

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

November 10, 2024
Twenty fifth 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

Ruth 3:1-5 and 4:13-17; Deuteronomy 6:1-9; Mark 12:28-34

(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 skies tell God's glory all over the world.

Congregants: By day they speak, and by night they teach.

Minister: God's teaching is perfect, it brings our souls to life.

**Congregants: He shows us what to do,
and fills our eyes with light.**

Minister: Come, let us worship our Lord!

*HYMN OF PRAISE 81 *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*

*PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION (unison)

**Almighty and everlasting God, we thank You this day
that in Your great love You have offered salvation
through the crucifixion and resurrection of Your Son.
You have come to us through Jesus Christ
to show us how to live in love, by the power of Your Spirit.
As we come before Your throne this day,
be with us, sustain and empower us, and hear our prayers.
We praise You that You are ready to forgive,
gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love.**

**So we can bow in humble confession for our many sins.
Forgive our excuses, our spiritual apathy, our social indifference.
Help us to follow where Christ leads, and to share his love,
so that all may turn to You and flourish.
Hear these our silent and personal prayers.**

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

The psalmist assures us that, as far as the east is from the west,
so far God removes our transgressions and sins from us.
In the name and through the grace of our redeemer, Jesus Christ,
I declare to you, our sins are forgiven! 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 146

¹ Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul! ² I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long. ³ Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help. ⁴ When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish. ⁵ Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God, ⁶ who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith for ever; ⁷ who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free; ⁸ the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous. ⁹ The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin. ¹⁰ The Lord will reign for ever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!

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, Labor On

John Ferguson

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD II Chronicles 20:13-23

¹³ Meanwhile all Judah stood before the Lord, with their little ones, their wives, and their children. ¹⁴ Then the spirit of the Lord came upon Jahaziel son of Zechariah, son of Benaiah, son of Jeiel, son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, in the middle of the assembly. ¹⁵ He said, 'Listen, all Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem, and King Jehoshaphat: Thus says the Lord to you: "Do not fear or be dismayed at this great multitude; for the battle is not yours but God's. ¹⁶ Tomorrow go down against them; they will come up by the ascent of Ziz; you will find them at the end of the valley, before the wilderness of Jeruel. ¹⁷ This battle is not for you to fight; take your position, stand still, and see the victory of the Lord on your behalf, O Judah and Jerusalem." Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, and the Lord will be with you.' ¹⁸ Then Jehoshaphat bowed down with his face to the ground, and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell down before the Lord, worshipping the Lord. ¹⁹ And the Levites, of the Kohathites and the Korahites, stood up to praise the Lord, the God of Israel, with a very loud voice. ²⁰ They rose early in the morning and went out into the wilderness of Tekoa; and as they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, 'Listen to me, O Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem! Believe in the Lord your God and you will be established; believe his prophets.' ²¹ When he had taken counsel with the people, he appointed those who were to sing to the Lord and praise him in holy splendour, as They went before the army, saying, 'Give thanks to the Lord, for his steadfast love endures for ever.' ²² As they began to sing and praise, the Lord set an ambush against the Ammonites, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah, so that they were routed. ²³ For the Ammonites and Moab attacked the inhabitants of Mount Seir, destroying them utterly; and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, they all helped to destroy one another.

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

**May our ears be open and our spirits receptive,
and may the meditations of our hearts
be acceptable to You, O Lord, our Rock and Redeemer.
As we approach Your Word, may we be ready
to receive the message You intend for us today.
Through Christ we pray. Amen.**

SERMON

VICTORY SONG

Russ Merritt

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 839

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine! (Verses 1 and 3)

* PRESENTATION AND DEDICATION OF GIFTS (unison)

**Holy God, these offerings that we now bring before You
are only a portion of what You have given to us.**

**We gratefully present these gifts and entrust them
to Your gracious and transforming work in this world.**

**May our gifts share the Good News of the love of Christ
to those who are in need, to those burdened with heavy loads.**

Use us, we pray, in the labors of Your Kingdom.

We pray in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus 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.**

GO FAITHFULLY

*HYMN OF DEDICATION 366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (Verses 1, 3 and 4)

MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

*CHARGE

May we leave this house of worship emboldened by the Spirit,
redeemed by God's grace, with hearts filled with victory songs.

*THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

YOUR SERVICE

*Indicates the People Standing

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SESSION HAS CALLED A MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION to be held at the end of the morning worship service, for the purpose of receiving the report of the congregation's Nominating Committee, and electing persons to serve on the Session beginning in 2025.

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION will be held during the morning worship service on Sunday, November 24, on Christ the King Sunday, the final Sunday of the liturgical year, when we consider how all our reflections come together in the adoration of the King of Kings, Jesus Christ.

THE SESSION WILL MEET AFTER WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY, November 17. If you have any matters to bring before the elders, or if you would like to become an active member in Northminster, please contact the Minister.

Circle 1 will meet Tuesday, November 12th, at 10:00 am at the Church.

Our Men's Fellowship Breakfasts will meet Thursday, November 14th at 8:30 a.m. at Pete's Deli. It's a great way to start your day; come join us!

SAVE THE DATE Sunday, November 24th.

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!!

Bob and Frankie Bielawski are downsizing and relocating to 1608 Valhalla Court. Salem, VA 24153

New address for Lynn Kirby is: 363 Merion Circle, Daleville, VA 24083

I would like to thank the following people for their support and help with the Blessing Box. It has been a year and these women have filled the Blessing Box once a week each month. Kathy Baker, Di Brammer, Janet Harris and Karen Smith. Floyd Moretz and Rob Barker have helped me load and unload the cases of food to keep the pantry overflowing. You are doing God's work and a big **thank you** goes to each of you. Also, thank you to the folks that have given food and monetary donations to the Blessing Box.

Presbyterian Women – The new year for the Presbyterian Women will start January 2025. 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 17^h.

While you are cleaning out your closets, if you have winter coats and shoes, we will be collecting those for Blue Ridge Literacy. Because of lack of storage, they cannot take anything else. You can leave your donations in the narthex.

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
Tuesday	10:00 am	Circle 1
Thursday	8:30 am	Men's Prayer Breakfast at Pete's Deli
Next Sunday	10:00 am	Seekers Class
	11:00 am	Worship Service
	12:00 pm	Session Meeting

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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WEBSITE:WWW.NORTHMINSTERPCUSA.ORG

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	Walt Haines
Jake Hayes	Hayes Family	Dennis Kincer
Skylar Kirby	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	Terry Foss
Issac Franklin	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

