

not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.’ ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, ‘Where have you laid him?’ They said to him, ‘Lord, come and see.’ ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, ‘See how he loved him!’ ³⁷But some of them said, ‘Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?’ ³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, ‘Take away the stone.’ Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, ‘Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.’ ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, ‘Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?’ ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, ‘Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.’ ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come out!’ ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, ‘Unbind him, and let him go.’

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON

CAN THESE BONES LIVE?

Dr. Russ Merritt

*HYMN 438 *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles’ Creed* (unison)

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

GO FAITHFULLY

*HYMN 837 *What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine*

*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

*July Twenty-ninth the Year of Our Lord
Two Thousand Eighteen*

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

GATHER JOYFULLY

THE PRELUDE

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION

II Samuel 11:1-15; Psalm 95; Ephesians 3:14-21

(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 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, from Psalm 95)

Minister: Come, let us sing to the Lord,

let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation.

Congregants: Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving,

let us make a joyful noise with songs of praise.

Minister: For the Lord is a great God,

and a great King above all Gods.

Congregants: In His hands are the depths of the earth,

and the heights of the mountains are His.

Minister: Come, let us worship God!

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION (unison)

**O God, Your Spirit searches the farthest reaches of the universe
and the most intimate secrets of the human heart.**

**All height and depth, all length and breadth of creation
are embraced by Your merciful and gracious presence.**

**As You know us and love us at this depth,
be with us now as we seek to know more of Your Will,
to give more of ourselves to Your service,
and to open our hearts to be filled with Your living Word.
Through Christ we come to You in worship and prayer. Amen.**

* HYMN 829 *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

*THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Merciful and loving God, we confess
that we have not followed Your way
nor heeded Your Word for our lives.
You are always faithful to us,
yet so often we pursue our own desires.
You are generous beyond measure,
yet we jealously horde Your gifts.
Forgive us, God of grace.
Help us to comprehend and to share
the height and depth and breadth
of Your great love for all people,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Hear these our silent prayers.**

*THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Minister)

As God raised Jesus from the dead,
so He lifts us from our sin and brokenness,
and promises new life to all.
He forgives us, and He makes us whole again.
In Jesus Christ, we are made right with God.
Glory be to God!

* 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 Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I

answered, 'O Lord God, you know.' ⁴Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.' ⁷ So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. ¹¹ Then he said to me, 'Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely." ¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.'

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.**

SOLO

Lauren Godsey

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

Lauren Godsey

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD John 11:17-44

¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' ²³Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' ²⁴Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' ²⁵Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' ²⁷She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.' ²⁸ When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had

*THE POSTLUDE

*Indicates the People Standing

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

Ushers
Lynn Kirby, Dave Snider

Acolytes
Tyler Allen, Lilly Hayes

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 August 5, 2018 – Lynn Kirby, Allen Kling, Greg Theimer, Ray Williams

Join us for Vacation Bible School GAME ON! Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday night July 30, July 31, and August 1st. Dinner at 5pm, Bible school 6pm to 8pm with Wednesday night being abbreviated night. Nursery provided, elementary class, middle and high school helping, and adult class.

Bring friends, neighbors, and family! Contact Dana for more information or if you’re interest/willing to volunteer. danabeworthy@comcast.net. We will be collecting size 4 and 5 diapers and shampoo. All donations at dinner will go to purchase of blankets for Family Promise.

Please send a picture of your summer activity to Debbie Newman at dnewstamp4u@cox.net to be used in the September/October Link.

The Mission Committee is going to be collecting **USED** ink cartridges. They can be business or personal ones. We will be donating them to RAM. A plastic container has been placed in the Vestibule area. We will be collecting them till the end of the year or as long as RAM is asking for them.

Today	9:30 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Summer Worship
Monday	6:00-8:00	VBS
Tuesday	6:00-8:00	VBS
Wednesday	6:00-8:00	VBS
Next Sunday	9:30am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Summer Worship

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	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