

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

January 29, 2023
Fourth 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

BELL PRELUDE

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION

Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15; Matthew 5:1-12

(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 630 *Fairest Lord Jesus* (Verses 1 and 3)

**Fairest Lord Jesus,
Ruler of all nature,
O thou of God to earth come down,
thee will I cherish,
thee will I honor,
thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.**

**Fair is the sunshine,
fairer still the moonlight,
and all the twinkling, starry host.
Jesus shines brighter;
Jesus shines purer,
than all the angels heaven can boast.**

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive, from Psalm 27)

Minister: The Lord is my light and my salvation,
whom shall I fear?

**Congregants: He is the fortress of my life,
of whom shall I be afraid?**

Minister: One thing I ask of the Lord,
one thing I seek:

**Congregants: To live in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life.**

Minister: This I believe--that I shall see the goodness of God,
in the land of the living.

**Congregants: Put your hope in God, be strong,
and let your heart be bold.**

Minister: Come, let us worship the Lord.

*HYMN OF PRAISE 81 *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION (unison)

**Eternal and Almighty God, Lord of life and love,
we gather before You in praise and thanksgiving,
seeking Your Word, Your Will, Your guidance, Your presence.
You have laid before us a path of wholeness,
and You have called us to genuine community,
to love and to share and to support and to care.
All creation reflects the overflowing of Your grace.
Yet too often we live as though we do not know Your love.
We have sinned by what we have done,
and we have sinned by what we have left undone.
Be with us in this service of worship,
let us experience yet again Your forgiving presence,
cleanse us, and make us new in Your sight.
Hear these our silent prayers.**

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear God's Word, from Paul's letter to Titus:
Jesus Christ gave himself to us
so that he might redeem us from all iniquity,
and purify a people of his own
who are zealous for good deeds.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*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 Revelation 22:16-17

¹⁶ 'It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.' ¹⁷ The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come.' And let everyone who hears say, 'Come.' And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

PASTORAL PRAYER / 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 *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say* Hymn 182

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD I Samuel 3:1-18

¹ Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.² At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' and he said, 'Here I am!' ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call; lie down again.' So he went and lay down. ⁶The Lord called again, 'Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call, my son; lie down again.' ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, 'Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place. ¹⁰ Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' And Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.' ¹¹Then the Lord said to Samuel, 'See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. ¹²On that day I will fulfil against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³For I have told him that

I am about to punish his house for ever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. ¹⁴Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering for ever.' ¹⁵Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶But Eli called Samuel and said, 'Samuel, my son.' He said, 'Here I am.' ¹⁷Eli said, 'What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.' ¹⁸So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, 'It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him.'

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON

BEING CALLED

Russ Merritt

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 69 *I, the Lord of Sea and Sky*

*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 418 *Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling*

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

OUR SERVICE

*Indicates the People Standing

Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-A-737649 . All rights reserved. Used by permission CCLI#1241295

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION WILL BE HELD this morning following the worship service, to elect persons to the congregation's Nominating Committee and to receive information about our 2023 budget. You are encouraged to attend this important meeting.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated next Sunday during our morning worship service. Please be in prayerful preparation as we approach the Lord's table of grace.

Join us for our Souper Bowl luncheon on February 5th after church. Soup and sandwiches will be served. If you would like to volunteer to bring soup for the luncheon, please let Lynn Kirby know. The Souper Bowl supports the LOA for Seniors. During the month of January through the 5th 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 February 6th.

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.

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.

Calendar

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

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
3911 Greenland Avenue, Roanoke, Virginia 24012-3250
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

Friends and Family

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

