

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

February 2, 2025
Fourth 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 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; Luke 4:21-30

(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)

Minister: What does the Holy God require of us?

Congregants: To be just, kind, and humble before God.

Minister: So give thanks to God with your whole heart.

Congregants: Great are the works of the Lord.

Minister: Come, let us worship our God!

*HYMN OF PRAISE 630 *Fairest Lord Jesus*

*PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION (unison)

Holy God, it is by grace alone that You call us Your children.

You are the King of kings, the Lord of lords,

Creator and Redeemer and Sustainer of all that is.

We are blessed by Your loving presence with us this day.

As we bow before You, we seek Your forgiveness.

Our trespasses are many, our lives too sinful.

We have fallen far short of example of Your Son,

in what we have thought, said, felt, and done.

Have mercy on us, our Savior, and make us anew.

Strengthen us by Your Holy Spirit,

and place our feet once again on Your path,

that we might serve You and You alone.

Hear these our private and silent prayers.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*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 Psalm 141:1-5, 8-10

¹ I call upon you, O Lord; come quickly to me; give ear to my voice when I call to you. ² Let my prayer be counted as incense before you, and the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice. ³ Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord; keep watch over the door of my lips. ⁴ Do not turn my heart to any evil, to busy myself with wicked deeds in company with those who work iniquity; do not let me eat of their delicacies. ⁵ Let the righteous strike me; let the faithful correct me. Never let the oil of the wicked anoint my head, for my prayer is continually against their wicked deeds.

⁸ But my eyes are turned towards you, O God, my Lord; in you I seek refuge; do not leave me defenceless. ⁹ Keep me from the trap that they have laid for me, and from the snares of evildoers. ¹⁰ Let the wicked fall into their own nets, while I alone escape.

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM

Come Take the Body

Robert Lau

Come take the body of the Lord, come drink the holy blood for you outpoured.
Saved by that body, saved by that blood, we are refreshed and give our thanks to God.

Salvation's giver, God's only son, by His dear cross and blood the victory won,
And He was offered there for great and least, Himself the victim, Himself the priest.

The judge eternal, to whom we bow, all nations at the last, is with us now.
Praise for the Father, praise to the Son, and praise to the Spirit, the Three in One.

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Luke 4:1-13

¹Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ²where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³The devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.' ⁴Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone." ' ⁵ Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶And the devil said to him, 'To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.' ⁸Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him." ' ⁹ Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you", ¹¹and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone." ' ¹²Jesus answered him, 'It is said, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." ' ¹³When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

**Loving God, enlightening God, revealing God,
may Your Holy Spirit be with each of us in these moments,
showing us Your Will and Your Way. In Christ we pray. Amen.**

SERMON

EYE TO EYE WITH THE DEVIL

Dr. Russ Merritt

HYMN OF COMMITMENT 507 *Come to the Table of Grace*

*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 497 *Bread of Life from Heaven*

Prayer of Dedication

GO FAITHFULLY

*HYMN OF DEDICATION 536 *Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen*

*CHARGE

*THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

YOUR SERVICE

*Indicates the People Standing

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please keep in your prayers, Hugh Springer, who was our Interim Minister after David Kirk retired. He is at Pheasant Ridge Rehab room 701. He has Parkinsons disease and had a heart attack 3 weeks ago.

New Address for Walt Haines: Walt Haines 4414 Pheasant Ridge Rd. Room 306, Roanoke, VA 24014

Circle 1 will meet Tuesday, February 11th, 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!

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 / Communion
	12:00 pm	Soup for Seniors
Next Sunday	10:00 am	Seekers Class
	11:00 am	Worship Service

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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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.

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

