

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

***July 17, 2022***  
***Sixth 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

Amos 8:1-12; Psalm 52; Luke 10:38-42

(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 386 *Come, Worship God*

\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Minister: Let us sing a new song to the Lord!

**Congregants: Let us give thanks and praise to our Creator.**

Minister: We gather in the name of Christ, our Savior.

**Congregants: We come as journeying disciples.**

Minister: The Holy Spirit is in our midst.

**Congregants: Let us receive in worship  
the grace poured out for us.**

Minister: So come, let us worship the Lord our God!

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION (unison)

**Holy One, loving Father, almighty God,  
You came to us in the person of Jesus,  
to take on our flesh, to live our life,  
to heal our hurts, to teach Your Word,  
to vanquish our death, and to give us new life.  
In You, we learn to love, to hope, to rejoice.  
We confess that so often we do not respond to Your grace,  
we do not follow Your path, we do not share Your presence.  
Be with us today, and guide us by Your Word and Your light.  
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 Genesis 12:1-8

<sup>1</sup>Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' <sup>4</sup>So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. <sup>5</sup>Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, <sup>6</sup>Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. <sup>7</sup>Then the Lord appeared to Abram, and said, 'To your offspring I will give this land.' So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. <sup>8</sup>From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the Lord and invoked the name of the Lord.

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 John 3:1-17

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He 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.' <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' <sup>4</sup>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?' <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I

tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, “You must be born from above.” <sup>8</sup>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.’ <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can these things be?’ <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, ‘Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?’ <sup>11</sup> ‘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. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup> ‘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. <sup>17</sup> ‘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

THE SERMON

*A NEW BEGINNING*

Russ Merritt

HYMN OF COMMITMENT 462

*I Love to Tell the Story*

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 375

*Shall We Gather at the River*

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

OUR SERVICE

\*Indicates the People Standing

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***Thought for the month:***

***Thoughts from Pelagius, a monk from Wales (ca.360-430). The sacredness of Nature: We cannot do whatever we wish to the body of the earth, but are to honor it as our own body. The great resources of land and sea, these are for all. They are given for the well-being of every people and every nation, not just for the well-being of some.***

***Earth Care:***

***Create a backyard wildlife habitat. Native plants provide food and shelter for native wildlife. Attracting native insects like bees and butterflies can help pollinate your plants and provide food for native birds. Avoid planting non-native plants, which compete with native species for resources and habitat.***

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

We will be collecting Hunger Buster bags for the Presbyterian Community Center on August 7th. If you would like to participate, please pick up a bag from the table in the narthex.

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](http://rescuemission.net/volunteer). You can also contact Volunteer Coordinator Harlee McKinney at 540-343-7227 ext. 7628 or email at [harlee.mckinney@rescuemission.net](mailto: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.

DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS OF JUNE, JULY, AND AUGUST, Sunday morning worship will begin at 10:30. The Minister will be offering a Sunday School class-- "Pilgrimage"--each Sunday morning at 9:30. We look forward to seeing you with us throughout the summer!

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 bulletins.

## Calendar

Today            9:30 am            Pilgrimage Sunday School  
                    10:30 am            Worship Service

Next Sunday     9:30 am            Pilgrimage Sunday School  
                    10:30 am            Worship Service

### NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3911 Greenland Avenue, Roanoke, Virginia 24012-3250

WEBSITE:WWW.NORTHMINSTERPCUSA.ORG

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
Bob Lancaster	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 Daughy
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