

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

THE OFFERTORY *Great are You, Lord* Hymn 614

*THE DOXOLOGY

GO FAITHFULLY

*HYMN 634 *To God Be the Glory*

*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*THE POSTLUDE

*Indicates the People Standing

We are singing a new hymn, 726 Will You Come and Follow Me. The Hymnal gives this description: "The first four stanzas of this ballad-like hymn are understood to be in the voice of Christ, with the fifth reflecting the individual singer's response. Created for this traditional Scottish tune, the text was written to mark the conclusion of a youth volunteer's time of ministry."

Ushers
Stan Lanford, Mac and Ann Pace, Dave Snider

Acolytes
Mia Esworthy, Maggie Graybill

THOUGHT TO CARRY HOME: What kind of thanks would we afford? God, make of us Your living tithes, the first fruits, fit to work for You....transformed and cleansed, restored, made new. John Thornburg

October Fifteenth the Year of Our Lord
Two Thousand Seventeen

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

GATHER JOYFULLY

THE PRELUDE

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION

Exodus 32:1-14; Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23; Philippians 4:1-9
(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 408 *There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit*

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord; there are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the presence of the Lord. Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, stay right here with us, filling us with your love; and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise; without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived when we shall leave this place.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Minister: O give thanks to God for all the goodness
we are shown! God's steadfast love endures forever!

**Congregants: We come from the east and the west,
the north and the south, to give God thanks and praise!**

Minister: We once were a wandering people,
hungry and thirsty in a desert land.

**Congregants: We cried to God to deliver us, and we were led
to a new land rich in promise and harvest.**

Minister: We give thanks for God's steadfast love!

Congregants: God's generosity is beyond measure.

Minister: Let us worship God.

GROW SPIRITUALLY

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION (unison)

**God of all our yesterdays and tomorrows,
we pray for Your presence with us this day
as we gather to give You our thanks and praise.
In Your Word we find life and hope,
in Your love we find comfort and healing,
in Your Spirit we find strength and vision.
Be with us now, we pray, that our worship
will bring You glory and will fill our hearts.
Transform us, renew us, restore us, we pray,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

* HYMN 15 *All Creatures of Our God and King*

*THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Giving God, You have blessed us with an abundance
of gifts, of talents, of resources, of opportunities.
Yet we forget that You alone are the Giver
of all that we have, of all that we are.
So we move through life always grabbing for more
and holding on tightly to what we obtain and have.
You offered Your very Self, Your own Son, for us.
But we have trouble giving our lives back to You.
Forgive us, loving Father, for our many sins.
Forgive us for any stinginess and selfishness.
Forgive us for our constant desire for more.
Forgive us for all the ways we fall short
of living as Your generous people.
Restore us to the new life You promise for us.
Hear these our silent prayers.**

*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON (responsive)

Minister: Friends, believe the Good News.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Congregants: To God be all praise and glory. Amen.

*ALLELUIA RESPONSE HYMN 587

THE FIRST LESSON Psalm 96

¹ O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. ² Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. ³ Declare his glory among the nations, his marvellous works among all the peoples. ⁴ For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods. ⁵ For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the Lord made the heavens. ⁶ Honour and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary. ⁷ Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. ⁸ Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts. ⁹ Worship the Lord in holy splendour; tremble before him, all the earth. ¹⁰ Say among the nations, 'The Lord is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved. He will judge the peoples with equity.' ¹¹ Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; ¹² let the field exult, and everything in it. Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy ¹³ before the Lord; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.

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

O God, My Strength and Fortitude

arr. Harris

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE / CHILDREN LEAVE FOR JP'S

THE SECOND LESSON

Exodus 35:1-29; 36:2-7

Insert

THE SERMON

"TOO MUCH GIVING"

Russ Merritt

*HYMN 726

Will You Come and Follow Me

*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

“The rose bud in the sanctuary today is for the birth of Easton Ray Cundiff. Easton’s parents are Trent and Emma Cundiff, and his grandparents are Greg and Margie Cundiff. The great grandparents are Stan and Elise Lanford, and his great aunt is Lynn Kirby. Easton, who was born October 3rd, weight 8 lb. 7 oz and was 19 ¾ inches long.”

Ushers for October 22, 2017 – Sarah Godsey, Greg Theimer, Ray Williams, Holly Woodson

Many thanks to the folks who contributed to the Presbyterian Community Center Train Tug. It was a very successful fundraiser for the Center.

Thanks go out to the people who donated and walked in the CROP walk last Sunday.

We want you to join us for PUMPKIN AND COOKIE DECORATING October 15th after church. Kids AND parents welcome. This will also be our Young Adult Fellowship! Be sure to come and bring friends!! Lunch will be provided. It would be helpful to let Margie Cundiff or Lynn Kirby know if you can attend so we have enough food and pumpkins! You can email them at Margie.cundiff@cox.net or lkirby7009@cox.net. It will be a fun way to celebrate the fall season!

NORTHMINSTRER’S ANNUAL CLOTHES DRIVE for refugee and immigrant families working with Blue Ridge Literacy will be held Sunday, October 15, through Sunday, November 5. There is a special need for shoes, for children’s clothes, and for cold weather clothing—but ALL clothing is appreciated! Please look through your closets and drawers, and bring any unneeded clothing to church, where we can collect and carry all donations to the hundreds of refugee and immigrant learners at Literacy.

A SEMINAR ON CHURCH DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFORMATION, very apt for our congregation’s self-study, is being offered by the Presbytery of the Peaks on Thursday, October 26. The seminar will be led by Dr. Ann Philbrick, our denomination’s Director for Vital Congregations, and will be held in Lynchburg from 10:00 until 3:00. We will set up carpooling for those interested in attending. Your registration fee will be paid for you. If you can join us for this important training,, please see the Minster for more information.

Presbyterian Women – The new year for the Presbyterian Women will start January 2018. Work on the year book has started and I will be gathering information on the circles. If you are not a circle member now, I encourage you to join one this coming year. It is a great opportunity for you to become more involved in our Church activities. We have two circles, a morning circle that meets at the Church and a night circle that meets in the homes of members. The meetings usually have a bible study, short business session and of course refreshments and a time to socialize. Call Elise Lanford at 366-7818 if you are interested in joining us this year. If you are a circle member now and your phone number or address has changed or you want to change circles, please let me know. This information is needed by mid-November.

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 12:15 pm	Sunday School Worship Service Young Adult Fellowship
Wednesday	5:50 pm 6:30 pm	Memorial Bells Sanctuary Choir
Next Sunday	9:45 am 11:00 am 12:15 pm	Sunday School Worship Service Session Meeting

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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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	Eloise Dunagan	Michael Hambrick
Jake Hayes	Betty Hinkle	Lois Hopkins
Rose Howard	Jim Maile	Jace Newman
Mac Pace	Buddy Smith	Sandy Smith
Ruth St. Cyr	Frances Stevens	George Wingeier
Shirley Wynn		

Friends and Family

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

THE SECOND LESSON Exodus 35:1-29; 36:2-7

¹Moses assembled all the congregation of the Israelites and said to them: These are the things that the Lord has commanded you to do: ²For six days shall work be done, but on the seventh day you shall have a holy sabbath of solemn rest to the Lord; whoever does any work on it shall be put to death. ³You shall kindle no fire in all your dwellings on the sabbath day. ⁴Moses said to all the congregation of the Israelites: This is the thing that the Lord has commanded: ⁵Take from among you an offering to the Lord; let whoever is of a generous heart bring the Lord's offering: gold, silver, and bronze; ⁶blue, purple, and crimson yarns, and fine linen; goats' hair, ⁷tanned rams' skins, and fine leather; acacia wood, ⁸oil for the light, spices for the anointing-oil and for the fragrant incense, ⁹and onyx stones and gems to be set in the ephod and the breastpiece. ¹⁰All who are skilful among you shall come and make all that the Lord has commanded: the tabernacle, ¹¹its tent and its covering, its clasps and its frames, its bars, its pillars, and its bases; ¹²the ark with its poles, the mercy-seat, and the curtain for the screen; ¹³the table with its poles and all its utensils, and the bread of the Presence; ¹⁴the lampstand also for the light, with its utensils and its lamps, and the oil for the light; ¹⁵and the altar of incense, with its poles, and the anointing-oil and the fragrant incense, and the screen for the entrance, the entrance of the tabernacle; ¹⁶the altar of burnt-offering, with its grating of bronze, its poles, and all its utensils, the basin with its stand; ¹⁷the hangings of the court, its pillars and its bases, and the screen for the gate of the court; ¹⁸the pegs of the tabernacle and the pegs of the court, and their cords; ¹⁹the finely worked vestments for ministering in the holy place, the holy vestments for the priest Aaron, and the vestments of his sons, for their service as priests. ²⁰Then all the congregation of the Israelites withdrew from the presence of Moses. And they came, everyone whose heart was stirred, and everyone whose spirit was willing, and brought the Lord's offering to be used for the tent of meeting, and for all its service, and for the sacred vestments. ²²So they came, both men and women; all who were of a willing heart brought brooches and earrings and signet rings and pendants, all sorts of gold objects, everyone bringing an offering of gold to the Lord. ²³And everyone who possessed blue or purple or crimson yarn or fine linen or goats' hair or tanned rams' skins or fine leather, brought them. ²⁴Everyone who could make an offering of silver or bronze brought it as the Lord's offering; and everyone who possessed acacia wood of any use in the work, brought it. ²⁵All the skilful women spun with their hands, and brought what they had spun in blue and purple and crimson yarns and fine linen; ²⁶all the women whose hearts moved them to use their skill spun the goats' hair. ²⁷And the leaders brought onyx stones and gems to be set in the ephod and the breastpiece, ²⁸and spices and oil for the light, and for the anointing-oil, and for the fragrant incense. ²⁹All the Israelite men and women whose hearts made them willing to bring anything for the work that the Lord had commanded by Moses to be done, brought it as a freewill-offering to the Lord.

²Moses then called Bezalel and Oholiab and everyone skilful to whom the Lord had given skill, everyone whose heart was stirred to come to do the work; ³and they received from Moses all the freewill-offerings that the Israelites had brought for doing the work on the sanctuary. They still kept bringing him freewill-offerings every morning, ⁴so that all the artisans who were doing every sort of task on the sanctuary came, each from the task being performed, ⁵and said to Moses, 'The people are bringing much more than enough for doing the work that the Lord has commanded us to do.' ⁶So Moses gave command, and word was proclaimed throughout the camp: 'No man or woman is to make anything else as an offering for the sanctuary.' So the people were restrained from bringing; ⁷for what they had already brought was more than enough to do all the work.