

THE OFFERTORY

\*THE DOXOLOGY

## GO FAITHFULLY

\*HYMN 263 *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!*

\*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*THE POSTLUDE

\*Indicates the People Standing

*Ushers*  
*Dave Snider, Greg Theimer, Ray Williams*

*Acolyte*  
*Audrey Hayes, Kaylee O'Conner*

OUR SERMON SERIES ENTITLED "CREDO: WHAT WE BELIEVE" is based on the essential tenets of the Apostle's Creed and continues for several weeks. The sermons will focus on the basic beliefs found in our common statement of faith. Come join us each week as together we explore and learn more of our Christian doctrine.

## NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome to Christ's Service of Worship for the Lord's Day

*July Thirtieth the Year of Our Lord*  
*Two Thousand Seventeen*

*Eighth Sunday after Pentecost*

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## GATHER JOYFULLY

THE PRELUDE

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION

Genesis 29:15-18; Psalm 128; Romans 8:26-39

(Congregants are encouraged to read and reflect upon these passages as they prepare for worship.)

BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

THE PASSING OF PEACE

THE GATHERING HYMN 403 *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*

**Open now thy gates of beauty, Zion let me enter there, Where my soul in joyful duty Waits for God who answers prayer; O how blessed is this place, filled with solace light, and grace.**

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Minister: In Your steadfast love we place our trust, O God of the ages.

**Congregants: Our heart rejoices in the gift of Your salvation.**

Minister: We will sing our praise to You, O God, throughout the day and night.

**Congregants: You have dealt bountifully with us, in Your grace and love.**

Minister: Let us worship God.

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION (unison)

**Our hearts leap for joy**

**as we experience Your goodness, O God.**

**In Your bounty we receive**

**Your compassion and care and forgiveness.**

**You know our needs before we utter a word.**

**Your wisdom is vast,**

**and You send us Christ to make Your Will known.**

**As we gather before Your throne of glory,**

**Open our eyes and ears and spirits  
to learn of Your faithfulness and protection,  
and use our mouths and hands and feet  
to sing Your praises and to serve Your Son,  
in whose blessed name we pray. Amen.**

\* HYMN 20     *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

\*THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Righteous Judge and Benevolent Ruler,  
hear us as we confess our sin.**

**We are prone to seek punishment for others  
while asking for leniency for ourselves.**

**We hasten to marginalize those  
with whom we disagree.**

**We judge the worthiness of others,  
forgetting that we ourselves are unworthy.**

**Help us to hear again how Christ died for all,  
and including those who are different from ourselves.**

**Hear these our silent prayers.**

\*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Minister)

Paul writes, “Now that you have been freed from sin,  
now that you are a servant to God,  
the advantage you get is sanctification.

For the wages of sin is death,

but the free gift of God is eternal life

in Jesus Christ our Lord.”

In Christ we are forgiven! Praise God!

\*GLORIA PATRI Hymn 581

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is  
now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.**

## **GROW SPIRITUALLY**

THE FIRST LESSON Psalm 136:1-9

<sup>1</sup> O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures for ever. <sup>2</sup> O give thanks to the God of gods, for his steadfast love endures for ever. <sup>3</sup> O give thanks to the Lord of lords, for his steadfast love endures for ever; <sup>4</sup> who alone does great wonders, for his steadfast love endures for ever; <sup>5</sup> who by understanding made the heavens, for his steadfast love endures for ever; <sup>6</sup> who spread out the earth on the waters, for his steadfast love endures for ever; <sup>7</sup> who

made the great lights, for his steadfast love endures for ever; <sup>8</sup> the sun to rule over the day, for his steadfast love endures for ever; <sup>9</sup> the moon and stars to rule over the night, for his steadfast love endures for ever;

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / 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 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.**

MUSIC VOLUNTARY     *Thy Word is a Lamp Unto My Feet*     Hymn 458

THE CHILDRENS MESSAGE / CHILDREN LEAVE FOR JP’S

THE SECOND LESSON Hebrews 1:2-4; 2:5-9

<sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. <sup>3</sup>He is the reflection of God’s glory and the exact imprint of God’s very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

<sup>5</sup>Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. <sup>6</sup>But someone has testified somewhere, ‘What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them?’ <sup>7</sup>You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honour, <sup>8</sup> subjecting all things under their feet.’ Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, <sup>9</sup>but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

THE SERMON

CREDO: HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN

Dr. Russ Merritt

\*HYMN 630

*Fairest Lord Jesus*

\*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*The Apostles’ Creed*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his  
only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered  
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third  
day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of  
God the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I  
believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal church, the communion of saints, the  
forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## Announcements

Ushers for August 6, 2017 – Emily Allen, Sarah Godsey, Susan Lockard  
Communion Servers – Emily Allen, Sarah Godsey, Stan Lanford, Dave Snider, Holly Woodson

Thank you so much for all the lovely cards you've sent me. They have been an encouragement. Also, we have appreciated the food and your prayers. The healing has taken longer than we expected but is improving. Love Ruth and Em St.Cyr

New address for Chloe Lockard: Chloe Lockard 990 N. Royal St. Alexandria, Va. 22314

We have another wheelchair available "thanks" to Reggie and Margie Lemon. So if the need arises please feel free to request use of the wheelchair. Thank you Reggie and Margie.

Our Summer Worship Service will begin at 10:30 AM, starting on June 4<sup>th</sup> and continue through August 31<sup>st</sup>, No Sunday School classes during these months.

Northminster Presbyterian is celebrating our 75th anniversary in 2017. The worship committee is planning a homecoming celebration on Sunday, October 1st with a special service and luncheon to follow the service. If you have a special person you want to be invited, please give the name and address to Judy Ferrell. When we have finalized the plans, we will let everyone know!!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS to help provide transportation to church each Sunday for some of our members who could not otherwise attend. If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please contact the Minister.

"Devotional booklets and daily scripture reading guides can be found in the hallway outside the fellowship hall in the new wall racks and on the table. Current and past copies of devotional booklets including, *These Days* and *The Upper Room* are available. Please help yourself to any of these excellent publications."

The 2017 Flower Calendar has been placed on the bulletin board outside the Church Office.

### Calendar

Today	10:30 am	Summer Worship
Tuesday		Circle 2
Next Sunday	10:30 am	Summer Worship / Communion

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
3911 Greenland Avenue, Roanoke, Virginia 24012-3250  
WEBSITE:WWW.NORTHMINSTERPCUSA.ORG

Russ Merritt, Transitional Minister	Melissa Hudson, Music Director
Susie Tallmage, Secretary	Lauren Godsey, Nursery Attendant

### Let us keep those listed below in our prayers.

#### Members

Bobby Brammer	Kara Moretz Campbell	Eloise Dunagan
Barry Ferrell	Michael Hambrick	Jake Hayes
Betty Hinkle	Lois Hopkins	Rose Howard
Atwood Huff	Mary Ann Huff	Jim Maile
Jace Newman	Mac Pace	Buddy Smith
Sandy Smith	Ruth St. Cyr	Frances Stevens
George Wingeier	Shirley Wynn	

#### Friends and Family

Hayley Gutherie – (Grand-daughter of Sheila Gutherie)  
Jenny Kirk and her sister-in-law  
Cindy Lanford – (daughter-in-law of Stan and Elise Lanford)

#### \*THE SESSION \*

Clerk of Session: Holly Woodson

Class of 2017: Lynn Kirby, Judy Ferrell, Matt Graybill, Bob Newman, Dave Snider  
Class of 2018: Dana Esworthy, Barry Ferrell, Jyke Jones, Stan Lanford, Ann Pace  
Class of 2019: Margie Cundiff, John Kabana, Allen Kling, Sarah Plymale,  
Holly Woodson