

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

*July twelfth the Year of Our Lord  
Two Thousand 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

Genesis 25: 19-34, Psalm 119: 105-112, Romans 8: 1-11

(Congregants are encouraged to read and reflect upon these passages as they prepare for worship.)

### BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

#### THE CALL TO WORSHIP

We have gathered to worship God. We have come seeking comfort, inspiration, community, and insight. We have come to open ourselves to the power of God's presence in our midst. We have come to offer up the seasons and the turnings in our lives, and to ask God's help in our learning and growing. God has given us this beautiful earth, all that grows, all that lives upon it. Let us worship God.

#### THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION

O God, we gather together in Your presence with expectation, hungry for an encounter with You, eager to hear Your Word. Open our eyes and ears to the presence of Your Holy Spirit. May the seeds of Your Word scattered among us this morning fall on fertile soil. May they take root in our hearts and lives and produce an abundant harvest of good words and deeds. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, our teacher and our Lord. Amen

#### HYMN OF PRAISE 15            *All Creatures of Our God and King*            (Verses 1 and 6)

All creatures of our God and King,  
lift up your voice and with us sing,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
O brother sun with golden beam,  
O sister moon with silver gleam,  
sing praises! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O sisters, brothers, take your part,  
and worship God with humble heart.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,  
and Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
Sing praises! Alleluia!

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

In Christ there is no condemnation, for perfect love casts out sin. Let us confess our sins to God.

#### CONFESSION OF SIN

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against you. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love.

Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are ashamed and sorry for all we have done to displease you. Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light, and walk in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Hear these our silent prayers.

## THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Brothers and sisters, when deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, God forgives our transgressions. Be at peace, for God restores and strengthens you and waters your soul in its parched and hardened places.

## RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS 581 *Glory Be to the Father*

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 OF GOD'S WORD Psalm 65: 1-8, 9-13

<sup>1</sup> Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion; and to you shall vows be performed, <sup>2</sup> O you who answer prayer! To you all flesh shall come. <sup>3</sup> When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, you forgive our transgressions. <sup>4</sup> Happy are those whom you choose and bring near to live in your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, your holy temple. <sup>5</sup> By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation; you are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas. <sup>6</sup> By your strength you established the mountains; you are girded with might. <sup>7</sup> You silence the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples. <sup>8</sup> Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs; you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy. <sup>9</sup> You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it. <sup>10</sup> You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth. <sup>11</sup> You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with richness. <sup>12</sup> The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy, <sup>13</sup> the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.

### 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.**

### THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

<sup>1</sup> That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. <sup>2</sup> Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup> And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup> And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. <sup>5</sup> Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. <sup>6</sup> But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup> Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup> Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup> Let anyone with ears listen!'

<sup>18</sup> 'Hear then the parable of the sower. <sup>19</sup> When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. <sup>20</sup> As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; <sup>21</sup> yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. <sup>22</sup> As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. <sup>23</sup> But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

## THE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

God, your word goes out and does not return empty but prospers that for which it was sent. By your spirit, open our minds to your word this day, that we might walk according to your ways. Lord God you call us to be sowers of your fields. Open our ears to your call, inspire our minds with your wisdom, sustain us in our journey of faith. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

## THE SERMON

*Anyone With Ears, Listen*

*Pam Claterbaugh*

## HYMN OF COMMITMENT 451

*Open My Eyes, That I May See* (Verse 1)

Open my eyes, that I may see  
glimpses of truth thou hast for me.  
Place in my hands the wonderful key  
that shall unclasp and set me free.  
Silently now I wait for thee,  
ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my eyes; illumine me,  
Spirit divine!

## 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.**

## GO FAITHFULLY

## HYMN OF DEDICATION 367

*Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

(Verse 2)

All the world is God's own field,  
fruit in thankful praise to yield,  
wheat and tares together sown,  
unto joy or sorrow grown.  
First the blade, and then the ear,  
then the full corn shall appear.  
Lord of harvest, grant that we  
wholesome grain and pure may be.

## THE CHARGE (Minister)

## THE BENEDICTION

## THE POSTLUDE

**Thought for the Week: *You take care of the earth and send rain to help the soil grow all kinds of crops. Your rivers never run dry, and you prepare the earth to produce much grain. Ps65:9***

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE MINISTER WILL BE ON STUDY LEAVE this coming week. Our own Pam Claterbaugh will be our preacher today.

We will be collecting food for the Presbyterian Community Center during the month of July. Bags will be handed out to those who are attending church. If you would like to participate from home, feel free to use your own bags. Bags will be collected at the church and taken to the PCC the first week of August. If you would like to take your bags directly to the PCC, they will accept them Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

People are using our Blessing Box! If you would like to donate food or other non-perishable items for the Blessing Box, please leave them with Susie. Holly Woodson and John Kabana are working hard to keep it stocked. A plaque honoring Betty Dixon has been ordered and we hope to get that placed on the Blessing Box as soon as possible.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO GET YOUR ARTICLES to The Link newsletter as soon as possible for the next issue of our official communication publication. Send your submissions to Debbie Newman. Contact the church office for more information.

THE OFFERING WILL NOT BE COLLECTED and plates will not be passed during the service, to protect worshippers from any possible surface-based contagion. Plates are located in the narthex, for worshippers to place their gifts following the service.

NORTHMINSTER HAS RESUMED WORSHIP in the sanctuary. The Session has approved a number of guidelines and practices for in-person worship, due to the health concerns of us all. Please be aware of those new practices, and join us in taking steps to reduce the risk of spreading the coronavirus. If you need a copy of the guidelines, or have thoughts you'd like to share, please contact the Minister.

Kidvivi is zooming Thursday evenings with music from Melissa, devotion from Lauren, and prayers with Russ. Last week was on prayer and this week is on faith.

Caitlin is zooming with older youth and working on projects.

Northminster is proud to announce we have joined the **Kroger Community Rewards Program**. To participate simply go to the [kroger.com](https://www.kroger.com) website. Once logged into your **Kroger account**, you can search for **Northminster Presbyterian Church** either by name or code **PL601** and then click **Enroll**. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a *Rewards Card*. **REMEMBER**, purchases will not count for the church until after you register your *Rewards Card*. You must swipe your registered Kroger *Rewards Card* or use the phone number that is related to your registered Kroger *Rewards Card* when shopping for each purchase to count. If you do not yet have a Kroger *Rewards Card*, they are available at the customer service desk at any Kroger. Contact Chuck Lockard if you have any questions. Thanks for supporting our work at Northminster!

### Calendar

Today	11:00 am	Worship Service
Next Sunday	11:00 am	Worship Service

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**

Frances Bowling	Bobby Brammer	Charlotte Cooley
Michael Hambrick	Gary Harris	Jake Hayes
Betty Hinkle	Atwood Huff	Barbara Jones
Bob Lancaster	Floyd Moretz	Mary Moretz
Don Myers	Ann Pace	Mac Pace
Gladys Presson	Buddy Smith	Sandy Smith
Frances Stevens	Jo Ann Threlkeld	Paige Wheeler
Olive Whisler	Ray Williams	

**Friends and Family**

Joaquin Bielawski  
Nancy Assaid (Sherry Moses' sister)  
Barbara Simpson – (Mary Simpson's daughter-in-law)

\*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

