

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

April 12, 2026
Second Sunday of Easter



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

Acts 2: 14a, 22-32, Psalm 16, 1 Peter 1: 3-9

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

BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

GATHERING SONG 232 *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today* Easter Hymn

**Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!**

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

M: Sometimes the news we receive is so good we have a hard time believing it.

C: That's true. Too often, we are skeptical about positive happenings.

M: We're like Jesus' disciple, Thomas, who doubted the resurrection.

C: Actually, we understand how he felt. It is hard to believe.

M: That's just where faith comes in - believing where we have not seen.

**Unison: May God open our hearts and our spirits to receive with confidence
the good news of Easter.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE 234

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

St. Kevin

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION (unison)

Eternal God, your Word teaches us that whether we live or whether we die, we are yours. Forgive us for forgetting your gracious promise of life. We live in fear, thinking death has the final say. We follow our own ways rather than your life-giving path in Jesus Christ. Help us put our trust in you, our God, who has the power of life over death. We believe, Lord, help our unbelief. In the name of Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, never to die again, we pray. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE HYMN 232 *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today* Easter Hymn

**But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
our salvation have procured. Alleluia!
Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!**

GROW SPIRITUALLY

THE FIRST READING OF GOD'S WORD Acts 2: 14a, 22-32

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ²² "Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— ²³ this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴ But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵ For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; ²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope. ²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades or let your Holy One experience corruption. ²⁸ You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.' ²⁹ "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰ Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Foreseeing this, David[d] spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.' ³² "This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / 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.

THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD John 20: 19-31

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." ²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

THE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (unison)

Almighty God, we know that all Scripture is inspired by you and is useful for teaching, for rebuke, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to you may be proficient, equipped for every good work. As we hear the good news this Easter season, may we come to believe more and more that Jesus is the Messiah, your Son, and that through believing we may have life in his name. Amen.

THE SERMON

I, Thomas

Pam Claterbaugh

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 233

The Day of Resurrection!

Lancashire

* PRESENTATION AND DEDICATION OF GIFTS (Unison)

Gracious and loving God, we bring our tithes and offerings to you in celebration and thanksgiving for the good news of Easter. Give us your wisdom and grace to use what you have given us for ministries of love and compassion that will share the love of Jesus Christ. Accept what we give in response to what you have so

freely given to us, your indescribable gift of your Son, our Lord Jesus 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** 236 *The Strife Is O'er*

Victory

CHARGE

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

OUR SERVICE

*Indicates the People Standing

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Margie Lemon would like to thank everyone for food, cards, visits, gifts and the beauty of each friendship. The blessings are abundant! Many thanks!!

I would like to thank everyone for the calls, cards and just reaching out to let us know that we were in your thoughts and prayers. Susie Tallmage

Circle 1 will meet Tuesday, April 14, 10:00 am at the church.

THE MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST will meet Thursday, April 16th, at 8:30 at Famous Anthony's next to the Brookside Golf Course on Williamson Road. All men of Northminster are invited to join us!

The Presbyterian Women will be collecting items for Sunnyside March 22-May 2. Useful items for their residents are shampoo, lotion, toothpaste and toothbrushes, mouth wash, combs, brushes, shaving cream, deodorant (for men and women), bath soap, tissues, puzzles, books: crossword, search, daily devotionals and anything that the residents can use.

Calendar

Today	10:00 am	Seekers Class
	11:00 am	Worship Service
Tuesday	10:00 am	Circle 1
Thursday	8:30 am	Men's Breakfast at Famous Anthony's
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	Joyce Barker	Rob Barker
Di Brammer	Pam Claterbaugh	Jackie Critzer
Maggie Hambrick	Marie Haines	Jake Hayes
Mary Anne Huff	Dennis Kincer	Skylar Kirby
Ann Pace	Mac Pace	Sandy Smith
Dora Slee	Karen Smith	Denise Schuh

Friends and Family

Nancy Assaid	Joaquin Bielawski	Owen Merritt
Shirley Basham	Donna Betters	
Lucy Collier	Terry Foss	
Dan Cone	Kathy Pankavich	
Glenna Myers	Jack Argobast Jr.	
Connie Watkins	Tom Kirby	
Rene Speese	Harry Speese	
Vicki Widener	Charlie Wilkerson	

*THE SESSION *

Clerk of Session: Holly Woodson

Elders: Emily Allen, Frankie Bielawski, Pam Claterbaugh, Richard Claterbaugh, Dana Esworthy, Matt Graybill, Joe Gwitt, Karen Gwitt, Maggie Hambrick, Gary Harris, Lynn Kirby, Sherry Moses, Dave Snider, Ron Staton, Greg Theimer

