



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

August 21, 2022
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

WE WELCOME YOU TO WORSHIP! You are special, because God brought you here today. Together we celebrate and rejoice in God's blessings in our lives!

GATHER JOYFULLY

THE PRELUDE

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION

Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; Hebrews 12:18-29

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

BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

GATHERING HYMN 306 *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

**Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love.
The fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE 43 *You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord*

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Unison, from John 15:5)

Minister: Jesus says, "I am the vine."

Congregants: Jesus says we are the branches.

Minister: We seek to abide in Christ, and for Christ
to abide in us.

**Congregants: We desire to bear much fruit
through his presence.**

Minister: Jesus says that apart from him, we can do nothing.

**Congregants: We come to worship him, to know him,
to follow where he leads.**

Minister: So come, let us worship our God.

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION (unison)

**Heavenly Father, Redeeming Son, Holy Spirit,
You move over the waters, creating life and light
and making from nothing a world filled with Your love.
Like a river that flows incessantly forward,
Your grace plunges through the tunnels of our lives.
Over our deepest selves and through our hearts,
You carry away the dust and mud of our lives**

**and wash us clean to stand before Your throne.
We need that grace, since we are sinful and broken.
Our sins are heavy, too real to hide and too deep to undo.
Forgive us, set us free from our past failings,
open us to a future filled with Your goodness,
and grant us grace to grow in the likeness of Christ.
Hear these our silent prayers.**

***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 Deuteronomy 30:15-20

¹⁵ See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

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

Jeff Midkiff

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Psalm 139

¹ O Lord, you have searched me and known me. ² You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. ³ You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. ⁴ Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely. ⁵ You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. ⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it. ⁷ Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? ⁸ If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. ⁹ If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, ¹⁰ even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast. ¹¹ If I say, 'Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night', ¹² even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you. ¹³ For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. ¹⁴ I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. ¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. ¹⁶ Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed. ¹⁷ How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! ¹⁸ I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end—I am still with you. ¹⁹ O that you would kill the wicked, O God, and that the bloodthirsty would depart from me—²⁰ those who speak of you maliciously, and lift themselves up against you for evil! ²¹ Do I not hate those who hate you, O Lord? And do I not loathe those who rise up against you? ²² I hate them with perfect hatred; I count them my enemies. ²³ Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. ²⁴ See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON

KNOWN BY GOD

Russ Merritt

HYMN OF COMMITMENT 834 *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

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 450 *Be Thou My Vision*

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

OUR SERVICE

*Indicates the People Standing

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH will meet today following the morning worship service. The work of the congregation is handled through these Session Ministries. If you would like to join in, please come join us in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be served.

WE ARE GETTING "BACK TOGETHER" next Sunday, as we celebrate the wonderful fellowship and family that is Northminster! The worship service will be special, and there will be a super picnic luncheon following the service. Please make your plans to join us, and please try to bring interested friends, family members, and others! "BACK TOGETHER" is our theme, and it speaks to ALL OF US gathering together again!

We delivered 12 Hunger Buster bags to the Presbyterian Community Center. Many thanks to the people who contributed.

If anyone would like to donate to the Presbyterian Community Center School Supply Needs for this school year, a list of items they need are on the bulletin board across from the office.

The Rescue Mission is looking for volunteers. If you want to know more about what it involves and have access to a computer, just log in to rescuemission.net/volunteer. You can also contact Volunteer Coordinator Harlee McKinney at 540-343-7227 ext. 7628 or email at harlee.mckinney@rescuemission.net. Karen Gwitt volunteers there and would also be glad to give you some information. You can sign up online for specific dates and times.

Our nursery attendant, Lauren Axelson, will be losing her helper, sister Caitlin Godsey in August. If you would like to help, please sign up on the sheet across from the church office.

There is no KidVid for children during the summer months.

We are collecting devotional material to be delivered to jails and shelters. If you have any that you are done with, don't throw it away, donate it! You can place your devotional material in the box located in the narthex.

JUST A REMINDER: there are boxes in the narthex to recycle your bulleti

Calendar

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|-------------|---------------------|---|
| Today | 9:30 am 10:30 am | Pilgrimage Sunday School Worship Service Ministries Meeting |
| Next Sunday | 9:30 am 10:30 am | Pilgrimage Sunday School Worship Service BACK TOGETHER AGAIN PICNIC |

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 3911 Greenland Avenue, Roanoke, Virginia 24012-3250
 WEBSITE: WWW.NORTHMINSTERPCUSA.ORG

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|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Russ Merritt, 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 Pastor. If prayers have been answered and we can celebrate God's goodness by removing your name from the list, let the Pastor know.

Let us keep those listed below in our prayers.

Members

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Ann Bailey | Bill Bailey | Frances Bowling |
| Barry Ferrell | Maggie Hambrick | Jake Hayes |
| Barbara Jones | Dennis Kincer | Reba Kling |
| Homer Linton | Chuck Lockard | Susan Lockard |
| Floyd Moretz | Ann Pace | Mac Pace |
| Ken Riding | Buddy Smith | Sandy Smith |
| JoAnn Threlkeld | | |

Friends and Family

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Joaquin Bielawski | Annette Daughty |
| Shirley Basham | Terry Foss |
| Donna Betters | John Morris |
| Mabel Bowman | |

***THE SESSION ***

Clerk of Session: Holly Woodson
 Elders: Pam Claterbaugh, Richard Claterbaugh, Trent Cundiff, Matt Graybill, Joe Gwitt, Tom Hale, Gary Harris, Vee Hayes, Jyke Jones, Daniel Kirby, Lynn Kirby, Sherry Moses, Debbie Newman, Dora Slee, Gayle Wise

