

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

October 20, 2024
Twenty-second 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

Job 38:1-7; Psalm 91:9-16; Mark 10:35-45

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

BUILDING THE BODY

GATHERING HYMN 408 *There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit* (Verse 1)

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord; there are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, stay right here with us, filling us with your love; And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise; without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived when we shall leave this place.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive, from Psalm 19)

Minister: The heavens are telling the glory of God.

**Congregants: We rejoice, knowing this world
is filled with the glory of God!**

Minister: The earth and the sky proclaim God's handiwork.

**Congregants: We rejoice, and we gather to worship
in the sanctuary of His creation.**

Minister: Let us give our praise and thanksgiving to the Holy One,
the Lord of life, our Savior and King!

*HYMN OF PRAISE 610 *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION (unison)

**From before the foundations of the world,
You alone have been present, working Your purposes out.
You have shaped and guided all that has been,
all that is, and all that shall ever be,
for You are Lord God of all, and we praise Your name.
You have planned the dance of the constellations,**

**the flight of the eagle, and path of ocean waves.
You know our beginnings and ending, and our deepest thoughts.
You also know our shortcomings and our failings,
our many times of sinfulness, straying from Your path.
You call out to us, but so often we refuse to listen.
You offer Your outstretched hand to transform our lives,
but we choose our own counsel rather than Your wisdom.
Forgive us, we pray, for we acknowledge our need for Your mercy.
By Your grace, make us anew, and give us strength to follow.
Hear these our silent and personal prayers.**

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Hear the Good News: the Risen Christ enters
all corners of our lives, shines His redeeming light,
cleanses us of our sins, and declares us forgiven.
Having been forgiven, we embrace our new journey
toward wholeness, hope, peace, and love.
Know this: in Jesus Christ, we are saved!
Praise be to God!

***RESPONSE HYMN 538 Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises (Sung twice)**

**Hallelujah! We sing your praises; all our hearts are filled with gladness.
Hallelujah! We sing your praises; all our hearts are filled with gladness.**

GROW SPIRITUALLY

THE FIRST READING OF GOD'S WORD Psalm 103:1-12

¹ Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name. ² Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits—³ who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, ⁴ who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, ⁵ who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. ⁶ The Lord works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed. ⁷ He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel. ⁸ The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. ⁹ He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger for ever. ¹⁰ He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. ¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love towards those who

fear him; ¹² as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.

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.

ANTHEM *Come with Hearts and Voices Sounding* Bach/K. Lee Scott

Come with hearts and voices sounding; Raise to God a hymn resounding;
He alone rules over all; Let us now before him fall.
O be joyful and enter with singing; Ever praise him with voices ringing:
Alleluia, alleluia.

Great is God whose name is wondrous; His great power is known among us;
Give him worship due his name; Spread abroad his glorious fame.
Laud him, angels, with loud anthems soaring; Join all people in praise adoring:
Alleluia, alleluia.

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Luke 17:11-19

¹¹ On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³they called out, saying, 'Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!' ¹⁴When he saw them, he said to them, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.' And as they went, they were made clean. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. ¹⁶He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus asked, 'Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they?' ¹⁸Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?' ¹⁹Then he said to him, 'Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.'

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

**Speak to us, Holy Spirit, so that we may focus
on Your Word, Your path for us, Your call to us.
Pour out Your wisdom and understanding on us,**

**so that we might respond by taking up our cross
and following where You lead.
Through Christ, the Living Word, we pray. Amen.**

SERMON

The One Who Came Back

Russ Merritt

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 797 *We Cannot Measure How You Heal*

* PRESENTATION AND DEDICATION OF GIFTS (unison)

**Our generous and gracious God, it is from Your hand
that we have received all that we have.
Our lives are filled with the abundance of Your love.
Bless these offerings that we now bring before You,
and may the hands that give them be dedicated to Your service.
We pray through the greatest of gifts, our Lord Christ Jesus.
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 187 *Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us*

*CHARGE

*THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

YOUR SERVICE

*Indicates the People Standing

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

A hearty “Thank You” to all who helped make apple butter this year and to all who purchased the fruits of our labors! We had a beautiful day and wonderful fellowship! “Teamwork makes the dream work” and it certainly did for us. Thanks again!

The Northminster Discipleship committee has sent \$1,000.00 of our budgeted money to the Presbyterian Disaster Fund for hurricane relief. If you would like to give personally through the church, you can make your check to Northminster and add “Hurricane Relief” to the memo line.

The CROP walk for hunger will be held October 20th. This year funds raised will go to Feeding Southwest Virginia and the community Solutions Center. If you are interested in walking, go to <https://events.crophungerwalk.org> to register or you can contact Lynn Kirby at 540-588-1782. If you would like to support this monetarily, make out your check to the church and put “CROP WALK” on the memo line.

THE PRESBYTERY OF THE PEAKS, which includes 100 Presbyterian congregations from Southside to Pulaski to Rockbridge, will meet this Thursday at Raleigh Court Church on Grandin Road. Our Session representative for this meeting will be Judy Moore.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated next Sunday, October 27, on Reformation Sunday. Please be in prayerful preparation as we come to the Lord's Table.

We will once again participate in Operation Christmas Child this year. Be on the look-out for boxes to pick up and fill. They will deliver these on November 18th.

Calendar

Today	10:00 am	Seekers Class
	11:00 am	Worship Service
Next Sunday	10:00 am	Seekers Class
	11:00 am	Worship Service / Communion
	12:00 pm	Ministries Meeting

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	Patsy Linton
Floyd Moretz	Ann Pace	Mac Pace
Buddy Smith	Sandy Smith	Vicki Whitworth
Dan Cone		

Friends and Family

Nancy Assaid	Joaquin Bielawski
Shirley Basham	Donna Betters
Lucy Collier	Terry Foss
Issac Franklin	Skylar Kirby
Gladys Hughston	Vicki Widener
Dan Cone	Glenna Brammer

*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

