

*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.

THE OFFERTORY

Be Not Afraid Hymn 243

*THE DOXOLOGY

GO FAITHFULLY

*HYMN 645

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*THE POSTLUDE

*Indicates the People Standing

Ushers

Emily Allen, Dana Esworthy, Greg Theimer, Ray Williams

WE WELCOME OUR GUEST PREACHER, W. D. Hasty, back to the pulpit this morning while Russ is on study leave. Thank you, W. D., for your message!

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

*May Twenty first the Year of Our Lord
Two Thousand Seventeen*

Sixth Sunday of Easter

GATHER JOYFULLY

THE PRELUDE

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION

I Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

(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 248 (Verse 1) *Hymn to Joy*

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days! Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: All creation is amazed. In the desert all surrounding, See, a spreading tree has grown. Healing leaves of grace abounding Bring a taste of love unknown.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive, from a poem by John Bell)

Minister: Christ has risen while earth slumbers,
he has risen where hope died.

**Congregants: As he said and as he promised,
as we doubted and denied.**

Minister: Let the moon embrace the blessing,
let the sun sustain the cheer.

**Congregants: Let the world confirm the rumor—
Christ is risen, God is here!**

Minister: Let us worship God!

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION (unison)

**Living and gracious Lord,
through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ
You have brought us out to a spacious place**

**where we are called to live as those redeemed.
Empower us by Your Spirit
to keep Your commandments,
that we may show forth Your love
with gentle word and reverent deed
to all Your people, in Christ's name. Amen.**

* HYMN 12 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

*THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)
**We come to You, O God, with the need to confess,
for our sins are many and our spirits are weak.
We share the frailties of the first disciples,
their wavering devotion and faltering courage.
We want to live and proclaim Easter truth,
but we're not always certain and free from doubt.
Forgive our spiritual struggles, we pray,
renew the fire in our hearts and the hunger in our souls
that we might once again love and follow You.
Hear these our silent prayers.**

*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Minister)
Jesus, the Christ, has borne our burdens,
has carried our sorrows, has forgiven our sins.
Believe and rejoice in what he has done for us.
By his wounds we are healed,
death and sin no longer have dominion.
Praise be to God!

* RESPONSE Hymn 236 (Verse 1) *The Strife is O'er*
**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. The strife is o'er, the battle done, The victory of life is won; The
song of triumph has begun. Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

GROW SPIRITUALLY

THE FIRST LESSON Psalm 66:8-20

⁸ Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard, ⁹ who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip. ¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried. ¹¹ You brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs; ¹² you let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place. ¹³ I will come into your house with burnt-offerings; I will pay you my vows, ¹⁴ those that my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble. ¹⁵ I will offer to you burnt-offerings of

fatlings, with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams; I will make an offering of bulls and goats. *Selah* ¹⁶ Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me. ¹⁷ I cried aloud to him, and he was extolled with my tongue. ¹⁸ If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. ¹⁹ But truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of my prayer. ²⁰ Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me.

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.

ANTHEM *Savior, Like a Shepherd Feed Us* William Bradley Roberts

THE CHILDRENS MESSAGE / CHILDREN LEAVE FOR JP'S

THE SECOND LESSON Acts 17:22-31

²² Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, 'Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, "To an unknown god." What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said, "For we too are his offspring." ²⁹Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.'

THE SERMON FROM PHILOSOPHY TO RESURRECTION Rev. W. D. Hasty

*HYMN 250 *In the Bulb There Is a Flower*

Announcements

Ushers for May 28, 2017 – Tom and Jane Olsen

We thank our church family for the many acts of kindness and sympathy extended to our family upon the death of Chuck’s mother, Rachel Lockard. Your cards, food and prayers were deeply appreciated. We are blessed to share our Christian faith with the caring members of Northminster! Chuck and Susan Lockard

We will have Youth Sunday on June 4th. Since this is Pentecost Sunday, we encourage everyone to wear a bit of red.

We are unable to locate our Coffee Pot Urn, if you have borrowed it can you please return it back to the Church.

Looking for our 2017 Graduates! If you have a high school or college or trade school graduate the Worship Committee would like to recognize him or her. Let us know the name, graduation date, school and the plans for the future for the graduate. This information needs to be put on the Church Secretary’s desk or emailed to susie@northminsterpcusa.org. We need this information by Sunday, May 28th.

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

Join us from Sunday, July 9- Tuesday, July 11th for our Vacation Bible School. On July 9th, we will provide chicken and ask everyone to bring their favorite side dish or dessert. Dinner will start at 5:30 with Bible school starting around 6. This year’s theme is Created by God. Please make plans to join us. If you are willing to help, let Lynn Kirby know.

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	9:45 am 11:00 am	Sunday School Morning Worship
Tuesday	10:30 am	P.W. Meeting
Next Sunday	9:45 am 11:00 am	Sunday School Morning Worship

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

Russ Merritt, Interim 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	Tom Hale	Michael Hambrick
Jake Hayes	Betty Hinkle	Rose Howard
Atwood Huff	Mary Ann Huff	Jim Maile
Nancy Maile	Jace Newman	Mac Pace
Sandy Smith	Frances Stevens	George Wingeier
Shirley Wynn		

Friends and Family

Hayley Gutherie – (Grand-daughter of Sheila Gutherie)
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

