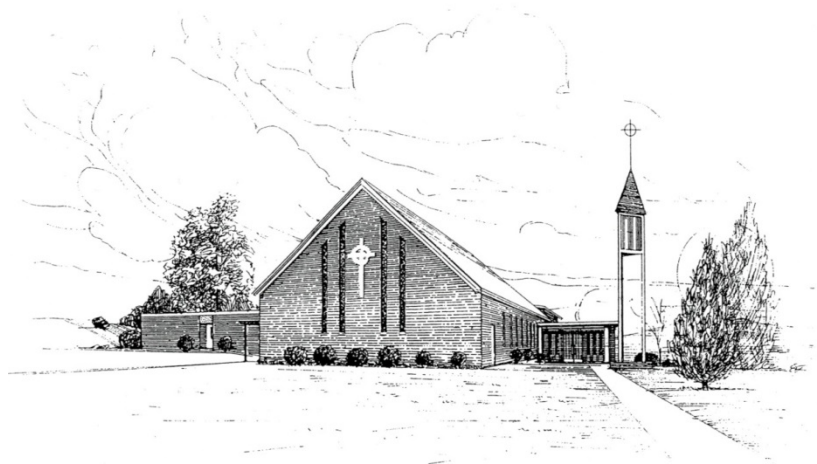


***NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH***  
***Welcome to Christ's Service of Worship for the Lord's Day***

***April 13, 2025***  
***Palm 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

Isaiah 50:4-9; Psalm 31:9-16; Luke 19:28-40

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

### BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

GATHERING HYMN 197 *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* (Verses 1 and 2)

**Hosanna, loud hosanna,  
the little children sang;  
through pillared court and temple  
the joyful anthem rang.  
To Jesus, who had blessed them,  
close folded to his breast,  
the children sang their praises,  
the simplest and the best.**

**From Olivet they followed  
'mid an exultant crowd,  
the victor palm branch waving,  
and chanting clear and loud;  
the Lord of earth and heaven  
rode on in lowly state,  
nor scorned that little children  
should on his bidding wait.**

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive, from Psalm 118)

Minister: O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!

**Congregants: His steadfast love endures forever!**

Minister: This is the day that the Lord has made.

**Congregants: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Minister: Give thanks to the Lord, for His steadfast love  
endures forever.

**Congregants: Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes  
in the name of the Lord!**

Minister: Let us worship God!

\*HYMN OF PRAISE 196 *All Glory, Laud and Honor*

\*PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION (unison)

**God of sacrificial cross and empty tomb, God of defeat and victory,  
some days the weight of this world can be overwhelming.  
Yet You have promised to be here with us, in all that we face.  
So, trusting in that assurance, we come to You in prayer.  
Your love surrounds us, Your gifts sustain us,  
Your majesty inspires us, Your strength guides us all our days.  
It is in You and You alone that we find all goodness, hope, and peace.  
And yet we know that we cannot escape the sin and brokenness  
in our world, in our relationships, in our hearts.  
Have mercy on us, O God, for we are broken vessels.  
You call us to follow, but we deny, abandon, and betray.  
You call us to righteous living, but we stick to the status quo.  
You invite us into the hope of Your Spirit, but we cling to despair and fear.  
Transform us, our Lord, and pour out Your grace upon us.  
May Your Spirit fill the cracks of our broken places and make us whole.  
Hear these our private and personal prayers.**

\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

(from "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna")

*"Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing,  
for Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven our King.  
O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice,  
and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.*  
In the name of Christ, we are saved! Praise be to God!

\*RESPONSE HYMN 197 *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* (Verse 3)

**Hosanna in the highest!"  
That ancient song we sing,  
for Christ is our Redeemer;  
the Lord of heaven, our King.  
O may we ever praise him  
with heart and life and voice,  
and in his blissful presence  
eternally rejoice.**

## GROW SPIRITUALLY

THE FIRST READING OF GOD'S WORD Philippians 2:5-11

<sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, <sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup>he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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.**

BELLEVOLUNTARY

*Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

Barbara B. Kinyon

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Matthew 21:1-7

<sup>1</sup>When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup>saying to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says anything to you, just say this, "The Lord needs them." And he will send them immediately.' <sup>4</sup>This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, <sup>5</sup> 'Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.' <sup>6</sup>The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; <sup>7</sup>they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them.

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

**Illuminating God, shine Your light through the world's darkness into every corner of our hearts, our spirits, our lives.**

**As we consider Your Word for us this day, may we recognize**

**the presence of Your one true Word, Jesus Christ,  
who carries Your love into the world. Amen.**

SERMON

*THE TRIUMPH OF JESUS CHRIST*

Dr. Merritt

HYMN OF COMMITMENT 209 *My Song Is Love Unknown*

\* PRESENTATION AND DEDICATION OF GIFTS (unison)

**Holy God, Giver of all good gifts, we thank You  
for all You have graciously poured out on us.  
Your Son Jesus reminds us it is more blessed  
to give than to receive. We know that we have received  
all goodness from Your hand, and so we now give back to You.  
As we begin Holy Week and walk the final steps to the cross,  
we give You thanks for the greatest of all gifts--the gift of Yourself,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 198 *Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!*

\*CHARGE

\*THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

YOUR SERVICE

\*Indicates the People Standing

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Men's Fellowship Breakfast will meet Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30 a.m. New location is: IHOP at 4764 Valley View Blvd, Roanoke

WE WILL GATHER AT THE LORD'S TABLE for our Maundy Thursday worship celebration this Thursday evening at 7:00. This is a special time together, with one another and with our Lord, so please be in prayerful preparation as we remember his last supper.

NEXT SUNDAY IS EASTER, when we celebrate together and with Christians around the globe our Lord's victory over the grave--and the promise of our victory in him! You are encouraged to join with us in worship, and to bring family and friends to share in this special day of proclamation, music, fellowship, and praise!

Today	10:00 am	Seekers Class
	11:00 am	Worship Service
Thursday	8:30 am	Men's Prayer Breakfast
Thursday	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Service
Next Sunday	10:00 am	Seekers Class
	11:00 am	Worship Service

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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WEBSITE:WWW.NORTHMINSTERPCUSA.ORG

Russ Merritt, Pastor  
Susie Tallmage, Secretary  
Melissa Hudson, Music Director  
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.

Frances Bowling	Pam Claterbaugh	Richard Claterbaugh
Marie Haines	Walt Haines	Jake Hayes
Mary Anne Huff	Dennis Kincer	Skylar Kirby
Patsy Linton	Ann Pace	Mac Pace
Buddy Smith	Sandy Smith	

### **Friends and Family**

Nancy Assaid	Joaquin Bielawski
Shirley Basham	Donna Betters
Lucy Collier	Terry Foss
Dan Cone	Ann Arrington
George Smith	

### **\*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





