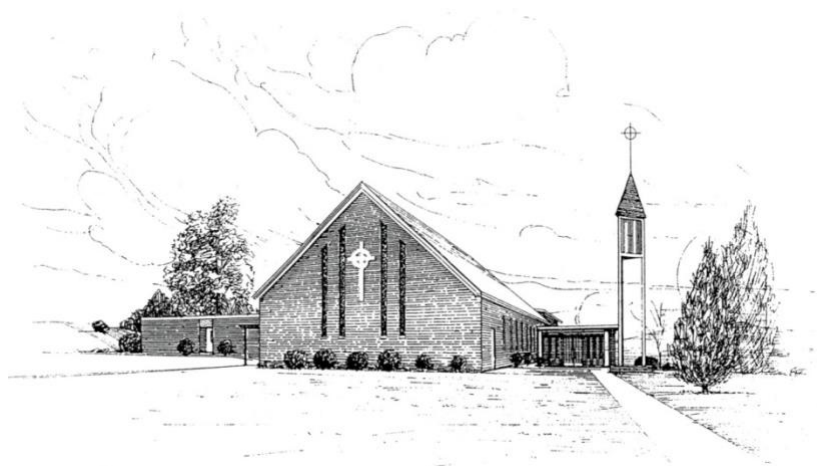


**NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Welcome to Christ's Service of Worship for the Lord's Day

*November 5, 2023*  
*All Saints Sunday*



**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 3:7-17; Psalm 43; I Thessalonians 2:9-13

(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 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 Isaiah 25 and Psalm 24)

Minister: The earth and all that is in it belong to God, the Holy One.

**Congregants: Let us be glad, and rejoice in our salvation.**

Minister: Who shall ascend the hill of the Holy One,  
and who shall stand in this holy place?

**Congregants: We come, seeking the face of the Lord.**

Minister: Come, let us worship our God.

\*HYMN OF PRAISE 730 *I Sing a Song of the Saints of God*

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION (unison)

**Faithful Redeemer, You are the beginning and ending of all things.**

**You promise to wipe away every tear,**

**You assure us that death and mourning will be no more.**

**You make Your home among us and within us,**

**and abide with us, strengthening and comforting us as our God.**

**We gather now to remember and praise Your goodness,**

**to give You thanksgiving for Your many gifts to us,**

**to hear Your Word and to follow Your Spirit.**

**We know that we fall far short of Your calling,  
that we are broken and sinful, and do not deserve Your love.  
Yet our hope is founded on Your grace in Jesus Christ,  
and so we repent of our sins and ask for Your forgiveness.  
Bring us back, and restore our life in You.  
Teach us to live as the saints You call us to be,  
so that we may truly be Your people, shining Your light,  
living and sharing and doing Your Will.  
Hear these our silent prayers.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Sisters and brothers, hear the wonderful good news!  
Alpha and Omega, the Lord God Himself,  
has come to be with us in Jesus Christ,  
so that our sins and our tears will be wiped away,  
and we will know salvation to eternal life with Him.  
Glory to God! Amen.

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

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

**THE FIRST READING OF GOD'S WORD Ephesians 1:11-23**

<sup>11</sup>In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup>so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup>this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory. <sup>15</sup> I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, <sup>18</sup>so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope

to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints,<sup>19</sup> and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.<sup>20</sup> God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places,<sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come.<sup>22</sup> And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church,<sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

#### 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

*Sing to the Lord*

Vivaldi/Hopson

#### MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

#### THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Luke 6:20-31

<sup>20</sup> Then he looked up at his disciples and said: 'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. <sup>21</sup> 'Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. 'Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. <sup>22</sup> 'Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. <sup>23</sup> Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. <sup>24</sup> 'But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. <sup>25</sup> 'Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. 'Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. <sup>26</sup> 'Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets. <sup>27</sup> 'But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup> bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. <sup>29</sup> If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. <sup>30</sup> Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. <sup>31</sup> Do to others as you would have them do to you.

#### THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

**Your Word is the light unto our feet that we need in our darkness.  
Illuminate our path now, we pray, O God. Open our minds,**

**our hearts, our spirits for the moving of Your Holy Spirit,  
that we will be drawn closer to You, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE SERMON

*FOR ALL THE SAINTS*

Dr. Russ Merritt

HYMN OF COMMITMENT 326 *For All the Saints*

\*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 761 *Called as Partners in Christ's Service*

\*CHARGE

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

OUR SERVICE

\*Indicates the People Standing

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ON THIS ALL SAINTS SUNDAY, we thank God for those saints from our midst who have joined the Church Triumphant in 2022 and 2023.

Michael Hambrick (2/5/22)

Bobby Brammer (3/26/22)

Bernie Barger (5/28/22)

Bob Lancaster (8/6/22)

Matt Williams (9/13/22)

Reba Kling (9/22/22)

JoAnn Threlkeld (9/23/22)

Homer Linton (1/24/23)

Maruma Warren (5/2/23)

Ken Riding (7/31/23)

We thank God for each of them, and praise Him for the place He has given them in His Kingdom!

Thought for the month: Sing praises to the Lord; praise our God with harps. He fills the sky with clouds and sends rain to the earth and makes grass grow on the hills. He gives food to cattle and to the little birds that call. Psalm 147: 7-9

Earth Care: Rest and reflect-a time to consider these questions. As Ayana Elizabeth Johnson writes, "we need to have a whole cultural shift, where it becomes our culture to take care of the Earth". How does the earth take care of you? How can you take care of the earth?

## 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

I appreciated so much all the cards, prayers and calls I received from the church family. They really do lift one's spirit. Thank you, Elise

I would like to say a **big thank you** to the following people who have stepped up to help with the Blessing Box. Kathy Baker and Dana Esworthy, Janet and Gary Harris, and Karen Smith. Blessings to you for helping feed the hungry. Holly

A CALLED MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION following this morning's worship service, to receive the report of the congregation's Nominating Committee and to elect persons as elders, to serve on the Session beginning in 2024.

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

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	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  
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

