

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 275 *Mighty Fortress Is Our God* (Verses One)

A mighty fortress is our God,
A bulwark never failing.
Our helper he, amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe
doth seek to work us woe.
His craft and power are great,
and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

THE CHARGE (Minister)

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

Larger print bulletins are available.

Thought for the Week: *Is it not enough for you to eat grass in the good land? Must you crush the rest of the grass with your feet? Is it not enough for you to drink clear water? Must you make the rest of the water muddy with your feet? Ezekiel 34: 18*

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

*June Twenty eight the Year of Our Lord
Two Thousand Twenty
Fourth 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 21:8-21; Psalm 86:1-10; Romans 6:1b-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

Let the redeemed of the Lord rejoice!
For the steadfast love of God, give thanks.
As a deer longs for flowing streams,
so my soul thirsts for the living God.
Come, let us worship God.

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION

Teach us, our Lord and our God,
to serve You in love and in joy;
to give and not to count the cost;
to stand firm in faith and not waver;
to toil and not quit;
to hold to hope in the face of despair;
to labor and not seek any reward,
other than knowing we are doing Your Will.
Fill us with Your Spirit,
and accept our hearts in worship this day,
we pray through Christ Jesus. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE 626

As the Deer

As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.
You alone are my strength, my shield; to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Lord God preserves our lives.
God abounds in forgiveness and steadfast love.
Therefore, we are free to come without fear
to the throne of grace to honestly repent of our sin.
Come, all who want to confess and be made whole.

CONFESSION OF SIN

God of the sparrow,
You count the very hairs on our head.
You assure us of our value in Your sight
and You promise never to abandon us.
Yet we do not act with courage,
we do not live in bold discipleship.
We keep silent when we should speak,
and say much that ought not ever leave our lips.
Forgive us, we pray, for the times
we allow sin and injustice and inequity to go unchecked.
In Your mercy forgive what we have done and left undone.
Make us whole yet again.
Hear these our silent prayers.

THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

We know that Christ is raised from the dead.
Death no longer has any dominion over him.
The death he died, he died to sin, once for all.
But the life he now lives, he lives to God.
So consider yourself dead to sin,
and alive to God in Christ Jesus.
Believe the Good News:
through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

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 71:1-8

¹ In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.² In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me. ³ Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress. ⁴ Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel. ⁵ For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O Lord, from my youth. ⁶ Upon you I have leaned from my birth; it was you who took me from my mother's womb. My praise is continually of you. ⁷ I have been like a portent to many, but you are my strong refuge. ⁸ My mouth is filled with your praise, and with your glory all day long.

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 Ruth 2:1-23

(Insert)

THE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON

WELCOMING THE STRANGER

Dr. Merritt

HYMN OF COMMITMENT 326 *For All the Saints*

(Verse One and Two)

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

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.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PAM CLATERBAUGH, who was recently elected by the Presbytery to be one of two regional elder representatives to the bi-annual Presbyterian General Assembly gathering of representatives from across the U.S.

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 RESUME 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 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

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Ruth 2:1-23

¹Now Naomi had a kinsman on her husband's side, a prominent rich man, of the family of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz. ²And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, 'Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain, behind someone in whose sight I may find favour.' She said to her, 'Go, my daughter.' ³So she went. She came and gleaned in the field behind the reapers. As it happened, she came to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the family of Elimelech. ⁴Just then Boaz came from Bethlehem. He said to the reapers, 'The Lord be with you.' They answered, 'The Lord bless you.' ⁵Then Boaz said to his servant who was in charge of the reapers, 'To whom does this young woman belong?' ⁶The servant who was in charge of the reapers answered, 'She is the Moabite who came back with Naomi from the country of Moab. ⁷She said, "Please let me glean and gather among the sheaves behind the reapers." So she came, and she has been on her feet from early this morning until now, without resting even for a moment.' ⁸Then Boaz said to Ruth, 'Now listen, my daughter, do not go to glean in another field or leave this one, but keep close to my young women. ⁹Keep your eyes on the field that is being reaped, and follow behind them. I have ordered the young men not to bother you. If you get thirsty, go to the vessels and drink from what the young men have drawn.' ¹⁰Then she fell prostrate, with her face to the ground, and said to him, 'Why have I found favour in your sight, that you should take notice of me, when I am a foreigner?' ¹¹But Boaz answered her, 'All that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told me, and how you left your father and mother and your native land and came to a people that you did not know before. ¹²May the Lord reward you for your deeds, and may you have a full reward from the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge!' ¹³Then she said, 'May I continue to find favour in your sight, my lord, for you have comforted me and spoken kindly to your servant, even though I am not one of your servants.' ¹⁴At mealtime Boaz said to her, 'Come here, and eat some of this bread, and dip your morsel in the sour wine.' So she sat beside the reapers, and he heaped up for her some parched grain. She ate until she was satisfied, and she had some left over. ¹⁵When she got up to glean, Boaz instructed his young men, 'Let her glean even among the standing sheaves, and do not reproach her. ¹⁶You must also pull out some handfuls for her from the bundles, and leave them for her to glean, and do not rebuke her.' ¹⁷So she gleaned in the field until evening. Then she beat out what she had gleaned, and it was about an ephah of barley. ¹⁸She picked it up and came into the town, and her mother-in-law saw how much she had gleaned. Then she took out and gave her what was left over after she herself had been satisfied. ¹⁹Her mother-in-law said to her, 'Where did you glean today? And where have you worked? Blessed be the man who took notice of you.' So she told her mother-in-law with whom she had worked, and said, 'The name of the man with whom I worked today is Boaz.' ²⁰Then Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, 'Blessed be he by the Lord, whose kindness has not forsaken the living or the dead!' Naomi also said to her, 'The man is a relative of ours, one of our nearest kin.' ²¹Then Ruth the Moabite said, 'He even said to me, "Stay close by my servants, until they have finished all my harvest."' ²²Naomi said to Ruth, her daughter-in-law, 'It is better, my daughter, that you go out with his young women, otherwise you might be bothered in another field.' ²³So she stayed close to the young women of Boaz, gleaning until the end of the barley and wheat harvests; and she lived with her mother-in-law.