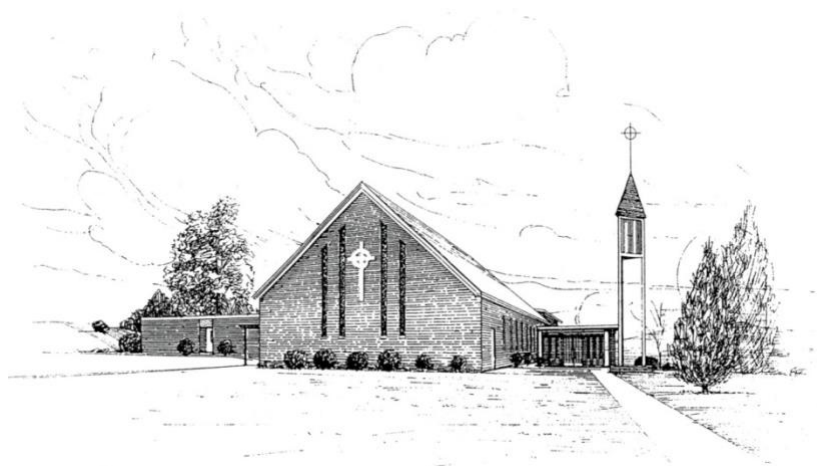


**NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Welcome to Christ's Service of Worship for the Lord's Day

*November 12, 2023*  
*Twenty fourth 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

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25; Psalm 70; I Thessalonians 4:13-18

(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.**

### A VETERAN'S TESTIMONY OF FAITH

Allen Kling

GATHERING HYMN 403 *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*

**Open now thy gates of beauty,  
Zion, let me enter there,  
where my soul in joyful duty  
waits for God who answers prayer;  
O how blessed is this place,  
filled with solace, light, and grace.**

### THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive, from Psalm 33)

Minister: Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous people,  
you who are just, delight in praising God.

**Congregants: Sing a new song to the Lord,  
for the Word of the Lord is true.**

Minister: God loves what is right,  
and His goodness fills the world.

**Congregants: We wait now for You, our Lord,  
for You are our help and our shield.**

Minister: Come, let us worship our God.

\*HYMN OF PRAISE 393 *O Day of Rest and Gladness*

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION (unison)

**Eternal God, You are from everlasting to everlasting.  
You have been our dwelling place in all generations,  
our protector in all the various storms of life.**

**We praise You and thank You for Your boundless mercy,  
which sustains us all of our days.  
It is in Your mercy that we come seeking Your forgiveness,  
for we are a people of sinfulness and brokenness.  
We confess all aspects of our lives needing Your grace.  
Too often we forget the purposes for which You have made us.  
We fail to give love in the measure that we have received it.  
Forgive us and remind us that Your goodness is enduring.  
Hear these our silent prayers.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

By grace we have been saved through faith.  
That is a gift of God, and not the result of our works.  
For we are what God has made us,  
redeemed through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Believe and live this good news:  
God Almighty loves us, and in Christ we are forgiven.

**\*RESPONSE HYMN 588 *Alleluia***

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia! **Congregation: Alleluia, alleluia!**  
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**GROW SPIRITUALLY**

**THE FIRST READING OF GOD'S WORD Psalm 16:1. 4-11**

<sup>1</sup> Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

<sup>4</sup> Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows; their drink-offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names upon my lips. <sup>5</sup> The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. <sup>6</sup> The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage. <sup>7</sup> I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. <sup>8</sup> I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. <sup>9</sup> Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure. <sup>10</sup> For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit. <sup>11</sup> 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'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                      *Let the Whole Creation Cry Alleluia!*      Joanne Brown LeDoux

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD    Mark 16:1-8

<sup>1</sup>When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. <sup>2</sup>And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup>They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' <sup>4</sup>When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. <sup>5</sup>As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup>But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' <sup>8</sup>So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON                                      *NEW BEGINNINGS*                                      Dr. Russ Merritt

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 248    *Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!*

\*OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*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 246 *Christ Is Alive!*

\*CHARGE

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

OUR SERVICE

\*Indicates the People Standing

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## **ANOUNCEMENTS**

We express our heartfelt thanks to our Northminster family for your love shown to us in the loss of our mother. Your generosity and love in our time of sorrow is immeasurable. Although our hearts are broken, we rejoice and are so grateful for the wonderful people in our lives. Hope and Frankie and families

Di Brammer is also helping with the Blessing Box. Thank you, Di. Your help is very much appreciated. Holly

THE SESSION MEETS TODAY following the morning worship service. If you would like to join Northminster, or have matters for the elders to consider, please let the Minister know. Lunch will be served.

Circle 1 will meet on Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at the church.

The Men's Prayer breakfast will meet this Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30 am at Pete's Deli.

SAVE THE DATE Sunday, November 19th.

After church the Fellowship committee is sponsoring a traditional Thanksgiving Luncheon for our members, their family and friends. Sign up on the form in the Narthex or call Susie in the church office at 540-366-8115 so we will know how many to expect from your family. We want to make sure we have plenty of food for everyone!!

We are again collecting pies for the Rescue Mission. The pies can be of various flavors (pumpkin, apple, berry, cream pies, etc.). If you would like to donate a pie, please bring it to the church kitchen by Monday, November 20. The Rescue Mission is always very appreciative of the pies we collect for them. Thank you for helping with this project.

Presbyterian Women – The new year for the Presbyterian Women will start January 2024. Work on the year book has started and I will be gathering information on the circles. If you are not a circle member now, I encourage you to join one this coming year. It is a great opportunity for you to become more involved in our Church activities. We have two circles, a morning circle that meets at the Church and a night circle that meets in the homes of members. The meetings usually have a bible study, short business session and of course refreshments and a time to socialize. Call Elise Lanford at 769-8736 if you are interested in joining us this year. If you are a circle member now and your phone number or address has changed or you want to change circles, please let me know. This information is needed by November 15<sup>th</sup>.

Family Promise of the Greater Roanoke Valley is seeking gently used blankets. If you have any to donate, please leave them in the marked box located in the church narthex. The Family Promise organization seeks to help families from becoming homeless in the first place with shelter diversion, rental assistance, and transportation programs. They also provide children and their families with safety, shelter, food, basic needs, and assistance as they seek permanent housing. They work by helping the families they serve not only succeed today but remain stable in their housing, financial capabilities, and career paths tomorrow.

The Discipleship Ministry is collecting games and puzzles for the Round Hill Elementary students. Please leave your donations in the marked box located in the narthex by December 10<sup>th</sup>.

It's Hunger Buster time again. We are collecting food for the Presbyterian Center food pantry. If you would like to help, please pick up a bag in the narthex, fill it, and return it to the church by December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## Calendar

Today	10:00 am 11:00 am 12:00 pm	Sunday School Worship Service Session Meeting
Tuesday	10:00 am	Circle 1
Thursday	8:30 am	Men's Breakfast at Pete's Deli
Next Sunday	10:00 am 11:00 am	Sunday School Worship Service

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

Russ Merritt, Pastor  
Susie Tallmage, Secretary  
Ministers...Members of Northminster

Melissa Hudson, Music Director  
Lauren Axelson, Nursery Attendant

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	Karen Gwitt
Marie Haines	Jake Hayes	Dennis Kincer
Sheila Lancaster	Floyd Moretz	Ann Pace
Mac Pace	Buddy Smith	Sandy Smith
Patsy Linton		

**Friends and Family**

Nancy Assaid	Joaquin Bielawski
Shirley Basham	Donna Betters
Steve Brammer	Glenna Brammer
Lucy Collier	Annette Daughty
Terry Foss	Molly Guerrant
Gladys Hughston	Skylar Kirby
John Morris	Vicki Widener

\*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



