

through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the Church. He is the beginning, the firstborn of the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. Amen.

THE OFFERTORY

*THE DOXOLOGY

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to The Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Dedication

GO FAITHFULLY

*HYMN 724

O Jesus, I Have Promised

*THE CHARGE (Minister)

Go out into the world in peace. Have courage to live your faith.

Hold on to what is good, and return no one evil for evil.

Support the weak, and help the suffering. Honor and respect all people.

Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

*BENEDICTION

*THE POSTLUDE

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

August Twenty sixth the Year of Our Lord

Two Thousand Eighteen

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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!

GATHER JOYFULLY

THE PRELUDE

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION

I Kings 8; Psalm 84; Ephesians 6:10-20

(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 267 *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen! Loud praise to Christ our King, Alleluia! Amen! Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice; praise is his gracious choice; Alleluia! Amen!

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Minister: Cry out with joy, all the earth.

Congregants: Worship the Lord with gladness, come into His presence with singing!

Minister: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Congregants: May we know and share his mercy and love.

Minister: Come, let us worship God.

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION (unison)

**God of grace and goodness,
You have given us minds to know You,
hearts to love and obey You,
and voices to sing Your praise.
Fill us with Your Holy Spirit,
so that we may celebrate Your glory
and worship You in spirit and in truth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

* HYMN 634 *To God Be the Glory*

CALL TO CONFESSION (Minister)

The grace of God overflows for us through Christ Jesus,
who came into the world to save sinners.
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

*THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**O Lord our God, You call us to work for a world
where all will be fed and have dignity,
but we find ourselves distracted by our own desires.
You call us to seek justice and peace,
but we are satisfied with injustice and discord.
You call us to bring liberty to the oppressed,
but we do not insist on freedom for all.
Forgive us, O Lord. Turn us to Your Will
by the power of Your Holy Spirit,
so that all may know Your love and healing.
Hear these our silent confessions.**

*THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Minister)

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.
I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ,
we are forgiven! Praise his holy name!

* RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

Glory Be to the Father 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 READING GOD'S WORD II Corinthians 5:16-21

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

VOLUNTARY

Sheila Lancaster and Bob Bielawski

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD John 14:1-7, 15-17

¹'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.' ⁵Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' ⁶Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.'
¹⁵ 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON

COME HOME

Dr. Russ Merritt

*HYMN 418

Softly and Tenderly, Jesus Is Calling

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison, from Colossians 1:15-20)

**Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation. In him all things
in heaven and earth were created, things
visible and invisible. All things have been created**

*Indicates the People Standing

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

Ushers

Frankie Bielawski, Sarah Godsey, Tom and Hope Hale

Communion Servers

Bob and Frankie Bielawski, Barry and Judy Ferrell, Stan Lanford

Announcements

Ushers for September 2, 2018 –

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated today, during the morning worship service. Please be in prayer and spiritual preparation for this time at the Lord's Table.

WE RETURN TO OUR REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE NEXT SUNDAY (September 9), with worship set for 11:00, and continuing throughout the school year.

Next Sunday, September 9th is the beginning of our new Church year. We will be having a potluck luncheon following the worship service. We want everyone to attend. Chicken will be provided and we are asking individuals to bring a side dish and/or dessert. Please plan to attend and fellowship with each other as we start our new church year.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL beginning September 9th will focus on spiritual life and growth for ALL persons regardless of age or place in life. EVERY member can learn more for their respective spiritual journey, so come and join us at 10:00 each Sunday morning.

NPC Men's Fellowship Breakfast

The Mission Committee has held several organizational meetings to consider restarting an old idea that we should meet once a month for food, fellowship, and conversation. We are happy to announce that our group has decided to meet for breakfast on the second Thursday of each month at the Famous Anthony's restaurant in front of the Hollins Post Office on Williamson Road. Our gathering will be set for 8:30 AM and we will have a private dining area on most Thursdays. Occasionally, we may get merged with another group.

Famous Anthony's has a nice breakfast menu and is not expensive (by today's standard). We each pay for our own meal, but if you need help, speak to Russ and we can help out. We look forward to having you join us any time you can. You do not have to sign up and can decide to come at the last minute and we will be glad to see you. Russ is planning to attend and will share information about people and various things going on in our church. We had eleven members show up at our last meeting and hope to get more in the future. We hope to see YOU there for our next meeting on September 13 at 8:30 AM.

Today	9:30 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Summer Worship / Communion
Tuesday	10:30 am	P.W. Coordinating Team Meeting
Next Sunday	9:45 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Worship Service / Rally Day

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

Russ Merritt, Transitional Pastor Melissa Hudson, Music Director
Susie Tallmage, Secretary Lauren Godsey, Nursery Attendant
Ministers...Members of Northminster

Let us keep those listed below in our prayers.

Members

Bobby Brammer	Betty Dixon	Michael Hambrick
Jake Hayes	Betty Hinkle	Lois Hopkins
Jane Horeis	Rose Howard	Tom Kirby
Margie Lemon	Jim Maile	Floyd Moretz
Jenny Nabywaniec	Bob Newman	Ramona Ortiz
Ann Pace	Mac Pace	Buddy Smith
Karen Smith	Sandy Smith	Frances Stevens
Jo Ann Threlkeld	Bill Waddell	George Wingeier
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