

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

*February 5, 2023*  
*Fifth Sunday after Epiphany*



**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

Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalm 112:1-10; Matthew 5:13-20

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

#### BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

May the presence of Christ be with you, this day and always.

GATHERING HYMN 500 *Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread*

**Be known to us in breaking bread, but do not then depart;  
Savior abide with us, and spread your table in our heart.**

**Here share with us, in love divine, your body and your blood,  
that living bread, that heavenly wine be our immortal food.**

\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Minister: Jesus said: "You are the light of the world."

**Congregants: Let our light shine, giving glory to God.**

Minister: We come together to know and share  
the blessings of God.

**Congregants: We gather now in worship and praise,  
in wonder and thanksgiving.**

Minister: The Lord calls and ask: "Who shall I send?"

**Congregants: Let us answer: "Here I am, send me."**

Minister: Come, let us worship our God.

\*HYMN OF PRAISE 320 *The Church of Christ in Every Age*

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION (unison)

**Almighty and eternal God,  
illumine us this day with Your Word and Sacrament,  
that we might shine with the radiance of Your glory.**

**We seek to know, to worship, and to follow  
Jesus Christ to the ends of the earth.**

**Strengthen us by Your Holy Spirit,  
and make us worthy of Your call.**

**We know well that we stray from Your way,  
and that our words and deeds are sinful .  
Forgive us, redeem these our times,  
and guide us again in Your grace,  
for we seek to be Yours, and Yours alone.  
Hear our silent prayers.**

\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

\*RESPONSE HYMN 436

*God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us* (Verse 3)

**How shall we stray, with your hand to direct us,  
you who the stars in their courses are guiding?  
What shall we fear, with your power to protect us,  
we who walk forth in your greatness confiding?**

## **GROW SPIRITUALLY**

THE FIRST READING OF GOD'S WORD Mark 6:30-44

<sup>30</sup> The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. <sup>31</sup>He said to them, 'Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.' For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. <sup>32</sup>And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. <sup>33</sup>Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. <sup>34</sup>As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. <sup>35</sup>When it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, 'This is a deserted place, and the hour is now very late; <sup>36</sup>send them away so that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy something for themselves to eat.' <sup>37</sup>But he answered them, 'You give them something to eat.' They said to him, 'Are we to go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread, and give it to them to eat?' <sup>38</sup>And he said to them, 'How many loaves have you? Go and see.' When they had found out, they said, 'Five, and two fish.' <sup>39</sup>Then he ordered them to get all the people to sit down in groups on the green grass. <sup>40</sup>So they sat down in groups of hundreds and of fifties. <sup>41</sup>Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to his disciples to set before the people; and he divided the two fish among them all. <sup>42</sup>And

all ate and were filled; <sup>43</sup>and they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. <sup>44</sup>Those who had eaten the loaves numbered five thousand men.

## PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM                    *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*                    ‘Resignation,’ Hymn 803

## THE SECOND READING OF GOD’S WORD    Mark 8:10-16

<sup>10</sup>And immediately he got into the boat with his disciples and went to the district of Dalmanutha. <sup>11</sup>The Pharisees came and began to argue with him, asking him for a sign from heaven, to test him. <sup>12</sup>And he sighed deeply in his spirit and said, ‘Why does this generation ask for a sign? Truly I tell you, no sign will be given to this generation.’ <sup>13</sup>And he left them, and getting into the boat again, he went across to the other side. <sup>14</sup>Now the disciples had forgotten to bring any bread; and they had only one loaf with them in the boat. <sup>15</sup>And he cautioned them, saying, ‘Watch out—beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and the yeast of Herod.’ <sup>16</sup>They said to one another, ‘It is because we have no bread.’

## THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON    *FORGETTING THE BREAD*    Russ Merritt

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 343    *Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life*

\*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.**

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to The Lord’s Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**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.**

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Dedication

## **GO FAITHFULLY**

\*HYMN OF DEDICATION 460     *Break Thou the Bread of Life*

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

OUR SERVICE

\*Indicates the People Standing

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Thought for the Month:

Touch the earth lightly, use the earth gently, nourish the life of the world in our care: gift or great wonder, ours to surrender, trust for the children tomorrow will bear.

Vs. 1 From Hymn, Touch the Earth Lightly

Earth Care:

Make a pledge for the new year to eliminate waste wherever you can. Use less and recycle. Go for glass and reusable containers instead of plastic bags and wraps. When shopping take useable bags.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

I am ever so grateful to Northminster folks for your prayers, cards, calls, visits, and food. You helped me make a quick recovery from the ER and Rehab. Thank you. Fran Bowling

Join us for our Souper Bowl luncheon today following our worship service. Soup and sandwiches will be served.

The Souper Bowl supports the LOA for Seniors. During the month of January through the 5<sup>th</sup> of February, we will be collecting soup, crackers, ramen noodles, peanut butter or other non-perishable foods. Donations can be left in the narthex. Donations will be taken to the collection site on tomorrow, February 6<sup>th</sup>.

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST will be held next Thursday morning, February 16, at 8:30 at Famous Anthony's Restaurant on north Williamson Road next to Brookside Golf Course. All men in the congregation are invited to join us!

The PW are launching their annual SunnySide project beginning this week 01/29/23 to run through February and March. We will be collecting sundries/toiletries for the men and women who reside at SunnySide. Boxes will be provided in the Narthex. Please help us make this another successful project. Contact persons: Sherry Moses or Judy Moore. Many thanks for your participation.

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.

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

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.

AS A REMINDER: we are collecting **used ink cartridges** (all sizes) **and used medicine bottles** that must be clean and have the labels removed. The container is on the table in the Narthex. These items will go to Angels of Assisi in Roanoke.

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.

### Calendar

Today	10:00 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Worship Service / Communion
	12:00 pm	Souper Bowl Luncheon

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

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	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
Patsy Linton and Family		

**Friends and Family**

Nancy Assaid	
Joaquin Bielawski	Annette Daughty
Shirley Basham	Terry Foss
Donna Betters	John Morris
Mabel Bowman	Vicki Widener
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, Sherry Moses, Debbie Newman, Dora Slee, Gayle Wise



