev'rybody here in his hands.

He's got ev'rybody here in his hands.

He's got the whole world in his hands.

RESPONSIVE BLESSING

ONE: As we leave this place, we know

ALL: God will be with us wherever we go.

ONE: At work or play, at home or on vacation, we know

ALL: God will be with us wherever we go.

ONE: Whether we're happy or sad, on our own, or with our friends, we know

ALL: God will be with us wherever we go.

ONE: So let's go with joy,

ALL: Because God goes with us!

POSTLUDE

Postlude on Duke Street

John Hatton

*A rose has been placed in the sanctuary this morning
in honor of the birth of **Elle Vittina West**,
daughter of Amy & Scott West, and granddaughter
of Kathie Pisciella.*

WORSHIP NOTES:

The **Opening Hymn**, “Michael, Row the Boat Ashore,” is an African American spiritual first noted during the American Civil War on one of the Sea Islands of South Carolina, St. Helena Island. It was sung by former enslaved persons whose owners had abandoned the island after it was seized from the Confederacy. St. Helena is a center of the African American “Gullah” culture that, incidentally, also produced the song “Kumbaya.”

According to widespread Christian tradition, the opening lines refer to St. Michael the Archangel, who “leads the soul of each and every true man through the gates of eternal life into the kingdom of heaven” (from an anonymous Medieval homily).

In the various versions of the spiritual, the role of the River Styx is assumed by the biblical River Jordan, in which Jesus was baptized to show the path to heaven. Thus, it represents the transition from life to death, from earth to heaven.

But the Jordan River, over which the Israelites crossed into the Promised Land, symbolized more than salvation. Its use in these songs was political, as well as religious. For those who first sang “Michael, Row the Boat Ashore,” it also represented liberation from slavery — and perhaps particularly escape from the slaveholding South into the free states of the North.

(adapted from an article posted in Deseret News: How spirituals, like ‘Michael, Row the Boat Ashore,’ bridge the Bible, mythology – Deseret News.)

The **Call to Worship** and the **Prayer for Illumination** are by Teri McDowell Ott and are published in *Presbyterian Outlook* on June 10, 2024. These materials are free to be used for worship. <https://pres-outlook.org>.

The **Five-Finger Prayer** is posted on www.cpg.church and adapted for our use.

The **Responsive Blessing** is taken from *A Children’s Guide to Worship* by Ruth Boling. Louisville, Kentucky: Geneva Press and Westminster – John Knox Press, 1997.

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