

THE SERMON

THE THUNDERBIRD BOX

Russ Merritt

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 649 *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

*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 647 *Give Thanks*

*THE CHARGE (Minister)

THE BENEDICTION

*THE POSTLUDE

*Indicates the People Standing

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

*Lay Liturgist
Bob Newman*

*Ushers
Matt and Susan Graybill, Dave Snider, Holly Woodson*

A SPECIAL RECOGNITION SERVICE honoring our congregation's former Boy Scout Troop will be included in this morning worship. Troop 26 has disbanded, but in its time served many young men in this congregation and beyond.

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

*November Eighteenth the Year of Our Lord
Two Thousand Eighteen
Twenty sixth 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 Samuel 1:4-20; Hebrews 10:11-25; Mark 13:1-18

(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 336

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing; he chastens and hastens his will to make known; the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing. Sing praises to his name, he forgets not his own.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Minister: Keep silence before the Lord,
for His day is at hand. (Zeph. 1:7)

**Congregants: Hold fast to your hope without wavering,
for God is faithful in His promises. (Heb. 10:23)**

Minister: Surely God alone is our salvation. (Is. 12:2)

Congregants: Trust in the Lord and do not fear.

Minister: Come, let us worship God!

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION (unison)

God of grace and God of glory,

how great is Your name in all creation!

Before the earth was formed or the stars shown bright,

and even after all shall cease to be, You are God!

We pray this morning that You will break into our world

**and show us those things that are eternal,
so that we may serve Your purpose in all that we do.
We come before You through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with You in the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

* HYMN 367 *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

*LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES (Acolytes)

THE CALL TO CONFESSION (Liturgist)
We know we have failed to love God or one another
as He has called us to do.
But as we repent of our sinfulness,
confess our sins, and seek His forgiveness,
His love envelopes us and makes us whole again.
Let us come to Him with our confessions.

*THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Almighty God of goodness and mercy,
we confess that we have fallen far short
of Your glory, Your goodness, Your Will.
We ignore Your commandments,
stray from Your way, and follow other gods.
Have mercy on us, forgive our sins,
cleans us and raise us to new life
so that we may serve You faithfully
and give honor to Your holy name.
Hear these our silent, private prayers.**

*THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Liturgist)

Friends, hear the Good News!
God has loved this world, and us,
and has given us the greatest of gifts:
His forgiveness, His grace, His mercy
through Jesus Christ, His Son and our Lord!
Let us give our lives to Him!
Praise His holy name!

* RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

HYMN 538 *Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises*

**Hallelujah! We Sing your praises; all our hearts are filled with gladness. Hallelujah! We
Sing your praises; all our hearts are filled with gladness.**

GROW SPIRITUALLY

THE FIRST READING OF GOD'S WORD Psalm 16:5-11 Insert

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 *Lord, Fill My Heart with Thankfulness* Stephen Kramer

Your hand has flung the blazing stars across the dark of night. Your hand lifts up the rising sun
that brings the morning light. Your hand can hold the wind in check and calm the stormy sea; a
hand of grace and hope and love that reaches out to me.

Your breath can warm the winter's chill and turn it into spring. Your breath is heard at dawn's
first light, when birds begin to sing. Your breath creates the ocean's waves and stirs the autumn
leaves - a quiet presence all around that breathes new life in me.

Refrain: Lord, fill my heart with thankfulness and grant me this request: to do your will and share
your love, and know that I am blessed.

Your love pours down like summer rain in answer to a prayer. Your love uplifts the poor and
weak and teaches us to share. Your love's a guide to show us how a broken world could be - a
love I know is always there to hold and comfort me. (Refrain)

CELEBRATION OF THE MINISTRY OF BOY SCOUT TROOP 26

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Matthew 12:9-23 Insert

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (Unison)

**Lord, open our hearts and minds and spirits
by the power of Your enlightening Holy Spirit,
so that as Your Word is read and proclaimed,
we may hear with joy and commitment
what You say to us this day. Amen.**

Announcements

Ushers for November 25, 2018 –

A belated, but sincerely heartfelt "Thank You" to all those that participated in apple butter boiling this year. We had another wonderful day of fellowship preparing and canning the apples. Thanks also to all who purchased the fruit of our labors. Proceeds from the sale go to support the Christian Education Committee's Youth Activities.

THE SESSION WILL HOLD ITS REGULAR MEETING TODAY following the morning worship service .All elders are encouraged to be present.

AN INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE will be held this afternoon, November 18, at 4:00 at Central Brethren Church on Church Avenue near the downtown YMCA. You are invited to join in worship with others from throughout the community, representing various faiths and religious practices, in giving our thanks to the Almighty God.

VOICES OF FAITH, a community-wide ecumenical organization promoting tolerance and understanding among all faiths and religions, will hold a planning (and supper) meeting in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30 Monday evening, November 19. The Minister will be leading the planning workshop, which will include religious leaders from throughout the community. For more information, contact the Minister.

The Nominating Committee is proud to announce the Class of 2021 Elders: Chuck Lockard (Stewardship and Finance), Judy Ferrell (Worship), Ray Williams (Mission), Vee Hayes (Christian Education), Jeremy Newman (Building and Grounds) and Susan Graybill who will serve a one year period to replace Sarah Plymale. We look forward to your Leadership. In addition a big thanks to the Nominating Committee which consisted of Barry Ferrell, Jyke Jones, Karen Smith, Hope Hale and Chuck Lockard.

The ladies of Circle 2 invite ALL of the Northminster ladies to our Christmas Circle Tuesday, December 4th for a Women's Friendship Gathering 7pm at 802 McDowell Drive Salem, VA. Please RSVP to Dana #293-0514 or danabesworthy@comcast.net. This is a casual gathering. Come for a short while and listen to the lesson or stay for food and fellowship. Bring a friend or two!

Please join us for the Lessons and Carols service on Sunday morning December 2nd at 11am. Seasonal hymns and carols will be led by the Northminster choirs and musicians.

THE CHURCH LIBRARY HAS MANY BOOKS available to church members, to guide you in your respective spiritual journeys, Members are encourage to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to deepen their spiritual knowledge and understanding of the faith.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER of Northminster, contact the Minister.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE A PLEDGE CARD for your 2019 financial support of God's work at Northminster, please contact Barry Ferrell, Stewardship Chair.

Today	9:45 am 11:00 am 12:15 pm 4:00 pm	Sunday School Worship Service Session Meeting Community Interfaith Thanksgiving
Monday	5:30-9:00 pm	Voices of Faith Meeting
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 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	Rose Howard
Tom Kirby	Jim Maile	Floyd Moretz
Ramona Ortiz	Ann Pace	Mac Pace
Buddy 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

THE FIRST READING OF GOD'S WORD Psalm 16:5-11

⁵ The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.
⁶ The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage. ⁷ I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. ⁸ I keep the Lord always before me because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. ⁹ Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure. ¹⁰ For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit. ¹¹ You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Matthew 12:9-23

⁹ He left that place and entered their synagogue; ¹⁰a man was there with a withered hand, and they asked him, 'Is it lawful to cure on the sabbath?' so that they might accuse him. ¹¹He said to them, 'Suppose one of you has only one sheep and it falls into a pit on the sabbath; will you not lay hold of it and lift it out? ¹²How much more valuable is a human being than a sheep! So it is lawful to do good on the sabbath.' ¹³Then he said to the man, 'Stretch out your hand.' He stretched it out, and it was restored, as sound as the other. ¹⁴But the Pharisees went out and conspired against him, how to destroy him. ¹⁵ When Jesus became aware of this, he departed. Many crowds followed him, and he cured all of them, ¹⁶and he ordered them not to make him known. ¹⁷This was to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah: ¹⁸ 'Here is my servant, whom I have chosen, my beloved, with whom my soul is well pleased. I will put my Spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles. ¹⁹ He will not wrangle or cry aloud, nor will anyone hear his voice in the streets. ²⁰ He will not break a bruised reed or quench a smouldering wick until he brings justice to victory. ²¹ And in his name the Gentiles will hope.' ²² Then they brought to him a demoniac who was blind and mute; and he cured him, so that the one who had been mute could speak and see. ²³All the crowds were amazed and said, 'Can this be the Son of David?'