

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Psalm 95:1-7

<sup>1</sup>O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! <sup>2</sup> Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! <sup>3</sup> For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. <sup>4</sup> In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. <sup>5</sup> The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed. <sup>6</sup> O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! <sup>7</sup> For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. O that today you would listen to his voice!

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON

*OUR WORSHIP OF GOD*

Dr. Russ Merritt

\*HYMN 317 *In Christ There Is No East or West*

\*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 733 *We All Are One in Mission*

\*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

*September Thirtieth the Year of Our Lord*

*Two Thousand Eighteen*

*Nineteenth 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!**

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## GATHER JOYFULLY

THE PRELUDE

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION

Psalm 124; James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50

(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 611 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love! Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away. Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Minister: O Lord, open my lips.

**Congregants: Let my mouth proclaim Your praise.**

Minister: The Lord's unfailing love and mercy never cease.

**Congregants: We will worship God in spirit and in truth.**

Minister: Let us worship God!

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION (responsive)

Leader: O God, You summon the day to dawn,  
and You teach the morning to waken the earth.

**Congregants: Great is Your name! Great is Your love!**

Leader: For You the valleys shall sing for joy,  
the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

**Congregants: Great is Your name! Great is Your love!**

Leader: For You the monarchs of earth shall bow,  
the poor and persecuted shall shout for joy.

**Congregants: Great is Your name! Great is Your love!**

Leader: Your love and mercy shall last forever,  
fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise

**Congregants: Great is Your name! Great is Your love!**

Leader: Thanks be to You, O God, that we have risen this day.

Thanks be to You, O God, that we may worship You.

**Congregants: Great is Your name! Great is Your love!**

Leader: In Christ we gather, we worship, and we pray.

**Congregants: Amen!**

\* HYMN 722 *Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak*

\*THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (responsive)

Leader: Let us confess our sins to the One  
Who waits to forgive.

Congregants: **Most loving and gracious God,  
forgive us our sins: those we commit knowingly,  
and those we do without realizing we do them,  
without noticing that we have hurt others.**

**Open our hearts to hear Your truth,  
to understand our failures, to reach new wisdom,  
so that in all we do and say  
we might bring glory to Your Holy name,  
and love and compassion to our neighbor.**  
(Silence)

**We place in Your hands all that we have been  
and all that we are now,  
so that what we may yet become  
will exceed all our expectations.  
Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy.  
Lord have mercy. Amen.**

\*THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Leader)

**God assures us: "I taught You to walk,  
and I lifted You up like an infant to my cheek.  
How can I give you up? I am the Holy One  
in Your midst, and I will not come in wrath."  
Sisters and brothers, rejoice and give thanks!  
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

\* 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 GOD'S WORD Romans 12:1-13

<sup>1</sup>I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. <sup>3</sup>For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup>For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup>We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup>ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup>the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. <sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

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

*A Right Spirit*

Stephan Casurella

Refrain: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; wash me, and I shall be clean indeed. (Refrain)

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me, according to your loving kindness; (Refrain)

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

*Ushers*  
*Sarah Godsey, Lynn Kirby, Chuck Lockard*

Announcements

Ushers for October 7, 2018 – Emily Allen, Frankie Bielawski, Margie Cundiff  
Communion Servers - Frankie Bielawski, Sarah Godsey, Jyke Jones, Lynn Kirby, Woodson

Barbara Jones has been invaluable in helping and managing the youth to the light the candles in the sanctuary before the church service. She has been doing this for many years and we commend her for her organizational skills. The youth always come back and give her great big hugs-she will be missed. A big “thank you” goes to Barbara.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated in our World Communion worship service next Sunday morning, October 7<sup>th</sup>. Please be in prayer and spiritual preparation as we come to the Lord's Table.

EVENT – FIELDS OF FAITH is Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup> 6-8:00pm at Salem Stadium. Former Denver Bronco, author, poet, lyricist, will be a special guest, more information can be found on the bulletin board in the hallway across from the pastors office along with tickets if you would like to go.

OUR ADULT SUNDAY MORNING CLASS, "Going Deeper", is focused on guiding participants into a more encompassing discipleship and a more fully engaged spiritual pilgrimage. ALL members are encouraged to grow in their faith, and to join us each week at 10:00 for prayer, study, discussion, and discovery!

VOLUNTEER LAY LEADERS FOR WORSHIP are being recruited to help in our morning services. If you feel God leading you to assist in worship (scripture reading, prayer, children's messages, and so forth), please contact the Minister.

As we approach World Communion services on October 7, we are asked to contribute to the Peace and Global Witness Offering on that date. Half of this offering will go to support ministries of peace and reconciliation done by Presbyterians across the globe. The other half will be used support peacemaking in our community and region. Envelopes for this special offering will be in the bulletins on World Communion Sunday.

APPLE BUTTER TIME is upon us and we have a new approach this year! Since most of the “Young Adults” that began this fellowship tradition in 1989 are now retired, we will be procuring apples that have already been peeled and will be boiling the apples on Tuesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. This should shorten the boiling time but does create some uncertainty regarding the exact volume that will be produced. As always, the delicious product will be available on a “first come – first served” basis and is \$8.00 per quart and \$5.00 per pint. Signup sheets are on the bulletin board outside the secretary’s office.

We have a little over 15 weeks until Christmas and 10 weeks until Operation Christmas Child boxes have to be in Charlotte, NC. The Mission Committee has furnished the boxes and we hope that you will fill one. Boxes are located in the narthex. Our boxes go to tropical areas so add a pair of sandals or flip-flops to your box this year.

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|-------------|---------------------|--|
| Today       | 9:45 am<br>11:00 am | Sunday School<br>Worship Service             |
| Monday      | 5:00 pm             | Worship Committee Meeting                    |
| Tuesday     | 7:00 pm             | Circle 2 with Kathy Baker                    |
| Wednesday   | 5:30 pm<br>6:30 pm  | Bells<br>Sanctuary Choir                     |
| Next Sunday | 9:45 am<br>11:00 am | Sunday School<br>Worship Service / Communion |

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