

**NORTHMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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

*July fifth the Year of Our Lord
Two Thousand Twenty
Fifth 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 24: 34-38, 42-49, 58-67, Romans 7: 15-25a, Psalm 145: 8-14

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

BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ calls us to come to worship
To rest from the things that are troubling us
To learn what Christ can teach of life
To realize what we can offer to others
And so to return into the world to serve
Let us worship God

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION

Lord of love and mercy, we come to you this day, at the beginning of the summer season. This should be a time of relaxation and restoration, but our spirits still carry the burdens of the year. Please give to us your healing love. Strengthen us. We offer our cares and our prayers to you in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

HYMN OF PRAISE 331 *God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand* (Verses 1 and 2)

God of the ages, whose almighty hand
leads forth in beauty all the starry band
of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,
our grateful songs before thy throne arise.

Thy love divine hath led us in the past.
in this free land with thee our lot is cast.
be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay:
thy word our law, thy paths our chosen way.

THE CALL TO CONFESSION

God upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down. Therefore let us confess our sin with every confidence that we will be lifted up.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be. We give our burdens to you, mindful of Jesus' promise that he will give us rest. Hear now these our silent prayers.

THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, hear the good news in our faith: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, showing compassion to all. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen

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 145: 8-14

⁸ The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. ⁹ The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made. ¹⁰ All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you. ¹¹ They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power, ¹² to make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendour of your kingdom. ¹³ Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. The Lord is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds. ¹⁴ The Lord upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down.

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 11: 25-30

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, 'I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸ 'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

THE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen

THE SERMON

A MESSAGE OF HOPE

Pam Claterbaugh

HYMN OF COMMITMENT 340 *This Is My Song* (Verses 1 and 2)

This is my song, Oh God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.
this is my home, the country where my heart is;
here are my hopes, my dreams, my sacred shrine.
but other hearts in other lands are beating,
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine.
but other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
so hear my song, oh God of all the nations:
a song of peace for their land and for mine.

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 338 *O Beautiful for Spacious Skies*

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,
for purple mountain majesties above thy fruited plain!
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!

THE CHARGE (Minister)

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

Larger print bulletins are available.

Thought for the Week: *So Father please forgive us for spoiling Planet Earth, Give us a chance to change it; to instigate new birth, Let's care for your creation, in details and in whole Protect, preserve and cherish; may this be our new goal.*

From the Hymn The Glory of Creation by Denzil Walton

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE MINISTER WILL BE ON STUDY LEAVE this coming week. Our own Pam Claterbaugh will be our preacher next Sunday. Russ will be on vacation the following week, and Pam will fill in for him that Sunday (July 12) as well.

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.

Kidviv 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 a 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