

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

June 20, 2021
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

GATHER JOYFULLY

THE PRELUDE

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION

Genesis 21:8-21; Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17; Romans 6:1b-11

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

BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

HYMN OF PRAISE 482 *Baptized in Water*

Baptized in water,
sealed by the Spirit,
cleansed by the blood of Christ our King;
heirs of salvation,
trusting the promise,
faithfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water,
sealed by the Spirit,
dead in the tomb with Christ our King;
one with his rising,
freed and forgiven,
thankfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water,
sealed by the Spirit,
marked with the sign of Christ our King;
born of the Spirit,
we are God's children;
joyfully now God's praises we sing.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalms 42 and 107)

As a deer longs for flowing streams,
so my soul thirsts for the living God.
Let the redeemed of the Lord rejoice!

For the steadfast love of God, give thanks!
Come, let us worship God.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION

Almighty and Eternal God, Lord of life and love,
Creator and Redeemer and Sustainer,
open our eyes that we might see,
open our ears that we might hear,
open our hearts and minds that we might know
the presence of Jesus Christ.
Be with us in this time of worship,
and guide us on our spiritual journey,
that we might be drawn closer to him,
for it is in his name that we pray. Amen.

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 Isaiah 6:1-8

¹In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. ²Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³And one called to another and said: 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.' ⁴The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: 'Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!' ⁶ Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: 'Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.' ⁸Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD John 3:1-17

¹ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for

no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.’³ Jesus answered him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.’⁴ Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?’⁵ Jesus answered, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit.’⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, “You must be born from above.”⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.’⁹ Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can these things be?’¹⁰ Jesus answered him, ‘Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?’¹¹ ‘Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you* do not receive our testimony.’¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up,¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.¹⁶ ‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.’¹⁷ ‘Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

THE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, illumine and make clear for us all
these words of scripture and that which is now proclaimed,
so that we might hear what You would have us hear
and be who You would have us to be,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

THE SERMON

SEARCHING FOR THE SACRED

Russ Merritt

HYMN OF COMMITMENT 286 *Breath on Me, Breath of God* (Verses 1-3)

Breathe on me, Breath of God;
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until with thee I will one will,
to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
till I am wholly thine,
until this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.

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 321 *The Church's One Foundation* (Verse 1 and 2)

The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ her Lord.
She is his new creation
by water and the word.
From heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy bride.
With his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation,
yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation:
one Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses,
with every grace endued.

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

OUR SERVICE

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Thought for the Week: *But ask the animals, and they will teach you, or ask the birds of the air, and they will tell you. Speak to the earth and it will teach you, or let the fish of the sea tell you, Every one of these knows that the hand of the Lord has done this. Job 1:7-9*

EARTH CARE: Use rechargeable batteries: Doing so avoids buying (plastic wrapped) new ones.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated today during the morning Worship service.

THE WORSHIP MINISTRY WILL MEET next Monday morning, June 28, at 10:00 in the Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in sharing in being part of Northminster's worship program, please contact the Minister.

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

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| Today | 10:30 am | Morning Worship / Communion |
| Next Sunday | 10:30 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

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|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Jessee Amos | Frances Bowling | Bobby Brammer |
| Charlotte Cooley | Jim Cregger | Michael Hambrick |
| Jake Hayes | Lois Hopkins | 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 | Jim Warren | 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