

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

October 6, 2024
World Communion Sunday
Twentieth 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 2:1-10; Psalm 26; Mark 10:2-16

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

BUILDING THE BODY

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER

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)

Minister: O Lord, our God, how majestic
is Your name in all the earth!

**Congregants: We proclaim Your name
to the whole human family.**

Minister: We praise You now in the midst
of this congregation.

**Congregants: O Lord, our God, how majestic
is Your name in all the earth!**

Minister: Let us continue to praise our majestic Creator.

*HYMN OF PRAISE 511 *Come, Behold! The Feast of Heaven*

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION (unison)

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we give You praise this day.

**In a wonderful moment of creation and divine love,
You made dazzling galaxies and canopies of leaves
and oceans and skies and fields and forests teeming with life.**

**You have even created humanity, each of us, and called it good.
You have given us the capacity to grow, and to follow Your lead.
Yet we confess our brokenness and sinfulness.
Our hearts and minds stray from Your Will, our feet from Your path.
Remind us of who we are, and Whose we are.
Set our hearts and minds on Your Will, made known to us
in the person and presence of Jesus Christ.
Hear these our silent and personal prayers.**

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Hear the good news: God has loved this world so much,
that He has come to be one with us, incarnate, in Jesus Christ,
giving Himself to us in love and sacrifice,
so that our sins are forgiven and we are made anew.
In His love, 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 46

¹ God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. ² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; ³ though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. Selah ⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. ⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns. ⁶ The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts. ⁷ The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah ⁸ Come, behold the works of the Lord; see what desolations he has brought on the earth. ⁹ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. ¹⁰ 'Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.' ¹¹ The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM

At the Table of the Lord

Jay Althouse

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD I Corinthians 11:23-26

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' ²⁵In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

**God of wisdom, despite our confusion and misdirection,
You are always with us, guiding us, illuminating our path.
You know the voices inside and outside that distract us.
You know the words we need to hear and heed.
By the power of Your Holy Spirit, enable us now
to receive Your holy, life-giving Word, through Christ. Amen.**

SERMON

FORTIFIED FAITH

Russ Merritt

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 523 *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart*

* PRESENTATION AND DEDICATION OF GIFTS (unison)

**Holy God, we trust in the provision of Your love,
the gift of Your Spirit, and the abundance of Your grace.
May the gifts that we offer now sow seeds of peace and joy.
Enable us to use them according to Your Will,
until all Your children find welcome and acceptance,
and all of creation is healed and reconciled to You.
Through Christ 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

Hymn 498 *Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken*

507 *Come to the Table of Grace*

Prayer of Dedication

GO FAITHFULLY

*HYMN OF DEDICATION 526 *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

*CHARGE

*THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

YOUR SERVICE

*Indicates the People Standing

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Circle 1 will meet Tuesday, October 8th, at 10:00 am at the Church.

THE MINISTER WILL BE ON VACATION NEXT WEEK, as he and Kay will be exploring the Blue Ridge Parkway. Elder Pam Claterbaugh will be leading worship and preaching next Sunday.

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 Presbyterian Community Center is collecting tennis shoes as a fundraiser. If you are cleaning out your closet and have tennis shoes that you would like to donate, please leave them in the narthex. They cannot accept anything other than athletic shoes.

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 / Communion
Tuesday	10:00 am	Circle 1
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	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

*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

