



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

September 25, 2022
Sixteenth 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 32:1-3a, 6-15; Psalm 146; Luke 16:19-31

(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: I wait for the Lord, my soul waits.

Congregants: In His Word I find my hope.

Minister: May God's Word sink into our hearts.

**Congregants: May our hearts be transformed,
and our minds filled with understanding.**

Minister: Come, let us worship the Lord our God.

*HYMN OF PRAISE 41 *O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!*

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION (unison)

**You know the plans You have for each of us, our God,
even though we have such trouble perceiving those plans.**

**Be with us this morning as we listen for Your voice,
as we open our spirits to the moving of Your Holy Spirit,
as we come into Your presence with praise and thanksgiving.**

**We know that we are called into faithfulness as Your disciples,
and yet so often we fall short, and give in to selfish sinfulness.**

Guide us in our approach to Your throne, and save us from ourselves,

**so that we can hear and heed Your call.
We now share our deepest prayers to You.**

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, these may be the most important words you hear today.
Be joyful, be hopeful, be at peace, be free,
for our sins, in Jesus Christ, have been forgiven.
Praise be to our merciful 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 Psalm 16:5-11

⁵ The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.
⁶ The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage.
⁷ I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. ⁸ I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.⁹ Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.¹⁰ For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit.¹¹ You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

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

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

Dunlap's Creek

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Luke 19:1-10

¹He entered Jericho and was passing through it. ²A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax-collector and was rich. ³He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. ⁴So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. ⁵When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, 'Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.' ⁶So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. ⁷All who saw it began to grumble and said, 'He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.' ⁸Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, 'Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.' ⁹Then Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.'

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON

DRAWING NEAR TO GOD

Russ Merritt

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 817

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

*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 726

Will You Come and Follow Me

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

OUR SERVICE

*Indicates the People Standing

*The flowers this morning honor the memory of William Thomas “Bill” Bryan on the anniversary of his 100th birthday (September 24, 1922 - November 7, 2006).
Given with love by his family.*

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Today we begin a new hymn, #817 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight, which the choir will introduce during the Anthem. Our hymnal notes: “The opening line here is essentially a quotation of 2 Corinthians 5:7, but that affirmation is fleshed out by references to the appearance of the risen Christ to Thomas (John 20:19-29). The shape note tune, named for a stream in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, adds resolution to the words.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CONGREGATION SHARES ITS LOVE and Support with the family of Matt Williams, who joined the Church Triumphant September 13, 2022. We hold his family in prayer, and we praise God for receiving Matt into his new home.

The Discipleship Ministry would like to thank the congregation for generously supporting the following Mission projects: Trinity Lutheran Helping Hands Fund, Bethany Christian VBS, Ukraine, Williamson Road Ministerial Association, Blue Ridge Literacy, RAM, PCC, Presbytery, Synod, & GA, Children’s Home, Blessing Box, CEDEPCA, Kentucky Flooding victims.

THE SESSION WILL HOLD ITS BI-MONTHLY MEETING following this morning's worship service. Lunch will be served.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated next Sunday-- World Communion Sunday. Please be in prayer and preparation as we come to the Lord's Table or grace.

If you and your family would like to participate in the 2 cents a meal program, please pick up a box in the narthex. You will also find an explanation of what the 2 cents a meal is all about. Our church received grant money from this fund to help defray expenses to put food in our Blessing Box. Once your box is full, you can return it to the church.

IT'S APPLE BUTTER TIME!

We will resume our fellowship around the kettle Saturday, October 15. 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 540-366-8115. 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 served" basis. Please note we have all the jars we need for this year.

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.

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
		Session meeting

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

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	
Owen Merritt	

*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

