

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT

\*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 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

\*THE CHARGE (Minister)

\*THE BENEDICTION

\*THE POSTLUDE

\*Indicates the People Standing

If standing is difficult, please remain seated. Larger print bulletins are available.

**Thought for the Week: *He causes the grass to grow for the cattle, And vegetation for the labor of man, So that he may bring forth food from the earth. Psalm 104:14***

**NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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

*May Third the Year of Our Lord  
Two Thousand Twenty  
Fourth Sunday of Easter*

**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

II Kings 7:1-16; Psalm 150; Revelation 1:4-8

(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 166 (Verse One)

**Lord, who throughout these forty days for us did fast and pray, teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.**

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Minister: When Jesus speaks, our hearts burn within us.

**Congregants: Our eyes are opened when he breaks bread.**

Minister: Beloved, we are the children of God.

**Congregants: Blessing and honor and glory to God!**

Minister: Let us worship the Lord.

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION (Unison)

**Almighty and Eternal God,  
through Your Son You have defeated death,  
and opened to us the gate to everlasting life.**

**Grant that we who celebrate our Lord's resurrection  
may, through the renewing power of Your Spirit,  
arise from sin and death to the life of righteousness.**

**Be with us now as we share our praise,**

**confess our brokenness,  
and heed Your Word and Your Way,  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\* HYMN OF PRAISE

\*THE CALL TO CONFESSION

The Lord alone is our light and our salvation.  
Even in a world that is broken,  
even though we share in the sinfulness of this world,  
in His mercy He is quick to forgive  
as we confess our need for His love.  
Let us come to Him in prayer.

\* CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison)

**Merciful and gracious God,  
we confess to You our shortcomings,  
our disobedience, our brokenness, our sin.  
You call us to work for peace and justice,  
yet we seek privilege and power.  
You send us to serve the weak and oppressed,  
but too often we find security in retribution and wealth.  
You give us a world of gifts to grow in spirit,  
only for us to stray from Your path and seek our own way.  
Forgive us, we pray, and lead us to new life,  
that we may be Yours in all things.  
Hear these our silent prayers.**

\*THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear these words, and receive their power:  
God the Father promises a Kingdom of justice and joy.  
God the Son lived and died for all to enter His Kingdom.  
God the Spirit strengthens us to be built into God's Kingdom.  
In His name we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

\* RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

### **GROW SPIRITUALLY**

THE FIRST READING OF GOD'S WORD Psalm 16

<sup>1</sup> Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.<sup>2</sup> I say to the Lord, 'You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you.' <sup>3</sup> As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble, in whom is all my

delight.<sup>4</sup> Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows; their drink-offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names upon my lips <sup>5</sup> The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.<sup>6</sup> The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage. <sup>7</sup> I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.<sup>8</sup> I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. <sup>9</sup> Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.<sup>10</sup> For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit.<sup>11</sup> You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

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

THE CHILDRENS MESSAGE

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD John 20:19-31a

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'<sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.'<sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!'<sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

THE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON

*GOD KNOWS*

Dr. Merritt

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

BY ACTION OF THE SESSION, due to the ongoing pandemic crisis, there will be no gathering for worship next Sunday morning, May 10 or May 17. The worship service will be offered via audio tape.

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.

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic, All jails and prisons are on lockdown. Kairos activity's have been canceled state wide until further notice. Marie Haines

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!

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!).

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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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	Jake Hayes	Betty Hinkle
Barbara Jones	Bob Lancaster	Don Myers
Floyd Moretz	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  
Mary Moretz – (Nancy and Rick Assaid)  
Eleanor Newman – (Bob Newman's Aunt)  
Dee Woodson (Holly Woodson's daughter-in-law)  
Nancy Assaid (Sherry Moses' sister)

\*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

