

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON

“NOW WHAT?”

Russ Merritt

*HYMN 248

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe that Jesus was the presence of God in our midst,
that he came to save us from our sinfulness,
and to restore us to a right relationship with Him and one
another.**

**We believe that he was put to death on the cross,
that he was buried in a borrowed tomb,
and that he experienced all our pain and abandonment and fear.**

**We believe that he was raised by God from death,
and that he became the path and door for our redemption.**

**We believe his Holy Spirit is present in our midst today,
comforting our sorrow, guiding our steps,
showing us the way into his future for us,
and calling us to life in his coming Kingdom.**

**We believe the day will come when all creation
will bow down before him,
and that he will reign in glory, restoring and reconciling
all that has been separated from God,
receiving our love and praise forever and ever. Amen.**

THE OFFERTORY

*THE DOXOLOGY

GO FAITHFULLY

*HYMN 233

The Day of Resurrection!

*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*THE POSTLUDE

*Indicates the People Standing

If standing is difficult, please remain seated. Larger print bulletins are available.

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

*April Eight the Year of Our Lord
Two Thousand Eighteen*

Second Sunday of Easter

GATHER JOYFULLY

THE PRELUDE

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION

Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133; I John 1:1 - 2:2

(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 232 (Verse 2) *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save Alleluia!

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Minister: This is the day which the Lord has made,
let us rejoice and be glad in it!

**Congregants: The stone is cast aside,
and the mantle of darkness is cast away.**

Minister: God has swallowed up death forever,
and brushed the tears from our faces.

Congregants: This is the day of salvation.

Minister: Be glad and rejoice--the Lord of light has come,
and he reigns forever!

Congregants: Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

Minister: Let us worship the risen Lord!

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION (unison)

**O risen Christ, you go before us
and have always gone before us.
You have even gone before us into death,
and have risen to stand before us in divine splendor!
We thank you and praise you, our Savior,
for love that is with us and in us and for us,
for love that goes before us opening the way to heaven,
for love that stands before us directing our steps.
Be with us now as we sing your praises,
And as we listen to hear the Word of life.
Through your blessed name we pray. Amen.**

* HYMN 234 *Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain*

*THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**God of all hope and joy,
we confess that we continue to live in fear.
We claim that we have no sin,
but You know the truth about us.
We say we have not seen You
even when You stand among us now.
Forgive us, God of grace, and open our eyes.
Breathe on us with Your Spirit
to set us free from doubt and sin,
so that we may be at peace with You,
through our risen Lord, Jesus Christ.
Hear these our silent prayers.**

*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON (responsive)

Minister: There is a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sky.
There is a depth in God's compassion,
like the depth of the deepest sea.
Surely He receives us when we turn to him
and turn from our sinfulness.
He forgives, even as He forgave the thief on the cross.
Congregants: May God have mercy on us. Amen.

* RESPONSE 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!

GROW SPIRITUALLY

THE FIRST READING GOD'S WORD Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

¹ O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures for ever! ² Let Israel say, 'His steadfast love endures for ever.'

¹⁴ The Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. ¹⁵ There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: 'The right hand of the Lord does valiantly; ¹⁶ the right hand of the Lord is exalted; the right hand of the Lord does valiantly.' ¹⁷ I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord. ¹⁸ The Lord has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death. ¹⁹ Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. ²⁰ This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. ²¹ I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. ²² The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. ²³ This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes. ²⁴ This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

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.

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

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Mark 16:1-8

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

We thank C.W. Markham for the music leadership today.

Ushers

Emily Allen, Greg and Margie Cundiff, Chuck Lockard

Acolytes

Camden Newman, Kaylee O'Conner

WE WELCOME YOU TO WORSHIP! You are special, because God brought you here today. Together we celebrate and rejoice in God's blessings in our lives!

Announcements

Ushers for April 15, 2018 – Jyke Jones

I would like to thank my Northminster church family for your continued Christian love and caring since my move to Our Lady of the Valley. Your cards, calls, gifts, prayers and visits are appreciated more than you know and let me know that I am not forgotten. Eloise Dungan

THE SESSION WILL MEET TODAY, following the morning worship service. Anyone wishing to join the congregation's membership, or having business for the Session to consider, is asked to contact the Minister.

Calendar

Today	9:45 am 11:00 am 12:15 pm	Sunday School Worship Service Session Meeting
Monday	6:00 pm	C.E. Committee Meeting
Tuesday	10:00 am	Circle 1
Wednesday	4:00 pm	Mission Committee Meeting
Next Sunday	9:45 am 11:00 am	Sunday School Worship Service

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	Betty Dixon	Michael Hambrick
Jake Hayes	Betty Hinkle	Lois Hopkins
Rose Howard	Jim Maile	Floyd Moretz
Jenny Nabywaniec	Ann Pace	Mac Pace
Buddy Smith	Sandy Smith	Frances Stevens
Jo Ann Threlkeld	George Wingeier	Holly Woodson
Shirley Wynn		

Friends and Family

Mike Duckworth-(Holly Woodson's brother-in-law)
Cindy Lanford – (daughter-in-law of Stan and Elise Lanford)

***THE SESSION ***

Clerk of Session: Holly Woodson

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
Class of 2020: Bob Bielawski, Frankie Bielawski, Lynn Kirby, Bob Newman, Dave Snider

10:30 am

Summer Worship