

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

*August 25, 2024*  
*Fourteenth 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

I Kings 8:22-30 and 41-43; Psalm 84; and Ephesians 6:10-20

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

### BUILDING THE BODY

#### WELCOME

*"This is the Day That the Lord Has Made"*

Announcements

Pastoral and Prayer Concerns

#### GATHERING HYMN *This is the Day*

**This is the day, this is the day.**

**That the Lord has made, that the Lord has made.**

**We will rejoice, we will rejoice,**

**And be glad in it, and be glad in it.**

**This is the day that the Lord has made.**

**We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

**This is the day, this is the day**

**That the Lord has made.**

#### THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Minister: I was glad when they said to me,

"Come, let us go to the house of the Lord".

**Congregants: We come this day**

**for God's Spirit of life, peace, and wholeness.**

Minister: We come to know Christ's presence

among and within us, filling each of us with joy  
and building His Body in our midst.

**Congregants: We come together to build unity,**

**to find support, encouragement, and God's grace.**

Minister: We come to learn more of our God,

to follow where He leads, to commit ourselves to Him.

**Congregants: We come to love and to be loved,**

**to share and to build, to praise and to grow.**

Minister: Brothers and sisters, it is so wonderful to say this:  
Come, let us worship our God!

\*HYMN OF PRAISE 667 *When Morning Gilds the Skies*

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION (unison)

**God Almighty, Rock of Ages,  
our Creator, our Redeemer, our Sustainer,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
in praise and thanksgiving, in worship and adoration  
we come into our presence and bow before Your throne.  
Your goodness is beyond measure or imagination,  
Your grace is like an ocean to the teardrop that is our sin.  
We know well that we are not worthy of Your grace,  
and that we fall so far short of Your love in Christ Jesus.  
Yet it is Your promise that we find a home in You,  
and that forgiveness is ours as we confess and repent.  
Hear our cries for Your loving embrace,  
and be with us now as we seek to draw closer to You.  
Hear these our silent prayers.  
(Worshippers enter a time of silent prayer and reflection.)**

\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

\*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.**

MEN'S QUARTET *I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table* (Hymn 770)

## **GROW SPIRITUALLY**

THE FIRST READING OF GOD'S WORD Psalm 127:1-2

<sup>1</sup> Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain.

Unless the Lord guards the city, the guard keeps watch in vain. <sup>2</sup> It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for he gives sleep to his beloved

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

## BELL VOLUNTARY

### THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Mark 12:38-44

<sup>38</sup> As he taught, he said, 'Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the market-places, <sup>39</sup>and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honour at banquets! <sup>40</sup>They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.'

<sup>41</sup> He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. <sup>42</sup>A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. <sup>43</sup>Then he called his disciples and said to them, 'Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. <sup>44</sup>For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.'

### THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

**Our God, as we approach Your Word,  
we pray that You open our ears and humble our hearts.  
May we listen, discern, and follow the path You intend for us.  
Through Christ we pray. Amen.**

SERMON

*UNDER CONSTRUCTION*

Dr. Russ Merritt

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 708 *We Give Thee but Thine Own*

\* PRESENTATION AND DEDICATION OF GIFTS (unison)

**Our God, You bless us with the riches of Your bounty.  
We are grateful to be given so much,  
that we might live in Your Spirit all our days.  
May the offering that we now bring bless others  
as we have been blessed. Through Christ. 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.**

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to The Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**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.**

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Dedication

**GO FAITHFULLY**

\*HYMN OF DEDICATION 620 *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*

\*CHARGE

\*THE BENEDICTION AND BLESSING THE MEAL

THE POSTLUDE

YOUR SERVICE

\*Indicates the People Standing

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*The flowers in the sanctuary are given by the Presbyterian Women to the glory of God and in memory of members who have entered the Church Triumphant.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marie Haines would like to thank everyone for the outpouring of love during this challenging time. My surgery went well and I am recovering from Covid too. The prayers, calls, text, and food have been wonderful and an expression of caring for us. Thank you so much.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated in our morning worship service today, as part of our "Gathering" special day.

WE WILL RETURN TO OUR REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE on September 1 (Labor Day week-end). The Seekers class will meet at 10:00, and worship will be held at 11:00.

### Calendar

Today	9:30 am	Seekers Class
	10:30 am	Summer Worship / Communion
	11:30 am	Gathering Picnic
Next Sunday	10:00 am	Seekers Class
	11:00 am	Summer Worship

