



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

*September 18, 2022*  
*Fifteenth 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 8:18 - 9:1; Psalm 79:1-9; Luke 16:1-13

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

### BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

GATHERING HYMN 408 *There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit*

**There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord; there are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.**

**Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, stay right here with us, filling us with your love; and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise; without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived when we shall leave this place.**

\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Minister: Jesus offers us peace,

**Congregants: so that we will not live in fear.**

Minister: The Holy Spirit reminds us,

**Congregants: that we are never alone.**

Minister: God makes a home among and within us,

**Congregants: because He loves us and makes us His own.**

Minister: Let us worship the Triune God.

\*HYMN OF PRAISE 15 *All Creatures of Our God and King*

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION (unison)

**Eternal God, You called us to be a special people,**

**to proclaim the good news and to show mercy.**

**May Your Spirit be with us now as we gather together,  
so that in everything we may do Your Will.**

**May all we do be for the reconciling of the world,**

**for the building of Your Body, and for Your glory.**

**We confess that we fail more often than we succeed.**

**But Your grace never fails, and Your Word is always truth.  
Forgive us, we pray, and set us again on Your path.  
Hear these our silent prayers.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son,  
that whoever believes in him shall not perish,  
but will have eternal life with God.  
Hear the good news: in Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven,  
and life with God is assured. Praise be to God!

**\*RESPONSE HYMN 538 *Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises***

**Hallelujah! We sing your praises; all our hearts are filled with gladness.  
Hallelujah! We sing your praises; all our hearts are filled with gladness.  
(Repeat)**

**GROW SPIRITUALLY**

**THE FIRST READING OF GOD'S WORD I Kings 8:10-13, 28-30**

<sup>10</sup>And when the priests came out of the holy place, a cloud filled the house of the Lord, <sup>11</sup>so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud; for the glory of the Lord filled the house of the Lord. <sup>12</sup> Then Solomon said, 'The Lord has said that he would dwell in thick darkness. <sup>13</sup> I have built you an exalted house, a place for you to dwell in for ever.'

<sup>28</sup>Have regard to your servant's prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; <sup>29</sup>that your eyes may be open night and day towards this house, the place of which you said, "My name shall be there", that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays towards this place. <sup>30</sup>Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray towards this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling-place; heed and forgive.

**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

## THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Matthew 21:12-17

<sup>12</sup> Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold doves. <sup>13</sup>He said to them, 'It is written, "My house shall be called a house of prayer"; but you are making it a den of robbers.' <sup>14</sup> The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he cured them. <sup>15</sup>But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the amazing things that he did, and heard the children crying out in the temple, 'Hosanna to the Son of David', they became angry <sup>16</sup>and said to him, 'Do you hear what these are saying?' Jesus said to them, 'Yes; have you never read, "Out of the mouths of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise for yourself"?' <sup>17</sup>He left them, went out of the city to Bethany, and spent the night there.

## THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### THE SERMON

### *WHAT IS A CHURCH FOR?*

Russ Merritt

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 641 *When in Our Music God Is Glorified*

\*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 733 *We All Are One in Mission*

## THE BENEDICTION

## THE POSTLUDE

## OUR SERVICE

\*Indicates the People Standing

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Earth Care thought for the month:

Lord, your love reaches to the heavens, your loyalty to the skies. Your goodness is as high as the mountains. Your justice is as deep as the great ocean. Lord, you protect both people and animals. Psalm 36: 5-6

"God asks us to care for creation. Just as we are to be kind to other people, we are also meant to be kind to creation. Caring for and loving the earth is another way that we love God". Patrick Kangrga

Bow your head in prayer. God thank you for your creation. For people and for places of natural beauty. Keep my eyes open to nature and all its awesomeness. Help me find ways to care for the earth. To preserve it for others in the future so they too can witness your glory and grace. Amen.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SESSION WILL MEET after the worship service September 25<sup>th</sup>, If you have business or concerns for the elders, or if you would like to join Northminster as a member, please contact the Minister.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> World Communion Sunday. Please be in prayer and spiritual preparation as we come to the Table of grace.

For you shall go out in joy, and be led forth in Peace. Isaiah 55:12.

Through the Peace and Global Witness Offering, we connect with each other to confront systems of injustice and promote reconciliation here at home and abroad. 25% of this offering stays with our congregation, 25% goes to work in our region and 50% supports the work for peace and reconciliation being done across the globe.

If you would like to donate, please pick up an offering envelope and brochure in the narthex.

Marie and I hope to encourage you to take care of the earth. So, we have placed in the bulletin some thoughts. Thought for the Month will reference words of wisdom through scripture and other sources. Earth Care will give you ideas on how to take care of the earth. We hope you will read and think of how we can save God's creation. Holly

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.

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.

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	10:00 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Worship Service

Wednesday	6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
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Next Sunday	10:00 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Worship Service
		Session Meeting

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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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
Pam Claterbaugh	Barry Ferrell	Maggie Hambrick
Jake Hayes	Barbara Jones	Dennis Kincer
Reba Kling	Sheila Lancaster	Homer Linton
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	
Jay Taylor	

\*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

