

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

June 16, 2024
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

I Samuel 3:1-10; Psalm 81:1-10; II Corinthians 4:5-12

(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, based on Psalm 100)

Minister: Let all creation sing with joy and gladness.

Congregants: Make a joyful noise to the Creator!

Minister: Come, and abide with the One Who made us.

Congregants: Make a joyful noise to the Creator!

Minister: Give thanks, and praise, and bless God's name.

Congregants: Make a joyful noise to the Lord!

Minister: Let us worship our God.

*HYMN OF PRAISE 385 *All People That on Earth Do Dwell*

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION (unison)

In the sure and certain hope of Your faithfulness

we come to You, O God, in morning prayer.

Incline Your ear to us, be with us, and hear our prayers.

We admit that our spiritual walk is weak,

our vision of Your path is faulty,

our resolve to go where You lead is shaky at best.

**We say we want to follow Jesus,
bringing love and reconciliation to this world,
but too often we stir up even more brokenness and sin.
Forgive us, we pray. Give us words and deeds
to speak Your Word of truth, and endurance to persevere
until You Kingdom comes. Give us words to speak
and deeds to do, to give You glory.
Hear these our silent prayers.**

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Hear the good news.
God's steadfast love endures forever,
and His faithfulness is promised to all generations.
We are justified by faith, forgiven, and freed,
and at peace with God and with each other
through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ,
the presence of the Holy Spirit,
and new life in our Father God.
Praise His holy Name!

***RESPONSE HYMN** 15 *All Creatures of Our God and King*
(Verse 4)

**All who for love of God forgive,
all who in pain or sorrow grieve,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ bears your burdens and your fears;
so, even in the midst of tears,
sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

GROW SPIRITUALLY

THE FIRST READING OF GOD'S WORD Psalm 122

¹ I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'

² Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. ³ Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together. ⁴ To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord. ⁵ For there the thrones for judgement were set up, the thrones of the house of David. ⁶ Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: 'May

they prosper who love you. ⁷ Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers.’ ⁸ For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, ‘Peace be within you.’ ⁹ For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN 500 *Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread*

THE SECOND READING OF GOD’S WORD Mark 9:14-29

¹⁴ When they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and some scribes arguing with them. ¹⁵ When the whole crowd saw him, they were immediately overcome with awe, and they ran forward to greet him. ¹⁶ He asked them, ‘What are you arguing about with them?’ ¹⁷ Someone from the crowd answered him, ‘Teacher, I brought you my son; he has a spirit that makes him unable to speak; ¹⁸ and whenever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, but they could not do so.’ ¹⁹ He answered them, ‘You faithless generation, how much longer must I be among you? How much longer must I put up with you? Bring him to me.’ ²⁰ And they brought the boy to him. When the spirit saw him, immediately it threw the boy into convulsions, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. ²¹ Jesus asked the father, ‘How long has this been happening to him?’ And he said, ‘From childhood. ²² It has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you are able to do anything, have pity on us and help us.’ ²³ Jesus said to him, ‘If you are able!—All things can be done for the one who believes.’ ²⁴ Immediately the father of the child cried out, ‘I believe; help my unbelief!’ ²⁵ When Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, ‘You spirit that keep this boy from speaking and hearing, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again!’ ²⁶ After crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, ‘He is dead.’ ²⁷ But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he was able to stand. ²⁸ When he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, ‘Why could we not cast it out?’ ²⁹ He said to them, ‘This kind can come out only through prayer.’

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

**God of wisdom, God of truth, ever-present God,
speak again Your Word of life and love.
By the power of the Holy Spirit,
poured into our hearts,
make us ready and willing to respond**

SERMON

FAITH AND DOUBT

Dr. Merritt

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 494 *Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts* (Verses 1-4)

* PRESENTATION AND DEDICATION OF GIFTS (unison)

**Holy God, use these gifts to transform the world,
to bring about Your justice, peace,
and reconciliation for all creation.
Transform us as we offer these gifts,
using us for the work of Your coming Kingdom.
In Christ's name 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.

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 503 *Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation*

*CHARGE

*THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

YOUR SERVICE

*Indicates the People Standing

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*We welcome and thank C.W. Markham
for providing today's music*

*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

Bill Bailey would like to express his appreciation for the kind thoughts and efforts shown by the congregation with their cards, visits and food preparation in the last few weeks. Also thank you for hosting the family meal after the funeral. I feel blessed to be part of this church.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated in our morning worship service.

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 / Communion
Nest Sunday	9:30 am 10:30 am	Sunday School Summer Worship

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	Kay Merritt	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

