

WORSHIP SERVICE

Northampton Presbyterian Church

Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 6, 2025

10:00 AM

PRELUDE

Let Us Break Bread

P. Taylor

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pam Kemper

- Welcome back to Rev. Raymond Bonwell!
- April 9 - 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast – Robinhood Restaurant
- Apr 17 – Taize-style Maundy Thursday Service, 7 pm
- April Blood Drive – Postponed to the fall.

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 126)

One: When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dreamed. Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy.

MANY: Then it was said among the nations, “The Lord has done great things for them.” The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.

ONE: Restore our fortunes, Lord, like streams in the Negev.

MANY: Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy.

ALL: Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them.

Hymn #65: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land.

I am weak, but thou art mighty.

Hold me with thy powerful hand.

Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,

feed me till I want no more;

feed me till I want no more.

2 Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield;
be thou still my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee.

Unison Prayer of Confession

**God of the covenant,
in the glory of the cross
your Son embraced the power of death
and broke its hold over your people.
In this time of repentance,
draw all people to yourself,
that we who confess Jesus as Lord
may put aside the deeds of death
and accept the life of your kingdom. Amen.**

RESPONSIVE ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Lord, let us live as your covenant people: created, redeemed,
and sustained by your love. Through Christ our Lord we pray,
Amen.

Hymn #582: Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

1) Glory to God whose goodness shines on me
And to the Son whose grace has pardoned me
And to the Spirit whose love has set me free
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, Amen!

2) World without end, without end, Amen! (x3)
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, Amen!

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 43:16-21

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS: 3:4b-14 ; John 12:1-8

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON: “Never Again, and, Always” Rev. Raymond Bonwell

STATEMENT OF FAITH: (Confession of 1967, 9.22)

The new life takes shape in community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no person has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace.

Hymn #223: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

1 When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down;
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Scan the QR code to give online.



OFFERATORY ANTHEM:

If We Truly Believe

D. Besig

SERVICE OF COMMUNION

Invitation

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Elements

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Sung)

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 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, forever. Amen.

Hymn #645: Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

1 Sing praise to God who reigns above,
the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love,
the God of our salvation.

With healing balm my soul is filled,
and every faithless murmur stilled:
to God all praise and glory!

2 What God's almighty power has made
God's gracious mercy keepeth;
by morning glow or evening shade
God's watchful eye ne'er sleepeth.
Within the kingdom of God's might,
lo! all is just and all is right:
to God all praise and glory!

3 The Lord is never far away,
but, through all grief distressing,
an ever-present help and stay,
our peace and joy and blessing,
as with a mother's tender hand
God gently leads the chosen band:
to God all praise and glory!

4 Thus all my toilsome way along
I sing aloud thy praises,
that all may hear the grateful song
my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart;
both soul and body, take your part:
to God all praise and glory!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: Hail to the Lord's Anointed

H. Balcombe

WORSHIP NOTES:

After a 12-year career in finance and institutional investing, Raymond Bonwell attended Princeton Theological Seminary and was ordained to institutional ministry. Raymond served at Princeton for 5 ½ years, at the Board of Pensions (a national PCUSA Agency) for 10 years, and is concluding service as the interim executive director of the Louisville Institute. Concurrently, Raymond served four congregations part-time for a total of six years, and has been a guest preacher in more than 100 congregations. Raymond and his wife Jennifer functionally live in Center City Philadelphia (technically just north in Franciscville).

WORSHIP NOTES (cont'd):

We thank **Pam Kemper** for serving as our liturgist this morning. The bulletin cover photo is by NPC member **Val Erdmanis** and used with permission. Hymns are from the Glory to God Hymnal, The Presbyterian Publishing Corporation, Louisville, KY, 2017. All are licensed for use by CCLI. Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license # A-739749.