

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

APRIL 25, 2021
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

GATHER JOYFULLY

THE PRELUDE

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION

Psalm 23; John 10:11-18

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

BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

HYMN OF PRAISE 318 *In Christ There Is No East Or West* (Verses 1 and 3)

In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.

Join hands, disciples of the faith,
whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God
are surely kin to me.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 4)

Dear friends, God has been gracious to us, and hears our prayers.
He has placed goodness and love in our hearts.
We are invited to live in His peace and joy.
He alone is our dwelling place, so come, let us worship the Lord.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION

Holy and eternal God, our guiding star and our safe resting place
our journey brings us to this time and place,
in fellowship with one another and in adoration and praise for You.
Be with us now as we seek to give You worship,
to hear Your Word and know Your Will,
and to be fed and strengthened to continue on Your path.
Through Your Holy Spirit, bring us closer to Jesus Christ,
in whose blessed name we pray. Amen.

Come, you faithful, raise the strain
of triumphant gladness!
God has brought forth Israel
into joy from sadness,
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke
Jacob's sons and daughters;
led them with unmoistened foot
through the Red Sea waters.

GROW SPIRITUALLY

THE FIRST READING OF GOD'S WORD I John 3:16-20

¹⁶We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? ¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

THE PRAYER 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 Romans 8:12-17

¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

THE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

God of the Word, open our hearts and minds,
and give us courage to hear and to obey
Your Word for our lives.
By the power of Your Spirit, illuminate our paths.
Through Christ we pray. Amen..

HYMN OF COMMITMENT 308 *O God in Whom All Life Begins* (Verses 1 and 2)

O God in whom all life begins,
 who births the seed to fruit,
 bestow your blessing on our lives;
 here let your love find root.
 Bring forth in us the Spirit's gifts
 of patience, joy, and peace;
 deliver us from numbing fear,
 and grant our faith increase.

Unite in mutual ministry
 our minds and hands and hearts
 that we may have the grace to seek
 the power your peace imparts.
 So let our varied gifts combine
 to glorify your Name
 that in all things by word and deed
 we may your love proclaim.

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 547 *Go, My Children, with My Blessing* (Verse 1 and 2)

“Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
 Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.
 In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.
 Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”

“Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Here you heard my dear Son's story; here you touched him, saw his glory.
 Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.”

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

OUR SERVICE

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Thought for the Week: *" God has cared for these trees, saved them from drought, disease, avalanches and a thousand tempests and floods. But He cannot save them from fools". John Muir*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Kirby family would like to thank the congregation for your prayers and cards as we welcomed Skylar Elise Kirby on April 9th. We are blessed to have a new family member and are anxious to be back with our church family soon.

We received a note that former Pastor, David Kirk, made a donation to Feeding Southwest Virginia in the church's name.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated in our morning worship next Sunday. Please be in prayer and preparation as we gather at the Lord's Table of grace. As always during the pandemic, we will practice appropriate safety protocols.

THE MINSTER WILL BE VISITING FAMILY IN SOUTH CAROLINA during the week, but will be back next week-end to lead our morning service.

PRESBYTERY OF THE PEAKS meets via Zoom this coming Saturday. Our representative to the meeting will be elder Richard Claterbaugh.

A MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION HAS BEEN CALLED for Sunday, May 9, immediately following the morning service, for the purpose of electing persons to serve a one-year term on the congregation's Nominating Committee.

ONLINE "ZOOM" BIBLE STUDY is Wednesday evening, April 21, 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 / Communion

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
Woody Huff (Mary Anne Huffs son)
Nancy Assaid (Sherry Moses' sister)
Donna Betters (Sherry Moses)
Berkley Persinger (Elise Lanford's cousin)
Tim Smith (Karen's husband)

***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