

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

May 22, 2022
Sixth Sunday of Easter



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

Psalm 67; Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Acts 16:9-15

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

BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

GATHERING SONG (unison)

**This is the day, this is the day
that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made!**

**We will rejoice, we will rejoice
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.**

This is the day that the Lord has made!

We will rejoice and be glad in it!

**This is the day, this is the day
that the Lord has made!**

*HYMN OF PRAISE 263

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Minister: God of creation, nurture us with the love of Christ,
who is the vine of everlasting life.

**Congregants: Plant us in the soil of Your grace,
which is the foundation that grounds us.**

Minister: Enlighten us with the wisdom of Your Spirit,
which flows through this community of faithful disciples.

**Congregants: Abide in us, so that we may abide in You,
and live in Your light.**

Minister: Come, let us worship God.

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION (unison)

**Almighty and ever-merciful God,
Creator and Redeemer and Sustainer,
we gather before You this day to bring praise,
to share in worship and fellowship,
to open our minds and hearts and spirits to Your Word,
to share with You our deepest hurts and fears and despair,
and to receive from You the assurance of Your presence.**

**We need Your strength and Your peace this day,
for the challenges of life are many.
We know how often we fall far short of following You,
how we turn our back on obeying Your commands,
how we place our needs first ahead of Your call to serve.
Forgive us, we pray, and free us from the stain of sin.
We seek to be made new in Your Spirit.
Hear these our silent prayers.**

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE HYMN 240 *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks* (Verse 3)

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord, Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.

We have been crucified with Christ.
Now we shall live forever.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord, Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.

GROW SPIRITUALLY

THE FIRST READING OF GOD'S WORD I Corinthians 15:39-44

³⁹Not all flesh is alike, but there is one flesh for human beings, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. ⁴⁰There are both heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is one thing, and that of the earthly is another. ⁴¹There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; indeed, star differs from star in glory. ⁴² So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³It is sown in dishonour, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body.

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

He is King of Kings African American spiritual, Hymn 273

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Luke 24:36-53

³⁶ While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' ³⁷ They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?' ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' ⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹ While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence. ⁴⁴ Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.' ⁵⁰ Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵² And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; ⁵³ and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

THE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON

UNDERSTANDING RESURRECTION

Russ Merritt

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 277 *Hail Thee, Festival Day!* (Ascension Verses)

Congregational Refrain: Hail thee, festival day! Blest day to be hallowed forever;
day when our Lord was raised, breaking the kingdom of death.

Choir Verse 1: He who was nailed to the cross, is ruler and Lord of all people.
All things created on earth sing to the glory of God: (Refrain)

Congregational Refrain: Hail thee, festival day! Blest day to be hallowed forever;
day when our Lord was raised, breaking the kingdom of death.

Choir Verse 2: Daily the loveliness grows adorned with the glory of blossom;
heaven its gates now unbars, flinging its increase of light: (Refrain)

Congregational Refrain: Hail thee, festival day! Blest day to be hallowed forever;
day when our Lord was raised, breaking the kingdom of death.

*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 265 *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun*

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

OUR SERVICE

*Indicates the People Standing

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SESSION WILL HOLD ITS REGULAR BI-MONTHLY MEETING today following the morning worship service. Lunch will be served. If anyone has anything for the elders, or if you would like to join the Northminster family, please let the Minister know.

OUR WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 29, will be led by Felecia Parsell, who was just commissioned as Presbytery's Missional Commissioned Pastor for the Roanoke area. The Minister will be on study leave over the Memorial Day week-end, planning sermons for the next several months. (He'll also spend some time vacationing while away!)

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

will be celebrated on Pentecost Sunday morning, June 5, during the worship service.

The Red Sox baseball team is hosting their Faith and Family night on Wednesday, June 22nd. The Discipleship committee thought this would be a great chance to get families together for a night of fellowship. We will get a block of reserved tickets. Please let Susie know if your family is interested in attending. The tickets will be paid for and all you have to do is pick them up and join us at the ball field.

It's that time of year when you start thinking of putting away your "cold weather" clothes and getting out your "warm weather" clothes. If you have coats that you may be replacing next year or any children's winter clothing, please consider donating it to Blue Ridge Literacy. You can leave them in the narthex.

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

Calendar

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

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Russ Merritt, Pastor
Susie Tallmage, Secretary
Melissa Hudson, Music Director
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	Bernie Barger
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	Helen Taylor
Jo Ann 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