

having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

THE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (Unison)

THE SERMON *I'VE GOT NEWS FOR YOU* Dr. Merritt

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 156 *Sing of God Made Manifest*

*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 *Why Should I Feel Discouraged? (His Eye Is on the Sparrow)* Hymn 661

*THE DOXOLOGY Hymn 708 Verse One

We give thee but thine own, whatever the gift may be; all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

GO FAITHFULLY

*HYMN OF DEDICATION 673 *Jesus, Light of Joy*

*THE CHARGE (Minister)

*THE 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

January Twenty sixth the Year of Our Lord

Two Thousand Twenty

Third Sunday after Epiphany

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

Isaiah 9:1-4; I Corinthians 1:10-18

(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 450 *Be Thou My Vision* (Verse 1)

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Minister: God is our shelter and our strength,
ever ready to help in time of trouble.

**Congregants: We gather to think on God's marvels,
the wonderful things He has done in our world.**

Minister: Pause, and know that He alone is God.

**Congregants: We come before Him to give praise
and thanksgiving.**

Minister: So come, let us worship our God.

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION (Unison)

**Almighty and glorious God,
Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
by grace alone You call us,
You accept us into Your service
and You welcome us into Your Kingdom.
Strengthen us this morning by Your Spirit,
and be with us in our worship,
that we might be drawn closer to our Lord,
Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

* HYMN OF PRAISE 12 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

*THE CALL TO CONFESSION (Liturgist)

We know that nothing is able to separate us
from the love of God in Jesus Christ.
Let us in freedom confess the wrong we have done.

* CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison)

**Merciful God, You made us in Your image,
with a mind to know You,
with a heart to love You,
and with a will to serve You.
But we are forgetful in our knowledge,
we are inconsistent in our love,
and our obedience is incomplete.
Day by day, we fail to grow in Your likeness.
In Your tender love, forgive us,
and fill our hearts with Your Spirit.
Hear these our silent prayers.**

*THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Liturgist)

Hear the good news.
Who is in position to judge us?
Only Christ, and Christ died for us,
Christ rose for us,
Christ reigns in power for us.
Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation,
the old life is gone, a new life has begun.
In Christ, know that you are forgiven.
Praise be to God!

* RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS 435 *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* (Verse 2)
**For the love of God is broad-er than the mea-sures of the mind. And the heart of the E-ter-nal is most
won-der-ful-ly kind. If our love were but more faith-ful, we would glad-ly trust God's Word, and our
lives re-lect thanks-giv-ing for the good-ness of our Lord.**

GROW SPIRITUALLY

THE FIRST READING OF GOD'S WORD Psalm 27:1, 4-6

¹ The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my
life; of whom shall I be afraid?

⁴ One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the Lord all the days
of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple. ⁵ For he will hide me in
his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high
on a rock. ⁶ Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his
tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to 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.**

ANTHEM

Brightest and Best

Malcom Archer (Insert)

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

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Matthew 2:1-12

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East
came to Jerusalem, ²asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we
observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' ³When King Herod heard this,
he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and
scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, 'In
Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶ "And you, Bethlehem, in the land
of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is
to shepherd my people Israel." ' ⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from
them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go
and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may
also go and pay him homage.' ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of
them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child
was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering
the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage.
Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And

Ushers
Judy Moore, Tom and Jane Olsen, Holly Woodson

Liturgist
Tom Hale

Acolyte
Nicole Paquette

Announcements

Ushers for February 2, 2020 – Gary Harris, Charles and Jane Livesay, Sherry Moses
Communion Servers : Sarah Godsey, Vee Hayes

THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE SESSION WILL BE HELD TODAY
Sunday, January 26, after the morning worship service. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE
NORTHMINSTER FAMILY, contact the Minister.

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION will be held during our morning worship service next Sunday,
February 2. Please be in prayer and spiritual preparation as we come to the Lord's Table.

The Mission committee will be collecting sandwich bread next Sunday to take to the Presbyterian Center. Please
leave any donations on the table in the narthex.

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY IS NEXT WEEK February 2nd. Plan to stay for lunch after church to sample a variety of
soups and sandwiches. An offering will be collected with the proceeds to be divided between the Presbyterian
Community Center and Soup for Seniors. If you would like to donate canned soup, crackers for the Soup for Seniors
program, please leave your contribution on the table in the narthex.

The Mission Committee has sent \$200 to CEDEPCA for four bucket water filters (Ecofilters). The Presbytery of the
Peaks supports CEDEPCA which is the Protestant Center for Pastoral Studies in Central America that is an
educational non-profit that works to transform lives by offering education, accompaniment and safe reflection spaces
to women and men of diverse Christian traditions and communities.

As the new year begins this is a reminder that we are still collecting used ink cartridges for RAM. They will take any
kind including large ones that you may use in your office. There is a container on the table in the vestibule. The
Mission Committee thanks you.

ACOLYTES AND LITURGISTS are being scheduled for 2020. If you (or your children) are interested in serving in
worship services, please let the Minister know.

The new 2020 sign up sheets for ushering and communion servers are now on the bulletin board outside the church
office. PLEASE SIGN UP. Anyone can help with ushering. Communion servers should be elders, active or inactive.
Any questions should be directed to Judy Ferrell.

THE MINISTER'S ADULT BIBLE STUDY is offered each Sunday at 10:00,
prior to worship, and is open to everyone seeking to learn more of God's teachings. Come join us each week (and
bring your Bible!).

Calendar

Today 10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
12:00 pm Session Meeting

Tuesday 10:30 am P.W. Meeting

Wednesday 6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir

Next Sunday
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service / Communion
12:00 pm Souper Bowl Lunch

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

If you or someone you know should be included in the list of those needing special prayer, please contact the
Minister. If prayers have been answered and we can celebrate God's goodness by removing your name from the list,
let the Minister know.

Let us keep those listed below in our prayers.

Members

Bobby Brammer	Charlotte Cooley	Michael Hambrick
Jake Hayes	Betty Hinkle	Barbara Jones
John Kabana	Bob Lancaster	Floyd Moretz
Ann Pace	Mac Pace	Gladys Presson
Buddy Smith	Sandy Smith	Frances Stevens
Jo Ann Threlkeld	Paige Wheeler	Olive Whisler

Family and Friends

Joseph Webb (Friend of Sherry Moses)

*THE SESSION *

Clerk of Session: Holly Woodson

Elders: Bob Bielawski, Frankie Bielawski, Jeff Echols, Judy Ferrell, Vee Hayes, Lynn Kirby, Chuck Lockard,
Sherry Moses, Bob Newman, Jeremy Newman, Betsy Robison, Dave Snider, Ray Williams, Gayle Wise

ANTHEM

Brightest and Best

Malcom Archer

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Cold on His cradle the dewdrops are shining;
Low lies His head with the beasts of the stall.
Angels adore Him in slumber reclining,
Maker and Monarch and Savior of all.

Shall we not yield Him, in costly devotion
Odors of Edom and offerings divine,
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,
Myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine?

Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
Vainly with gifts would His favor secure.
Richer by far is the heart's adoration;
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us Thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.