

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

August 1, 2021
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

*The love story in which we usually live is essentially a mystery.
We don't know and can't know the mind of God...
but we know enough. We have God's self-revelation in Jesus Christ;
we have testimonies of saints who have witnessed
and participated in miracles that brook no rational explanation.
We have the moments in our own faith journeys when a view lifts
and we are, as C. S. Lewis put it, "surprised by joy";
we have the whisperings of the Spirit and the small epiphanies of daily life
that remind us that we are accompanied, embraced, and held.*

Marilyn Chandler McEntyre. Weavings

GATHER JOYFULLY

THE PRELUDE

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION

II Samuel 11:26-12:13a; Psalm 51:1-12; John 6:24-35

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

BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

*HYMN OF PRAISE 525 *Let Us Break Bread Together* (Verses 1 and 2)

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Minister: Friends, the Good Shepherd calls us to follow.

**Congregants: The Lord of Lords and King of Kings
commands us to obey.**

Minister: The Suffering Servant lays down his life
that we might be saved.

Congregants: **The Risen Son promises us victory
over all our foes, even death itself.**

Minister: Come, let us worship God.

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION (unison)**

**God of glory, Lord of love,
in grace You come to us, offering Your peace and strength,
calling us to receive Your gifts and to follow Your path.
Be with us in this gathering as we seek to hear Your Word,
understand Your way, and obey Your calling.
We know well how often we fall short, sinning against You.
We confess that even our best efforts are woefully broken.
Yet You offer forgiveness and new life in Your Spirit.
Hear these our silent prayers, and draw us closer to You.**
(Worshippers will pray silently.)

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

RESPONSE HYMN 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 Mark 1:14-20

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.' ¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fish for people.' ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Jonah 1:1-3, 3:1-5, 10

¹Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying, ²'Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before me.' ³But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid his fare and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the Lord.

¹The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²‘Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.’ ³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, ‘Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!’ ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. ¹⁰ When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

THE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON

CALLED

Russ Merritt

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 721 *Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore* (Verse 1)

*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.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Invitation to The Lord’s Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Dedication

GO FAITHFULLY

*HYMN OF DEDICATION 720 *Jesus Calls Us* (Verses 1 and 4)

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

OUR SERVICE

*Indicates the People Standing

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Thought for the Week: The trees of the LORD are well watered, the cedars of Lebanon that he planted. There the birds make their nests; the stork has its home in the pine trees. The high mountains belong to the wild goats; the crags are a refuge for the rabbits. Psalm 104:16-18

EARTH CARE: Don't buy what you don't need. It may seem obvious, but asking yourself, "Do I really need this?" can save both money and plastic.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE NORTHMINSTER FAMILY SHARES ITS LOVE AND SUPPORT with the Riley and Stevens families, following the death of Frances Stevens, this past week. We praise God for His many blessings, including the assurance of Frances' heavenly welcome.

THE CONGREGATION SHARES ITS LOVE and Support with the family of Lois Hopkins, who joined the Church Triumphant this past week, Lois was a true disciple, who loved the Lord and gave herself to sharing his love to others. To God be the glory!

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated today during our worship service. Due to the pandemic, we will again use the sanitary, pre-sealed cups holding both the bread and the cup.

Please be in prayerful preparation as we approach God's Table of grace.

DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY MEETS THIS MORNING following the worship service. Anyone interested in sharing in this work (including educational opportunities, children's and youth work, discipleship building, and mission outreach to the surrounding community, is invited to join the meeting in the Fellowship Hall.

Northminster is partnering with our VBS churches for as Back to School Outreach on August 21 at Huntington Court UMC (1-3 p.m.) Volunteers are needed for the actual event and also for packing the school supplies (August 14). if you would like to donate school supplies, please bring them to church or contact Frankie Bielawski (562-0613). Needed supplies are: wide-ruled notebook paper, #2 pencils (12 pack), 12 count

colored pencils, glue sticks, highlighter, 24 count crayons, 8 count washable markers, pencil sharpener, folder with pockets (preferably vinyl or plastic), and marbled or spiraled composition books. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make checks to Northminster for BTS Outreach.

The Discipleship ministry would like to thank the folks that participated in our Hunger Buster program. Nine bags of food were delivered to the Presbyterian Community Center.

If you have any books that you have read and don't know what to do with them, please bring them to the church for the "Little Free Library". We are need of children's books- any age and can use current adult books. Thanks, again for your support of this project.

JUST A REMINDER: there are boxes in the narthex to recycle your bulletins.

ONLINE "ZOOM" BIBLE STUDY is being held on Wednesday evenings, at 7:00. If someone wants to join the zoom Bible study please contact the church secretary.

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	10:30 am	Morning Worship / Communion
	12:00 pm	Discipleship Ministry Meeting
Next Sunday	10:30 am	Morning Worship

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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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
Reba Kling	Bob Lancaster	Homer Linton
Susan Lockard	Floyd Moretz	Mary Moretz
Ann Pace	Mac Pace	Buddy Smith
Sandy Smith	Jo Ann Threlkeld	Ray Williams

Friends and Family

Joaquin Bielawski
Donna Betters (Sherry Moses)
Berkley Persinger (Elise Lanford's cousin)

***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