

GATHER JOYFULLY

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION

Acts 2:22-32; Psalm 16; I Peter 1:3-9

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

BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

GATHERING SONG 248 *Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna* (Verse 1)

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!

Christ is risen! hush in wonder: all creation is amazed.

In the desert all surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.

Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.

*HYMN OF PRAISE 234 *Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain*

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Minister: In Christ, the promises of God are fulfilled.

Congregants: The crucified one is risen from the dead.

Minister: The Lord has swallowed up death forever.

Congregants: Be glad and rejoice, for God is our salvation!

Minister: Come, let us worship the Lord!

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION (unison)

**Holy God, Creator of all,
the risen Christ is with us now.**

**May the living Lord breathe on us his peace,
so that our eyes will be open to his path
and our ears will be open to his call.**

**We confess that we close our hearts and spirits,
and we do not heed his word or will.**

**Forgive us for our failings, we pray,
and be with us now in our worship,
that we might give You praise and thanksgiving.**

Hear these our silent prayers.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE HYMN 236 *The Strife Is O'er* (Verse 1)

Refrain: Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!

**The strife is o'er, the battle done; the victory of life is won;
The song of triumph has begun. Alleluia!**

Refrain: Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!

GROW SPIRITUALLY

THE FIRST READING OF GOD'S WORD Psalm 111:1-10

¹Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation. ²Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them. ³Full of honour and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures for ever. ⁴He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful. ⁵He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant. ⁶He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations. ⁷The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy. ⁸They are established for ever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

⁹He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant for ever. Holy and awesome is his name. ¹⁰The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practise it have a good understanding. His praise endures for ever.

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 SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Matthew 28:16-20

¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

THE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON *A STONE-ROLLING RELIGION* Russ Merritt

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 260 *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus*

*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 233 *The Day of Resurrection!*

CHARGE

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

OUR SERVICE

*Indicates the People Standing

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EARTH CARE: Caring for the earth responsibly is a wonderful way to give thanks to God for the amazing gift we've been given. I invite you to reflect on all the ways that we and our church are being a good steward of creation. I also invite you to think about how we could be even better stewards of the earth and all that God has entrusted to our care. Andrew Breeden. Recycle and reuse.

Thought for the month:

Renew your creation, O God. Transform parched places into watered gardens and preserve every creature that awaits the arrival of spring. Turn each of us from practices of environmental exploitation to become responsible stewards of all you have made. Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

“Thank you” to all that participated in our Sunnyside collection, It was a huge success and we collected 200 items. Jennifer Holden a representative of Sunnyside attended our Circle 1 meeting and shared information about the Sunnyside programs.

The Discipleship Ministry delivered \$300 worth of school supplies to teachers at Round Hill Elementary. One of the missions of our ministry is to connect and help our surrounding community. With this donation, we help both teachers and students. You can find the thank you note from the students on the bulletin board across from the church office. Thank you to the members of our congregation who donated money for school supplies!

We will **NOT** be collecting used medicine bottles anymore. Angels of Assassi no longer is in need of them. If anyone knows of another use for them, please let me know. Holly

This is a reminder that the Session has a bulletin board located across from the Secretary’s office. The minutes from the Stated Session Meetings and a copy of the monthly Financial Report are posted. Other information in reference to the Session, Elders, committees, etc. can be seen there. Please take time to check out the business of the church.

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.

We are looking for volunteers to help Lauren in the nursery each Sunday. if you would like to help, please sign up on the bulletin board 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.

The church office will be closed next week April 17-21.

Calendar

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

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

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	Frances Bowling
Pam Claterbaugh	Barry Ferrell	Joe Gwitt
Karen Gwitt	Maggie Hambrick	Jake Hayes
Barbara Jones	Dennis Kincer	Sheila Lancaster
Floyd Moretz	Ann Pace	Mac Pace
Ken Riding	Buddy Smith	Sandy Smith
Dora Slee	Helen Taylor	Patsy Linton and Family

Friends and Family

Nancy Assaid	Annette Daughty
Joaquin Bielawski	Terry Foss
Shirley Basham	John Morris
Donna Betters	Vicki Widener
Mabel Bowman	Lucy Collier
Jay Taylor	

*THE SESSION *

Clerk of Session: Holly Woodson
Elders: Pam Claterbaugh, Richard Claterbaugh, Trent Cundiff, Matt Graybill, Joe Gwitt, Tom Hale, Gary Harris, Jyke Jones, Daniel Kirby, Lynn Kirby, Chuck Lockard, Judy Moore, Debbie Newman, Dora Slee,

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

April 16, 2023
Second 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!