

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

MARCH 14, 2021
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

GATHER JOYFULLY

THE PRELUDE

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION

Numbers 21:4-9; Ephesians 2:1-10

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

BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

HYMN OF PRAISE 653

Give Thanks to God Who Hears Our Cries Psalm 107 (Verses 1 and 4)

Give thanks to God who hears our cries and saves in troubled days
with wondrous works to humankind that call for highest praise.
Let all who know God's saving love sing grateful songs always.

If you drew near the gates of death, too sick to eat or dress,
and cried to God, who heard your voice and healed all your distress,
then sing with sounds of holy joy; God's wondrous works profess.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 47)

Clap your hands, all you people,
and praise and honor God with shouts of joy!
For God, our God, the Most High,
is the Lord and Ruler of all the world!
God alone is King,
and He reigns on His holy throne.
Come, let us worship and bow down!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION

Come, Holy God, and be with us in worship.
Come, Lord Jesus, and fill us with your grace.
Come, Holy Spirit, and set our hearts on fire.
Come, triune God, and be with us now we pray,
for it is in You alone that we find life and meaning.
In You Name we bow at Your throne. Amen.

RESPONSE HYMN 435 *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice,
which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven.
There is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment given.

GROW SPIRITUALLY

THE FIRST READING OF GOD'S WORD Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

¹ O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures for ever. ² Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, those he redeemed from trouble ³ and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

¹⁷ Some were sick through their sinful ways, and because of their iniquities endured affliction; ¹⁸ they loathed any kind of food, and they drew near to the gates of death. ¹⁹ Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress; ²⁰ he sent out his word and healed them, and delivered them from destruction. ²¹ Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind. ²² And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.

THE PRAYER'S 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 Mark 14:53-65

⁵³ They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. ⁵⁴ Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire. ⁵⁵ Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. ⁵⁶ For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. ⁵⁷ Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying, ⁵⁸ 'We heard him say, "I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands." ' ⁵⁹ But even on this point their testimony did not agree. ⁶⁰ Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, 'Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?' ⁶¹ But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him, 'Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?' ⁶² Jesus said, 'I am; and "you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power", and "coming with the clouds of heaven."' ⁶³ Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, 'Why do we still need witnesses? ⁶⁴ You

have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?’ All of them condemned him as deserving death. ⁶⁵Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him, ‘Prophecy!’ The guards also took him over and beat him.

HYMN OF PREPARATION 228 *Were You There*

Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (Were you there?)
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (Were you there?)

THE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

We were there, O God, we were there,
and it is our sins that he takes onto himself on the cross.
But the blood that is shed is his victory, and our salvation.
Let us now hear that Word of life,
with hearts and minds and spirits open to his grace.
Through his precious name we pray. Amen.

THE SERMON *WE WERE THERE: CAIAPHAS THE HIGH PRIEST* Dr. Merritt

HYMN OF COMMITMENT 209 *My Song is Love Unknown* (Verses 1 and 2)

My song is love unknown,
my Savior's love to me,
love to the loveless shown
that they might lovely be.
O who am I
that for my sake
my Lord should take
frail flesh, and die?

He came from heaven's throne
salvation to bestow;
the world that was his own
would not its Savior know.
But O my Friend,
my Friend indeed,
who at my need
his life did spend!

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 216 *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* (Verses 1 and 2)

Beneath the cross of Jesus
I fain would take my stand,
the shadow of a mighty rock
within a weary land;
a home within the wilderness,
a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat,
and the burden of the day.
Upon the cross of Jesus
mine eye at times can see
the very dying form of One
who suffered there for me;
and from my stricken heart with tears
two wonders I confess:
the wonders of redeeming love
and my unworthiness.

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

OUR SERVICE

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Thought for the Week: [*Psalm 19:1*](#) *The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Envelopes are available for our One Great Hour of Sharing offering. They will be collected Easter Sunday.

We are in need of individually wrapped candy for the annual Easter egg hunt. If you can donate candy please leave it in the church office by March 21.

Our Easter egg hunt will be held at 11am on April 3 for K thru 5th graders. Mask are required for kids and adults at the hunt. Bring a basket to use to hunt.

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	Worship Service
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	Frances Bowling	Bobby Brammer
Charlotte Cooley	Jim Cregger	Michael Hambrick
Jake Hayes	Maryanne Huff	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
Nancy Assaid (Sherry Moses' sister)
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