

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

July 25, 2021
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

GATHER JOYFULLY

THE PRELUDE

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION

II Samuel 11:1-15; Psalm 14; Ephesians 3:14-21

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

BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

*HYMN OF PRAISE 14 *For the Beauty of the Earth* (Verses 1 and 2)

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP from Romans 8:31, Luke 11:19-20)

Minister: If God is for us, who can be against us?

Congregants: Nothing can separate us from God's love.

Minister: Jesus said: "Ask, and it will be given to you."

Congregants: For everyone who asks, receives.

Minister: Come, let us worship the Lord.

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION (unison)

Eternal God, Protector of all who put their trust in You,

without Whom nothing is strong or holy,

fill us with Your mercy and grace.

We are sinners and fall far short of Your glory.

Forgive us, and with You as our rule and guide,

may we use the good things of this present life

with assurance that we will join You in heaven.

Be with us now as we give You our worship and adoration,

and hear these our silent prayers.

(Congregants etc.)

*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 John 1:43-51

⁴³ The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, 'Follow me.' ⁴⁴ Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.' ⁴⁶ Nathanael said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see.' ⁴⁷ When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' ⁴⁸ Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' ⁴⁹ Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' ⁵⁰ Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' ⁵¹ And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

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.

Voluntary

Larghetto from Sonata V

G. F. Handel

Paula Jones

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD I Samuel 3:1-10

¹ Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. ² At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³ the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. ⁴ Then the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' and he said, 'Here I am!' ⁵ and ran to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call; lie down again.' So he went and lay down. ⁶ The Lord called again, 'Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call, my son; lie down again.' ⁷ Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸ The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said,

‘Here I am, for you called me.’ Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, ‘Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, “Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.” ’ So Samuel went and lay down in his place. ¹⁰ Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ And Samuel said, ‘Speak, for your servant is listening.’

THE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON

LISTEN

Russ Merritt

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 69 I, the Lord of Sea and Sky *Here I Am* (Verses 1 and 2)

*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 722 *Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak* (Verses 1 and 2)

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

OUR SERVICE

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Thought for the Week: *The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, for he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers. Psalm 24:1-2*

EARTH CARE: Buy powdered laundry detergent. It comes in boxes instead of liquid detergent, which comes in plastic bottles

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 SESSION WILL HOLD ITS REGULAR MEETING following the worship service. If you have business or thoughts for the elders, or if you are interested in joining the Northminster family, please contact the Minister.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated next Sunday morning 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.

Hunger Buster bags are available for anyone interested in filling them for the Presbyterian Community Center. They will be collected on July 25th and taken to the Presbyterian Center on the 26th or 27th.

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
	11:45 am	Session Meeting
Next Sunday	10:30 am	Morning Worship / Communion

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	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)

***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