

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

February 16, 2025
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany



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

Jeremiah 17:5-10; Psalm 1; I Corinthians 15:12-20

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

BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

GATHERING HYMN 744 *Arise, Your Light Has Come*

Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey;

Show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive, from Psalm 136)

Minister: Alleluia! Give thanks to the Lord,
for He is good, and His love is everlasting!

**Congregants: He performs great marvels,
and His wisdom made the heavens.**

His love is everlasting!

Minister: He made the great lights of the heavens,
the sun to govern by day, the moon and stars at night.
His love is everlasting!

**Congregants: He provides for all living creatures,
so we give thanks to the God of heaven!**

His love is everlasting!

Minister: In the great wonders of creation,
throughout our human history,
and in our personal lives,
His love is everlasting!

So come, let us worship the Lord!

*HYMN OF PRAISE 611 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

*PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION (unison)

**Our heavenly Father, our ever-present Savior,
our Lord of every flying insect and every shooting star,
we bow before You this day in praise and humble adoration.**

**You have been with us all our days, protecting, providing,
guiding, calling, strengthening, blessing.
You sustain us, and You lead us through life's challenges.
But as we journey with You, we too often stray from Your path.
We do not root ourselves in Your health and wholeness,
but instead we ignore Your rich provisions and vision for our life.
We sentimentalize Your call to us, we avoid true transformation.
Merciful God, forgive our arrogance, our sinfulness, our ignorance.
Remind us of our spiritual needs and our calling to serve You,
so that we might know new and eternal life with You.
Hear these our silent prayers.**

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (based on Jeremiah 17:8)**

Blessed are those who trust the Lord.
When heat comes, our leaves will stay green.
In a year of drought, we will not cease to bear fruit.
Know that we are forgiven, and be at peace.
To God be all glory!

***RESPONSE HYMN 582**

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, Whose grace has
pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the
beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

GROW SPIRITUALLY

THE FIRST READING OF GOD'S WORD Luke 6:46-49

⁴⁶ 'Why do you call me "Lord, Lord", and do not do what I tell you? ⁴⁷I will show you what someone is like who comes to me, hears my words, and acts on them. ⁴⁸That one is like a man building a house, who dug deeply and laid the foundation on rock; when a flood arose, the river burst against that house but could not shake it, because it had been well built. ⁴⁹But the one who hears and does not act is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the river burst against it, immediately it fell, and great was the ruin of that house.'

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

All Things Are Thine

Robert Wetzler

All things are Thine; no gift have we, Lord of all gifts, to offer Thee;
And hence with grateful hearts today, Thine own before Thy feet we lay.

In weakness and in want we call on Thee for whom the heavens are small;
Thy glory is Thy children's good, Thy joy Thy tender fatherhood.

All things are Thine; no gift have we, Lord of all gifts, to offer Thee;
And hence with grateful hearts today, Thine own before Thy feet we lay.

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Mark 1:16-20

¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fish for people.' ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

**Self-revealing God, God of truth and wisdom,
may our hearts and minds be receptive to You and Your way.
Open our spirits to the moving of Your Holy Spirit,
and fill us with hunger for Your presence in our lives.
Through Christ we pray. Amen.**

SERMON

ORDINARY PEOPLE

Dr. Russ Merritt

HYMN OF COMMITMENT 720

Jesus Calls Us

* PRESENTATION AND DEDICATION OF GIFTS (unison)

Holy God, You have sustained us in lean times,

leading us to sources of living water.

You have challenged us in times of abundance,

to use our riches to proclaim Your love.

Take these gifts and multiply their blessings

for those who are hungry, hurting, and in need of Your love.

We pray through 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 726 *Will You Come and Follow Me*

*CHARGE

*THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

YOUR SERVICE

*Indicates the People Standing

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanks to my special Northminster family for the prayers, visits, cards, calls and delicious food during my ongoing recovery. Words just cannot express my appreciation. Mary Anne

Circle 1 will meet Tuesday, February 18th, at 10:00 am at the Church.

Our Men's Fellowship Breakfasts will meet Thursday, February 20th, at 8:30 a.m. at Pete's Deli. It's a great way to start your day, come join us!

Thanks to the many hands that helped prepare soup and sandwiches for our Soup for Seniors luncheon. We all enjoyed a wonderful meal and contributed \$142 along with 130 lbs. of food. All donations will be used by the LOA.

The Discipleship ministry took many bags of clothing to the Salvation Army, RAM and the Rescue Mission last week. While we appreciate your clothing donations, organizations other than the Salvation Army or Goodwill only accept certain types of clothing. Therefore, **we are no longer accepting clothing at the church.** If you have clothing to donate, please drop it off at a donation center of your choice.

In January, the Discipleship ministry sent monetary donations to the Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands, hurricane relief that went to Montreat in North Carolina, the Presbyterian Center, RAM, the Rescue Mission, and CEDEPCA, which helps with the impoverished in Guatamala.

Jane Livesay is in need of pillow cases for the Little Dresses for Africa project. We want to thank her for making 411 dresses and thank you for providing the pillow cases and materials to make them. Little Dresses for Africa is a Christian organization that sends dresses to girls in Africa but also sends hope.

Just a reminder that the Session has a bulletin board located across from the Secretary's office. The minutes for the Stated Session Meetings and a copy of the monthly Financial Report are posted. Other information in reference to the Session, Elders, committees, etc. can be seen there. Please take time to check out the business of the church.

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

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	Mary Ann Huff
Jyke Jones	Dennis Kincer	Skylar Kirby
Patsy Linton	Floyd Moretz	Ann Pace
Mac Pace	Justin Plymale	Buddy Smith
Sandy Smith	Vicki Whitworth	

Friends and Family

Nancy Assaid	Joaquin Bielawski
Shirley Basham	Donna Betters
Lucy Collier	Terry Foss
Issac Franklin	Vicki Widener
Glenna Myers	Dan Cone

***THE SESSION ***

Clerk of Session: Holly Woodson
Elders: Frankie Bielawski, Pam Claterbaugh, Richard Claterbaugh, Dana Esworthy, Matt Graybill, Joe Gwitt, Karen Gwitt, Maggie Hambrick, Gary Harris, Lynn Kirby, Chuck Lockard, Judy Moore, Dave Snider, Ron Staton, Greg Theimer

