

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

*July 7, 2024*  
*Seventh 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

II Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10; Psalm 48; Mark 6:1-13

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

### BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

**May the hope that is ours in Christ be with you.**

GATHERING HYMN 2 *Come, Thou Almighty King*

**Come, thou almighty King,**

**help us thy name to sing;**

**help us to praise:**

**Father, all glorious,**

**o'er all victorious,**

**come, and reign over us,**

**Ancient of Days.**

### THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Minister: We gather now, coming from the busy-ness  
of our lives, the day-to-day grind.

**Congregants: We come with all our cares and worries,  
as well as our joys and celebrations.**

Minister: We lay it all now before the throne of God,  
and we give Him our praise and worship.

**Congregants: May our hearts and minds be open  
to what God says to us and where He leads us this day.**

Minister: Come, let us gather in the presence of God.

\*HYMN OF PRAISE 338 *O Beautiful for Spacious Skies*

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION (unison)

**God of the vast universe and the tiniest atom,**

**You created this world out of Your great love,**

**and You care for all that is in it, including each of us.**

**You offer us Your strength, Your wisdom, Your providence,**

**yet we so often stumble as we follow Your path.  
We live in the tension of what You call us to be  
and the sinfulness we too often embrace.  
Our efforts to grow in the likeness of Jesus  
is painfully slow at best, and backsliding at worst.  
We know our failings, and so we repent of our brokenness.  
Forgive us, we pray, and make us new in Your Spirit.  
Hear these our silent prayers.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Hear the Good News! The old life is gone,  
a new life has begun. You are not who you were.  
In God's Holy Spirit, you can live into who He makes  
you to be. Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.  
Praise be to God!

**\*RESPONSE HYMN 581 *Glory Be to the Father***

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the  
beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.**

**GROW SPIRITUALLY**

**THE FIRST READING OF GOD'S WORD Psalm 98**

<sup>1</sup> O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvellous things.  
His right hand and his holy arm have gained him victory. <sup>2</sup> The Lord has made known  
his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations. <sup>3</sup> He has  
remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of  
the earth have seen the victory of our God. <sup>4</sup> Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the  
earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. <sup>5</sup> Sing praises to the Lord with the  
lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody. <sup>6</sup> With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord. <sup>7</sup> Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;  
the world and those who live in it. <sup>8</sup> Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing  
together for joy <sup>9</sup> at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming to judge the earth. He  
will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

**THE 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.**

MEN'S QUARTET      *My Country, 'Tis of Thee*

## MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD      Acts 10:1-17, 34-35

<sup>1</sup>In Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion of the Italian Cohort, as it was called. <sup>2</sup>He was a devout man who feared God with all his household; he gave alms generously to the people and prayed constantly to God. <sup>3</sup>One afternoon at about three o'clock he had a vision in which he clearly saw an angel of God coming in and saying to him, 'Cornelius.' <sup>4</sup>He stared at him in terror and said, 'What is it, Lord?' He answered, 'Your prayers and your alms have ascended as a memorial before God. <sup>5</sup>Now send men to Joppa for a certain Simon who is called Peter; <sup>6</sup>he is lodging with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the seaside.' <sup>7</sup>When the angel who spoke to him had left, he called two of his slaves and a devout soldier from the ranks of those who served him, <sup>8</sup>and after telling them everything, he sent them to Joppa. <sup>9</sup>About noon the next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. <sup>10</sup>He became hungry and wanted something to eat; and while it was being prepared, he fell into a trance. <sup>11</sup>He saw the heaven opened and something like a large sheet coming down, being lowered to the ground by its four corners. <sup>12</sup>In it were all kinds of four-footed creatures and reptiles and birds of the air. <sup>13</sup>Then he heard a voice saying, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' <sup>14</sup>But Peter said, 'By no means, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is profane or unclean.' <sup>15</sup>The voice said to him again, a second time, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' <sup>16</sup>This happened three times, and the thing was suddenly taken up to heaven. <sup>17</sup>Now while Peter was greatly puzzled about what to make of the vision that he had seen, suddenly the men sent by Cornelius appeared. They were asking for Simon's house and were standing by the gate.

<sup>34</sup>Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

**Loving God, open our hearts and minds  
to what You would say to us this day.  
Speak, Lord, for Your people are listening.  
Through Christ we pray. Amen.**

SERMON

A TRANSFORMING VISION

Dr. Merritt

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 611 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

\* PRESENTATION AND DEDICATION OF GIFTS (unison)

**Gracious God, we offer these gifts to You.**

**May they be used to bring healing to this hurting world,  
and may we be guided to be instruments of Your peace.**

**In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

\*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 331 *God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand*

\*CHARGE

\*THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

YOUR SERVICE

\*Indicates the People Standing

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Circle 1 will meet on Tuesday, July 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 at the Bistro at Friendship Manor for lunch.

The Men's Prayer Breakfast will meet Thursday, July 18, at 8:30 am at Pete's Deli.

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

Once again, we are asking for your help in bringing your old or new pillowcases to the church. Jane has run out of pillowcases for the Little Dresses for Africa project. She has made over 300 dresses and wants to make more! We thank her for making the dresses and we are blessed with the talent and gift God has given her for her love of sewing. Thank you, Jane.

OUR SUMMER SUNDAY SCHEDULE HAS BEGUN WITH Sunday school at 9:30 and worship at 10:30. Please make note, and set your clocks accordingly.

### Calendar

Today	9:30 am 10:30 am	Sunday School Summer Worship
Tuesday	11:30 am	Circle 1 Bistro at Friendship Manor
Nest Sunday	9:30 am 10:30 am	Sunday School Summer Worship / Communion

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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Russ Merritt, Pastor                      Melissa Hudson, Music Director  
Susie Tallmage, Secretary  
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**

Bill Bailey	Frances Bowling	Ellen Brumfield
Pam Claterbaugh	Marie Haines	Jake Hayes
Hayes Family	Dennis Kincer	Sheila Lancaster
Patsy Linton	Floyd Moretz	Ann Pace
Mac Pace	Buddy Smith	Sandy Smith
Vicki Whitworth		

**Friends and Family**

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

**\*THE SESSION \***

Clerk of Session: Holly Woodson  
Elders: Pam Claterbaugh, Richard Claterbaugh, Dana Esworthy, Matt Graybill, Joe Gwitt, Maggie Hambrick, Gary Harris, Jyke Jones, Lynn Kirby, Chuck Lockard, Judy Moore, Dora Slee, Dave Snider, Greg Theimer

