

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

**MARCH 21, 2021**  
**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**GATHER JOYFULLY**

THE PRELUDE

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION

Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 119:9-16; John 12:20-33

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

BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

HYMN OF PRAISE 213      *Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed* (Verses 1 and 2)

Alas! And did my Savior bleed,  
and did my Sovereign die!  
Would he devote that sacred head  
for sinners such as I!

Was it for sins that I have done  
he suffered on the tree?  
Amazing pity! Grace unknown!  
And love beyond degree!

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
the Maker of heaven and earth.  
Today is the day that the Lord has made,  
so let us rejoice and be glad in it.  
Let us come into God's presence to worship.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION

God of all glory,  
on the first day of the week You began creation,  
bringing light out of darkness.  
On the first day of the week You began new creation,  
raising Jesus from the darkness of death.  
On this Lord's Day grant that we,

the people You create by water and the Spirit,  
may be joined with all Your works  
in praising You for Your great glory.  
Through Jesus Christ we pray. 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 51:1-12

<sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. <sup>2</sup> Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. <sup>3</sup> For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. <sup>4</sup> Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgement. <sup>5</sup> Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me. <sup>6</sup> You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. <sup>7</sup> Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. <sup>8</sup> Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. <sup>9</sup> Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. <sup>10</sup> Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. <sup>11</sup> Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. <sup>12</sup> Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

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 Matthew 26:14-16, 47-50

<sup>14</sup> Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests <sup>15</sup>and said, 'What will you give me if I betray him to you?' They paid him thirty pieces of silver. <sup>16</sup>And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

<sup>47</sup> While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. <sup>48</sup>Now the betrayer

had given them a sign, saying, 'The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.' <sup>49</sup>At once he came up to Jesus and said, 'Greetings, Rabbi!' and kissed him. <sup>50</sup>Jesus said to him, 'Friend, do what you are here to do.' Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested 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

Lord, open our hearts and minds  
by the power of Your Holy Spirit,  
so that in the Word from Your scriptures  
and in the Word as proclaimed  
we may hear with joy and reverence  
what You say to us this day.  
Through the Living Word we pray. Amen.

THE SERMON

*WE WERE THERE: JUDAS*

Dr. Merritt

HYMN OF COMMITMENT 218      *Ah, Holy Jesus*      (Verses 1 and 2)

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended,  
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?  
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,  
O most afflicted!

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?  
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.  
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee;  
I crucified thee.

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 223 *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* (Verses 1 and 2)

When I survey the wondrous cross  
on which the Prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss,  
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
save in the death of Christ my God;  
all the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to his blood.

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

OUR SERVICE

*The flowers are in memory of Charles M. Wise on the 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary  
of his passing by his wife Gale*

Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-A-737649 . All rights reserved. Used by permission CCLI#1241295

**Thought for the Week:** *Our spirits thrill to hear the sounds of nature:*

*The babbling brook as crickets sing along...*

*The aspen leaves, aflutter in the treetops...*

*The soul-reviving glory of birdsong.*

*Excerpt from a poem by Susan Noyes Anderson*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

SESSION WILL HOLD ITS BI-MONTHLY MEETING next Sunday, March 28, following the morning worship service. If you have matters for the elders to consider, or if you would like to join this church family, please contact the Minister.

Elders, your new cards are in your church mailboxes. Reminder...Easter is April 4<sup>th</sup>. Thanks!

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
	12:15 pm	Session Meeting

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