

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

*August 29, 2021*  
*Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

Prelude

Scripture Reading

Psalms 45:1-2, 6-9; James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Building the Body

Welcome

*"This is the Day That the Lord Has Made"*

Announcements

Pastoral and Prayer Concerns

\*Hymn 664 *"Morning Has Broken"*

667 *"When Morning Gilds the Skies"* (Verses 1 and 4)

\*Call to Worship (responsive)

Minister: I was glad when they said to me,

"Come, let us go to the house of the Lord".

**Congregants: We come this day**

**for God's Spirit of life, peace, and wholeness.**

Minister: We come to know Christ's presence  
among and within us, filling each of us with joy  
and building His Body in our midst.

**Congregants: We come together to build unity,  
to find support, encouragement, and God's grace.**

Minister: We come to learn more of our God,  
to follow where He leads, to commit ourselves to Him.

**Congregants: We come to love and to be loved,  
to share and to build, to praise and to grow.**

Minister: Brothers and sisters, it is so wonderful to say this:  
Come, let us worship our God!

\*Prayer of Invocation and Confession (unison)

**God Almighty, Rock of Ages,**

**our Creator, our Redeemer, our Sustainer,**

**Father, Son and Holy Spirit,**

**in praise and thanksgiving, in worship and adoration**

**we come into our presence and bow before Your throne.**

**Your goodness is beyond measure or imagination,**

**Your grace is like an ocean to the teardrop that is our sin.  
We know well that we are not worthy of Your grace,  
and that we fall so far short of Your love in Christ Jesus.  
Yet it is Your promise that we find a home in You,  
and that forgiveness is ours as we confess and repent.  
Hear our cries for Your loving embrace,  
and be with us now as we seek to draw closer to You.  
Hear these our silent prayers.**  
(Worshippers enter a time of silent prayer and reflection.)

\*Assurance of Pardon

\*Response 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.

Solo

*What Is the World Like* (Hymn 771)

Lauren Godsey

What is the world like when God's will is done?  
Mustard seeds grow more than we can conceive; roots thread the soil; branches reach for  
the sun.  
This is how God moves us each to believe.

What is the world like when God's will is done?  
No more is neighbor just ally or friend; peace thrives in places where once there was none.  
This is how God works when rivalries end.

These are the stories that Jesus imparts, filled with the Spirit who joins us as one.  
Born through our voices, our hands, and our hearts, this is a new world where God's will is  
done.

Testimony

First Reading of God's Word      Psalm 27 (#842)

Children's Moment

Prayers of the People and 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.**

Special Music

*"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"*

*"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"*

Testimony

Second Reading of God's Word Colossians 1:9-23

<sup>9</sup>For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, <sup>10</sup>so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. <sup>11</sup>May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully <sup>12</sup>giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup>He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup>in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. <sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; <sup>16</sup>for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup>He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup>He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. <sup>19</sup>For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup>and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. <sup>21</sup> And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, <sup>22</sup>he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him— <sup>23</sup>provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

FINDING ANSWERS TO THE PUZZLES OF LIFE

Russ Merritt

\*Hymn 108

*"Of the Father's Love Begotten"* (Verses 1,2,5,6)

\*Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles' Creed)

**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.**

\*Hymn 300 *"We Are One in the Spirit"*

Benediction and Blessing of the Meal

Benedictory Response

Hymn 748 *"Go with Us, God"*

Postlude

\*Indicates the People Standing

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***THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: Thank you God, for water, soil and air, large gifts supporting everything that lives. Forgive our spoiling and abuse of them. Help us renew the face of the earth. Hymn: Thank you, God for Water, Soil and Air***

***EARTH CARE: Don't use a disposable razor. Your planet isn't disposable, so why should your razor be?***

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY IS A SPECIAL "WELCOME BACK" DAY, and we encourage you to stay with us following worship, to help "build the Body" in a time of fellowship, celebration, and rejoicing in God's goodness. Great food, fun games, wonderful music, and solid Christian fellowship are waiting under the big tent! Stay with us, and enjoy a day of God's goodness!

A big THANK YOU to everyone who donated school supplies and/or money to our community "Back to School" event. We were able to pack 200+ packs of supplies for area children. Thank you as well to those who volunteered on the 14th to pack the bags and to those who showed up for the actual event on the 21st.

SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS END with this morning's service. Worship time will move back to 11:00 next Sunday, September 5. Sunday school for all ages will resume the following Sunday, September 12 (which is Rally Day Sunday).

Circle 2 wants to welcome all the ladies of the church to join our circle. What is circle? It's a group of ladies that meet once a month. We typically meet at a restaurant or at a members home. We have a quick 10 minute lesson (we are all learning so no previous Bible knowledge is required!) We catch up with each other and socialize. We choose a group or event monthly that we support by putting a small donation in an envelope that we pass around. Any donation amount works. We support the Presbyterian center, adopted angel tree children at Christmas and have given to many other local groups. We really do have a great time and you learn so much about your church members and their families. The meeting last 2 hours or less. Our first meeting will be Tuesday Sept 7 at 6:30 at Shakers. Any questions please email me [Qisalem@hotmail.com](mailto:Qisalem@hotmail.com) or just show up. We would love to have you.

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.

### Calendar

Today	10:30 am	Morning Worship
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 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	Ann Bailey	Bill Bailey
Frances Bowling	Bobby Brammer	Warren Campbell
Charlotte Cooley	Jim Cregger	Michael Hambrick
Gary Harris	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