



**THE WORSHIP OF GOD
AND
THE SERVICE OF ORDINATION
FOR
HOLLY CLAIRE BENZENHAFFER REDFORD**

Spirit
in every color, hue,
dance me in prismatic light...
find me in the drab, mundane,
and make the daily holy.

Spirit
in every face and eye,
greet me as sibling, child...
right the injustices, assuage the fears,
and gather me in familial embrace.

Spirit
in every celebration, pain,
course through my life's ebb and flow...
bear my anxieties, suffering, grief,
and unbound joy, hope, and love.

Spirit
in every song and silence,
open me to your sacred space...
seek me in urban cacophony, rural expanse,
and reveal to me Presence in every community.

– HCBR

Every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart, I will pray...
–African-American Spiritual

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Pentecost Sunday

May 31, 2009

Three o'clock

PREPARATION AND PRAISE

The Prelude "Fugue in E Flat" Bach

The Meditation of Preparation

"What is an authentic Christian spirituality? The resounding response that I would offer...is that life in the Spirit does not entail disengagement from the world but rather careful, prayerful engagement—humble, not presumptuous; prophetic, not passive; yet always contemplative in the best sense. This is not contemplation that lifts one out of the world to a heavenly vision, leaving behind only disdain for the worldly, but instead a rootedness in God—trusting, attentive, and overflowing to compassion."

—Claire E. Wolfteich,
Boston University Associate Professor of Practical Theology in
Lord, Have Mercy: Praying for Justice with Conviction and Humility

As members of the Creation of God, we celebrate diversity and interdependence of life. As people of faith with a broad spectrum of practice, polity, and vision, we honor a transcendent unity within difference. As individuals with unique experiences and views, we seek to be an holistic community where we may be sustained, grow, and encounter the Sacred and where we may in turn nourish, heal, and be *Imago Dei* to our world.

—Preamble to Winding Path Community Covenant
Established May 2009

The Spoken Call to Worship Charles Poole

*The Processional Hymn 669: "God of Grace and God of Glory" CWM RHONDDA

*The Litany for Service to God Kristen Redford

Leader We are not alone! We live in our Creator's world—our Creator who *has* created and *is* creating...who moved among us as Jesus the Christ, and who works in us and through us as Spirit.

People **We trust in God. We are called to be the church: to celebrate God's Presence, to live with respect in creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to embody the teachings and life of Jesus, and to infuse the world with peace.**

Leader We are not alone! In the darkness before dawn, in the waiting and uncertainty... where fear and courage join hands, conflict and caring link arms, and the sun rises over prisons fashioned by the human mind, innovation, and hate: the Spirit moves among us.

People **We trust in God: who sits down in our midst to share our humanity; who takes us beyond safe places into action, vulnerability, and into the streets; and who challenges us to work for change, to bear responsibility, to take risks, to stand with those on the margins, and be used by the Spirit to build communities of hope.**

Leader We are not alone! Our God has gifted us with courage, faith, and cheerfulness... with sound and study, song and silence...eyes to see reality and dreams to envision what can be... that hidden things may be revealed and new ways found to touch the hearts of all we encounter.

People **We trust in God. If every wall should crumble and every church decay, we are the Spirit's habitation. Nearer are you, O God, than breathing, closer than hands and feet. Look through our eyes with compassion on the world and direct us outside this sacred space and time to the crossroads of relationships within diversity and peace within reconciliation.**

Leader O God, set your blessing on us in this time together.

People: **O Spirit, pour blessings upon your children. May we be fire and light.**

—adapted from Iona Community's *Iona Abbey Worship Book*

*The Invocation Annie Britton

The Greeting Charles Poole

PROCLAMATION

The Lessons Psalm 104:24-24 Jacalyn Hild Foster
Ezekiel 37:1-14 Hank Osmundson

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer Amy Joyner Finkelberg

*The Congregational Hymn "We Are Called to Tell the Story" REGENT SQUARE

*We are called to tell the story, passing words of life along,
then to blend our voice with others, as we sing the sacred song.
Christ be known in all our singing, filling all with songs of love.*

*We are called to teach the rhythm of the dance that never ends,
Then to move within the circle, Hand in hand with strangers, friends.
Christ be known in all our dancing, touching all with hands of love.*

*We are called to set the table, blessing bread as Jesus blessed,
then to come with thirst and hunger, needing care like all the rest,
Christ be known in all our sharing, feeding all with signs of love.*

*May the One whose love is broader than the measure of all space
give us words to sing the story, Move among us in this place.
Christ be known in all our living, Filling all with gifts of love.*

The Gospel John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15 Tom Harvey

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

The Anthem "There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying" Hopson

*There's a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod:
Prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God!
All the valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places where the Lord our God may go.
Zion, that bringest good tidings, go up to the heights and sing!
Proclaim to a desolate people the coming of their King.
Like the flow'rs of the field they perish, like grass our works decay,
the pow'r and pomp of nations shall pass like a dream away;
But the word of God endureth, the Lord is strong;
he stands in the nations, and rights the wrong.
He feeds his flock, the lambs he'll hold; he'll lead them to his fold.*

The Sermon Shelly Rambo

ORDINATION

The Laying on of Hands

The Certificate of Ordination

J. Kelley Williams, Sr.

The Presentation of Gifts

Suzanne Boone

The Prayer of Blessing

Jill Buckley

*The Recessional Hymn No. 565: "Lord of Creation"

SLANE

*The Benediction

Holly Benzenhafer Redford

*The Postlude

"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

Walther

**The congregation will please stand*

Reception immediately following in the Great Hall

All are invited to write a blessing on the enclosed card. The cards will be collected to fill a blessing cup for Holly to mark this glad and sacred day.

Welcome To Our Guest Worship Leaders

Kristen Redford: Daughter of Ken and Holly Benzenhafer Redford,
Methuen, Massachusetts

The Reverend Annie Britton: The Church Within A Church Movement
Doctoral Candidate in Practical Theology, Boston University School of Theology,
Johnston, Rhode Island

Sister Jacalyn Hild Foster: Professed Member of Anamchara Fellowship,
Celtic Episcopal Order, Newark, Delaware

Hank Osmundson: Friend of Holly Benzenhafer Redford, Burbank, California

Tom Harvey: Senior Deacon, South Church in Andover,
United Church of Christ, Andover, Massachusetts

Dr. Shelly Rambo: Assistant Professor of Theology,
Boston University School of Theology, Boston, Massachusetts