

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

APRIL 11, 2021
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

GATHER JOYFULLY

THE PRELUDE

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION

Acts 4: 32-35; Psalm 133; John 20: 19-31

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

BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

HYMN OF PRAISE 238 *Thine is the Glory*

Thine is the glory,
risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment
rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes
where thy body lay.

Refrain:

Thine is the glory,
risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won.

Lo! Jesus meets us,
risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us,
scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness
hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth;
death hath lost its sting. [Refrain]

Thine is the glory,
risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won.

No more we doubt thee,
glorious Prince of life!
Life is naught without thee;
aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors
through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan
to thy home above. [Refrain]

Thine is the glory,
risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Faith never comes easy.
How we are like Thomas! We sometimes think we need to see in order to believe!
How blessed are the ones who, never having seen, yet have come to believe.
Open our hearts, Lord, this day to absolute faith in you, that, although we have not seen
the risen Christ, we may believe fully in him.
Come let us worship our Lord!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION

Generous God, we thank you for your presence with us in all our lives. As we gather this
morning we are reminded of the many times we have doubted and feared. Today banish
our fears with the memory of the resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ. Remind us again
that through all our troubles, doubts, and fears, your power, mercy and love are with us.
Amen

RESPONSE HYMN 245 *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!*

Christ the Lord is risen today! Alleluia!
All creation, join to say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

GROW SPIRITUALLY

THE FIRST READING OF GOD'S WORD Psalm 133

¹ How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

² It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard,

on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes. ³ It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion. For there the Lord ordained his blessing, life for evermore.

THE PRAYER'S 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 John 20: 19-31

¹⁹ 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.' ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.' ²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ 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.' ²⁶ 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.' ²⁷ 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.' ²⁸ Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' ²⁹ 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.'
³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ 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

We have listened to your word, Lord.

Grant us ears to hear what you would have us know.

We have watched you at work in the world, Lord.

Grant us eyes to see what you would show us.

You have touched us, Lord.

Grant that we may feel your presence and follow your guidance. Amen

THE SERMON

WE WERE THERE: THOMAS

Pam Claterbaugh

HYMN OF COMMITMENT 366 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

(Verse 2)

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
into every troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit;

let us find the promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.

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 268 *Crown Him with Many Crowns* (Verse 1 and 2)

Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King
through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified:
no angel in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends his burning eye
at mysteries so bright.

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

OUR SERVICE

Thought for the Week: *He says, "Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."
Psalm 46:10*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you to our Northminster family for the prayers, cards, calls, texts, food and tulips that we have received during Susan's continuing treatments. Your love and support are deeply appreciated.

Love, Susan and Chuck Lockard

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Easter egg hunt. It continues to be a great tradition for the kids of Northminster.

A NEW ONLINE "ZOOM" BIBLE STUDY begins Wednesday evening, April 14, at 7:00. If interested in participating, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex. Also, there will be a training session for persons needing help with Zoom will in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the worship service this morning.

THE DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY IS MAKING PLANS for children and their families to return to church. Parents are invited to share their thoughts and ideas with Frankie Bielawski, Ministry liaison.

As warm weather approaches and you start getting out your warm weather clothes, please remember that we are collecting coats and cold-weather shoes that you may be thinking about replacing for Blue Ridge Literacy. Thank you for your support of this project.

The Presbyterian Center is in need of school supplies and asking for donations. A list of supplies needed is on the bulletin board across from the secretary's office.

Calendar

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

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 Axelson, 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

Jessee Amos	Frances Bowling	Bobby Brammer
Charlotte Cooley	Jim Cregger	Michael Hambrick
Jake Hayes	Barbara Jones	Dennis Kincer
Bob Lancaster	Homer Linton	Susan Lockard
Floyd Moretz	Mary Moretz	Ann Pace
Mac Pace	Buddy Smith	Sandy Smith
Frances Stevens	Jo Ann Threlkeld	Ray Williams

Friends and Family

Joaquin Bielawski
Nancy Assaid (Sherry Moses' sister)
Tim Smith (Karen's husband)
Sherry Moses (Donna Betters)

***THE SESSION ***

Clerk of Session: Holly Woodson

Elders: Kathy Baker, Bob Bielawski, Frankie Bielawski, Pam Claterbaugh, Richard Claterbaugh, Trent Cundiff, Judy Ferrell, Tom Hale, Vee Hayes, Daniel Kirby, Chuck Lockard, Sherry Moses, Debbie Newman, Jeremy Newman, Gayle Wise