

GO FAITHFULLY

*HYMN 611 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* (Verses 1 and 3)

*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*THE POSTLUDE

*Indicates the People Standing

Ushers

Sarah Godsey, Greg Theimer, Ray Williams, Holly Woodson

Acolytes

Audrey Hayes, Kaylee O'Conner

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, mad new. John Thornburg

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

*October Twenty second the Year of Our Lord
Two Thousand Seventeen*

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

GATHER JOYFULLY

THE PRELUDE

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION

Exodus 33:12-23; Isaiah 45:1-7; I Thessalonians 1:1-10

(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 306 *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Minister: Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow!

Congregants: Praise God, all creatures here below!

Minister: Praise God above, ye heavenly host!

Congregants: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

Minister: Let us worship God.

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION (unison)

You know each of us by name, O Lord.

You know our hearts, our minds, our spirits.

**In Your sight we have found favor,
even though we cannot comprehend
so vast a love and such amazing grace.**

**The magnificence of Your presence
and the vision of Your glory
are beyond our understanding.**

**Grant that as we come before You in worship
we may be grateful for Your gifts
and filled with praise that is Yours alone.
We pray through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

* HYMN 12 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* (Verses 1 and 4)

*THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)
**Holy God, forgiving God,
God of great expectations, God of wondrous grace,
we come before You with our confessions of sin.
Called to follow Your path,
we have chosen to go our own way.
Given the challenge of sharing Your love with our world,
too often we have added to divisions and brokenness.
Filled with the gifts of Your Holy Spirit,
our tendency is to use those gifts for ourselves.
Redeem us, forgive us, re-direct us, we pray.
Transform our hearts, minds, and spirits
so that we might once again be Yours.
Hear these our silent prayers.**

*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON (responsive)
Minister: Hear the good news. God loves this world,
even in its brokenness and rebellion, and has sent
His Son Jesus to live for us, to die for us, to rise again
for us, that we might be made clean, and have
eternal life.
Congregants: Praise be to God, forever and ever.

*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 96:1-9

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.

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.**

HYMN 188 *Jesus Loves Me!* (Verse One)

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

THE SECOND LESSON Mark 12:38-44

³⁸ As he taught, he said, 'Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be
greeted with respect in the market-places, ³⁹and to have the best seats in the synagogues and
places of honour at banquets! ⁴⁰They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say
long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.' ⁴¹ He sat down opposite the treasury,
and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴²A
poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. ⁴³Then he called
his disciples and said to them, 'Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those
who are contributing to the treasury. ⁴⁴For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but
she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.'

THE SERMON "THE WIDOW'S MIGHT" Russ Merritt

*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

*THE DOXOLOGY

Announcements

Ushers for October 29, 2017 – Allen Kling, Bob Newman

THE NORTHMINSTER FAMILY shares its love and sympathy with Judy and Barry Ferrell, following the death of Judy's brother, Douglas Keith. Our prayers are with the Ferrell family.

Please get Newsletter items for the November/December Newsletter to Debbie Newman at dnewstamp4u@cox.net by Wednesday, October 25th.

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.

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.

With Christmas around the corner, we are beginning to think about Operation Christmas Child. Boxes and labels are available for pick up in the narthex. Please pick up a box and fill it. You can find ideas on the website <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions/> or look at the label brochure. Please bring your boxes to church by November 19th.

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 Session Meeting
Wednesday	5:30 pm 6:30 pm	Memorial Bells Sanctuary Choir
Next Sunday	9:45 am 11:00 am	Sunday School Worship Service

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