

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

*September 26, 2021*  
*Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

**GATHER JOYFULLY**

THE PRELUDE

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION

Esther 7:1-10; Psalm 1; James 3:13-4:3; Mark 9:30-37

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

BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

\*HYMN OF PRAISE 81 *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* (Verses 1 and 3)

\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive, from Psalm 37)

Minister: Trust in the Lord, and do good.

**Congregants: Delight yourself in the Lord,  
and He will fill Your heart.**

Minister: Commit your way to the Lord,  
trust in Him.

**Congregants: He will make your righteousness  
shine like the dawn.**

Minister: Be still before the Lord, and wait for Him.

**Congregants: Those who hope in the Lord  
will inherit His goodness.**

Minister: Come, let us worship God.

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION (unison)

**New every morning is Your love, great God of light,  
and all day long You are working for the good of the world.**

**Be with us now in our worship, and draw us closer to You.**

**Stir up in us the desire to serve You, and to follow where You lead.**

**We confess that too often we have not gone Your way,  
and instead have sought our own sinful path.**

**Forgive us, God of grace, and be with us this day  
with the wisdom of Your Word.**

**Hear these our silent prayers.**

(Worshippers will enter into silent prayer.)

## \*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

\*RESPONSE HYMN 18 *Hallelujah! Sing Praise to Your Creator* (Verse 1)

*The choir will sing the verse one time, then the congregation will join in*

Hallelujah! Sing praise to your Creator, sun, moon, and stars and angels above.  
Praise the Lord, whose word established the heavens, who upholds all the earth in power and love.

God reigns on high, let the heavens rejoice! God reigns on high, let the heavens rejoice!

## GROW SPIRITUALLY

THE FIRST READING OF GOD'S WORD Psalm 91

<sup>1</sup> You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, <sup>2</sup> will say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.'<sup>3</sup> For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence; <sup>4</sup> he will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler. <sup>5</sup> You will not fear the terror of the night, or the arrow that flies by day, <sup>6</sup> or the pestilence that stalks in darkness, or the destruction that wastes at noonday. <sup>7</sup> A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. <sup>8</sup> You will only look with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked. <sup>9</sup> Because you have made the Lord your refuge, the Most High your dwelling-place, <sup>10</sup> no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent. <sup>11</sup> For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. <sup>12</sup> On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone. <sup>13</sup> You will tread on the lion and the adder, the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot. <sup>14</sup> Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name. <sup>15</sup> When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honour them. <sup>16</sup> With long life I will satisfy them, and show them my salvation.

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.**

ANTHEM *On Eagle's Wings*, Psalm 91 (Hymn 43)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Matthew 16:13-20

<sup>13</sup> Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' <sup>14</sup> And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others

Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.’ <sup>15</sup>He said to them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ <sup>16</sup>Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.’ <sup>17</sup>And Jesus answered him, ‘Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup>And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup>I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.’ <sup>20</sup>Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

## THE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON

*BUILDING THE CHURCH*

Russ Merritt

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 767 *Together We Serve*

\*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 321 *The Church’s One Foundation* (Verses 1, 4, and 5)

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

OUR SERVICE

\*Indicates the People Standing

*The flowers are in memory of Piper Noelle Kirby.*

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**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: Break out of plastic takeout containers. Frequent restaurants that use only paper or foil.**

**EARTH CARE: Jane Parker Huber wrote a wonderful hymn in the last century entitled "God You Spin the Whirling Planets". This beautiful song details Creation as outlined in the early chapters of Genesis. Verse one: God, You spin the whirling planets, fill the seas and spread the plain. Mold the mountains, fashion blossoms, Call forth sunshine, wind and rain.**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE NORTHMINSTER FAMILY SHARES ITS LOVE AND SUPPORT with the Moretz family, following the death of Mary Moretz, this past week. We praise God for His many blessings, including the assurance of Mary's' heavenly welcome.

Stan and I greatly appreciate all the many cards, prayers and other expressions of concern that we have received in the pass month or so. We feel so blessed to be a part of Northminster's loving and caring church family.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated next Sunday, October 3, in the morning worship service.

On October 3rd, we will be collecting our Peace and Global Witness offering. 50% of monies collected will go to our Presbyterian Mission Agency, 25% will go to mid councils and 25% will provide scholarships to young people attending the presbytery's annual Summer Peace Camp where children learn how to answer to violence and conflict with peace-building skills. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God. Matthew 5:9.

### APPLE BUTTER BOILING IS BACK!

We will resume our fellowship around the kettle Saturday, October 16. Mark your calendar to come share in the fellowship anytime between 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Reserve your jars by signing up on the sheets located across from the secretary's office or by calling our secretary, Susie, at 366-8115. If you would have difficulty picking up your order, let Susie know and we'll arrange delivery! Prices remain the same - quarts are \$8.00 and the pints are \$5.00. Remember it's available on a "first come – first serve" basis. Please note we have all the jars we need for this year.

Presbyterian Women – The new year for the Presbyterian Women will start January 2022. Work on the year book has started and I will be gathering information on the circles. If you are not a circle member now, I encourage you to join one this coming year. It is a great opportunity for you to become more involved in our Church activities. We have two circles,

a morning circle that meets at the Church and a night circle that meets in the homes of members. The meetings usually have a bible study, short business session and of course refreshments and a time to socialize. Call Elise Lanford at 769-8736 if you are interested in joining us this year. If you are a circle member now and your phone number or address has changed or you want to change circles, please let me know. This information is needed by October 11<sup>th</sup>.

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. 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.

## Calendar

Today	10:00 – 10:45 am 11:00 am 12:15 pm	Sunday School Morning Worship Session Meeting
Next Sunday	10:00 – 10:45 am 11:00 am	Sunday School Morning Worship / Communion

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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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
Jake Hayes	Barbara Jones	Dennis Kincer
Reba Kling	Bob Lancaster	Stan Lanford
Homer Linton	Susan Lockard	Floyd Moretz
Ann Pace	Mac Pace	Buddy Smith
Sandy Smith	Jo Ann Threlkeld	

**Friends and Family**

Joaquin Bielawski  
Donna Betters (Sherry Moses)  
Berkley Persinger (Elise Lanford's cousin)  
Bill Woodson (Holly Woodson's son)

**\*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