

\*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

## GO FAITHFULLY

\*HYMN 852 *When the Lord Redeems the Very Least*

\*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*THE POSTLUDE

\*Indicates the People Standing

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

*The flowers today are placed by Stan and Elise Lanford in memory  
of their mothers, Betty Lanford and Pearle Persinger.*

*Ushers*

*Allen Kling, Stan Lanford, Timothy Paquette, Dave Snider*

*Acolytes*

*Abbie Caldwell, 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!**

## NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

*May Thirteenth the Year of Our Lord  
Two Thousand Eighteen*

*Seventh Sunday of Easter*

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## GATHER JOYFULLY

THE PRELUDE

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION

Psalm 1; Acts 1:1-17; I John 5: 9-13

(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 248 (Verse 1) *Hymn to Joy*

**Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days! Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: All creation is amazed. In the desert all surrounding, See, a spreading tree has grown. Healing leaves of grace abounding Bring a taste of love unknown.**

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive, from Psalm 118)

Minister: Open to me the gates of righteousness,

that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

**Congregants: This is the gate of the Lord,  
the righteous shall enter through it.**

Minister: I thank You that You have answered me  
and have become my salvation.

**Congregants: The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.**

Minister: This is the Lord's doing,

it is marvelous in our eyes.

**Congregants: This is the day that the Lord has made,  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Minister: Let us worship God.

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION (unison)

**God of love, we gather to praise You  
and to declare Your power and Your mercy.**

**In days of despair, darkness, and loss**

**You have healed us and restored us,  
and You gather us now in hope and joy.**

**You have raised us with Christ,**

**Proclaiming love that is stronger than death.**

**As the rising sun banishes the shadows of night,**

**Christ's resurrection overwhelms all darkness.**

**He is here with us now, and he goes before us,**

**calling us onward in the service of his grace.**

**Be with us now, touch our hearts with Your glory,**

**and hear our praise and thanksgiving.**

**Through Christ we make our prayers. Amen.**

\* HYMN 239 *Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!*

\*THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave,**

**You shattered the power of sin and death.**

**We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear,  
bound by the ways that lead to death.**

**We overlook the poor and the hungry,  
and pass by those who mourn.**

**We are deaf to the cries of the oppressed,  
and indifferent to calls for peace.**

**We neglect the weak, and abuse Your creation.**

**Forgive us, God of mercy.**

**Help us to trust in Your power to change lives**

**and Your grace to make us new,**

**so that we may know the joy of life abundant  
given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.**

**Hear these our silent prayers.**

\*THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Minister)

Hear the Good News!

Who is in position to condemn?

Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us,

Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

The old life has gone, a new life has begun.

Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.

\* RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

Hymn 232 *Jesus Christ is Risen Today* (Verse 3)

**But the pains which he endured, Alleluia! our salvation have procured. Alleluia! Now above  
the sky he's King, Alleluia! where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!**

## GROW SPIRITUALLY

THE FIRST READING GOD'S WORD Psalm 126

<sup>1</sup> When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream. <sup>2</sup> Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, 'The Lord has done great things for them.' <sup>3</sup> The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced. <sup>4</sup> Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the Negeb. <sup>5</sup> May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. <sup>6</sup> Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

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

*Day of Arising*

Carl Schalk

(Insert)

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

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD

Selections from John 13, 14, and 17

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON

*A NEW COMMANDMENT*

Dr. Merritt

\*HYMN 250

*In the Bulb There Is a Flower*

Announcements

Ushers for May 20, 2018 – Margie Cundiff, Timothy Paquette  
Communion Servers – Sarah Godsey, John Kabana, Stan Lanford, Ann Pace, Holly Woodson

YOUTH SUNDAY will be celebrated next week as the young people of the congregation lead us in worship.  
We look forward to an inspiring gathering  
as we share our support and love!

HOLY COMMUNION WILL BE CELEBRATED next Sunday during the morning worship service. Please be  
in prayer to prepare to come before  
the Lord's Table.

THE SESSION WILL MEET NEXT SUNDAY, May 20, 2018 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  
Minster.

Sunday, May 20, we will receive the Pentecost Offering for this year, one of four denomination-wide offerings we  
support. A gift to the Pentecost Offering is used to develop and support ministries to young people. 40% of the  
Pentecost Offering can be retained by the individual congregation for use to make an impact in the lives of young  
people in their own congregation. The remaining 60% will be used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency for  
ministries to youth, young adult volunteers, and children at risk. Please use the bulletin insert or check online to learn  
more about this important part of our ministry. We hope you will support this offering generously.

Our Summer Worship Service will begin at 10:30 AM, starting on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and continue through August 26<sup>th</sup>. No  
Sunday School classes during these months.

Today	9:45 am 11:00 am	Sunday School Worship Service
Monday	6:00 pm	C.E. Committee Meeting
Next Sunday	9:45 am 11:00 am 12:15 pm	Sunday School Worship Service / Communion Youth Sunday Session Meeting

ANTHEM

*Day of Arising*

Carl Schalk

Day of arising, Christ on the roadway, unknown companion walks with his own. When they invite  
him, as fades the first day, and bread is broken, Christ is made known.

When we are walking, doubtful and dreading, blinded by sadness, slowness of heart, yet Christ  
walks with us, ever awaiting our invitation: Stay, do not part.

Lo, I am with you, Jesus has spoken. This is Christ's promise, this is Christ's sign: when the  
church gathers, when bread is broken, there Christ is with us in bread and wine.

Christ, our companion, hope for the journey, bread of compassion, open our eyes. Grant us your  
vision, set all hearts burning that all creation with you may rise.

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	Jeff Midkiff	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