

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

September 15, 2024
Seventeenth 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

Proverbs 1:20-23; Psalm 19; James 3:1-12

(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 46)

Minister: God is our shelter and our strength,
whenever trouble or challenges are near.

**Congregants: Because God is always with us,
we will not fear.**

Minister: God is with us, and is our peace.

**Congregants: He says to us this day,
"Be still, and know that I am God."**

Minister: Our God is with us now,
so come, let us worship Him.

*HYMN OF PRAISE 297 *In Christ Called to Baptize*

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION (unison)

Merciful God, in Jesus, our risen Lord, we have seen Your glory.

**In Jesus, You call us to enter the joy of discipleship,
the joy of following Your path, the joy of Your presence.**

But our sinfulness clings to us, and we struggle to respond.

Our sinfulness often blocks the light of Christ.

We squander Your gifts and we turn from Your ways.

**Have mercy on us, compassionate Father.
Pour out Your Holy Spirit on our broken lives.
Wash us and cleanse us with Your love and Your grace,
so that we might move closer to being who You would have us to be.
Hear these our silent and personal prayers.**

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Relentlessly God seeks us out.
With abundant grace and boundless mercy,
God holds us always in His love.
Hear Good News! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

***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 Isaiah 40:28-31

²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹ He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. ³⁰ Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; ³¹ but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

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.

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

ANTHEM

O Day of Joy and Wonder! (Hymn 290)

O Day of joy and wonder! Christ's promise now fulfilled! The coming of his Spirit the Father's love has willed; our Lord in human body to mortal eye is lost, yet he returns for ever at blessed Pentecost!

The world, in sheer amazement, the truth must now declare: that men, who once were cowards, are brave beyond compare; and tongues, which could not utter their faith in Jesus' name, defy all persecution his glory to proclaim!

We too may know your power; your courage makes us strong. Your love, your joy, your patience can all to us belong. Come now and dwell within us, O Comforter divine. Come to our hearts, and keep them; there let your brightness shine.

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD I Corinthians 12:4-13

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. ¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

**Gracious God, open our hearts and spirits
so that we might hear what You would have us to hear,
learn and know what you would have us to learn and know,
and be who you would have us to be, through Jesus Christ,
the Word made flesh. Amen.**

SERMON

FLYING HIGH

Russ Merritt

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 300

We Are One in the Spirit

*** PRESENTATION AND DEDICATION OF GIFTS (unison)**
God our Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
we come now with thanksgiving for Your faithfulness.
With hope and joy we bring to You now these gifts.
Use them, and use us, to accomplish Your purposes in Jesus Christ,
the Head of the Church and the Lord of our lives. 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 717 *For the Life That You Have Given

***CHARGE**

***THE BENEDICTION**

THE POSTLUDE

YOUR SERVICE

***Indicates the People Standing**

Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-A-737649 . All rights reserved. Used by permission CCLI#1241295

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Men's Prayer Breakfast will meet Thursday, September 19th, at 8:30 am at Pete's Deli.

IT'S APPLE BUTTER TIME AGAIN!

We will once again gather around the kettle on **Saturday, October 5th**. Mark your calendar and come share in the fellowship anytime between 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Reserve your apple butter by signing up on the sheets located across from the secretary's office or by calling our secretary, Susie, at 540-366-8115. If you would have difficulty picking up your order, let Susie know and we'll arrange delivery! No inflation on prices as they remain the same - quarts are \$8.00 and the pints are \$5.00. Remember it's available on a "first come – first served" basis. Please note we have all the jars we need for this year.

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	Summer Worship
Thursday	8:30 am	Men's Prayer Breakfast at Petre's
Next Sunday	10:00 am	Seekers Class
	11:00 am	Summer Worship

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
3911 Greenland Avenue, Roanoke, Virginia 24012-3250
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	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