

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

November 24, 2024
Christ the King Sunday



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 23:1-7; Psalm 132 1-12; John 18:33-37

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

BUILDING THE BODY

GATHERING HYMN 336 *We Gather Together*

**We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
he chastens and hastens his will to make known;
the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.**

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive, from Psalm 47)

Minister: Clap your hands, all you peoples.

Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

**Congregants: For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome,
a great King over all the earth!**

Minister: God has gone up with a shout,
the Lord with the sound of trumpet!

**Congregants: Sing praises to God, sing praises,
sing praises to our King, sing praises!**

Minister: Come, let us praise and worship our God!

*HYMN OF PRAISE 2 *Come, Thou Almighty King*

*PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION (unison)

**Eternal God, You set Jesus Christ to rule over all things,
and made us servants in Your Kingdom.**

**By Your Spirit, empower us to love the unloved
and to minister to all who are in need.**

**Gracious Father, we confess that we have longed too much
for the treasures and comforts of this world,
rather than for Your enduring Kingdom.**

We have loved the gifts more than the Giver.

**We plead for Your forgiveness through the mercy of Jesus Christ.
Accept his worthiness for our unworthiness,
his sinlessness for our transgressions,
his fullness for our emptiness,
his glory for our shame, his death for our life.
Then, at the last, bring us into Your eternal realm,
where we may worship and adore You
and be welcomed into Your everlasting joy,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Hear these our silent and private prayers.**

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Grace is receiving more than we deserve.
In Jesus Christ, we receive grace beyond measure.
Grace to you, and peace from God,
Who is, and Who was, and Who is to come,
and grace to you from His presence among us,
Jesus Christ, the Lord of grace and mercy,
and the ruler of all that is.
May his name forever be praised!

***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 Colossians 1:11-20

¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. ¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him

and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM *Sing a Round of Praise* Hal H. Hopson
Sing a new song to the Lord, he to whom wonders belong!
Rejoice in his triumph and tell of his power O sing to the Lord, sing a new song!

Now to the ends of the earth see his salvation is shown:
And still he remembers his mercy and truth, unchanging in love to his own.
Sing a new song and rejoice, publish his praises abroad!
Let voices in chorus, with trumpet and horn, resound for the joy of the Lord!

Join with the hills and the sea thunders of praise to prolong!
In judgment and justice he comes to the earth O sing to the Lord, sing a new song!

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Luke 23:33-43

³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [[³⁴Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.']] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.' ³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' ⁴²Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' ⁴³He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)
**Sovereign God, let Your Word rule in our hearts
and Your Spirit govern our lives,**

**until at last we see the fulfillment
of Your realm of hope, peace, and joy.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.**

SERMON

GOD'S POWER AND STRENGTH

Russ Merritt

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 263 *All Hail the Power of Jesus Name*

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison)

(from Philippians 2:6-11)

**We worship Jesus Christ as our Lord and King,
"who, being in and of the very nature of God,
did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,
but instead emptied himself, making himself as nothing,
taking the very nature of a servant of God,
being made human in every way.
Becoming fully human, he humbled himself
and became obedient unto death--even death on a cross!
Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father."**

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

Hymn 530 *One Bread, One Body*

507 *Come to the Table of Grace*

Prayer of Dedication

GO FAITHFULLY

*HYMN OF DEDICATION 643 *Now Thank We All Our God*

*THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

YOUR SERVICE

*Indicates the People Standing

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated in the morning worship service today. Please come to the Table of grace in prayer.

OUR ANNUAL THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON will be held immediately following this morning's worship service. Everyone in attendance is encouraged to join us in this special time of fellowship and thanksgiving.

The Discipleship ministry delivered 30 Operation Christmas Child boxes to the collection site. Thanks to all who participated in this project.

The PCC is not collecting athletic shoes at this time. Many thanks to all who donated shoes over the past few months. We sent about 85 pairs of shoes to the PCC.

We are again collecting pies for the Rescue Mission. The pies can be of various flavors. If you would like to donate a pie, please bring it to the church kitchen by Sunday, December 22. The Rescue Mission is always very appreciative of the pies we collect for them. Thank you for helping with this project.

PURCHASE OF CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

This Christmas season, our church will be beautifully decorated with poinsettias given in memory of or in honor of loved ones and friends. Please see bulletin insert for more information or call Joe Gwitt (540-819-0517) Deadline will be December 8, 2024.

Calendar

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

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	Walt Haines
Jake Hayes	Hayes Family	Dennis Kincer
Skylar Kirby	Patsy Linton	Floyd Moretz
Ann Pace	Mac Pace	Sarah Plymale
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	Glenna Myers

*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

