

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

*April 7, 2024*  
*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 4:32-35; Psalm 133; I John 1:1-2

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

### BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST

**May the hope that is ours in Christ be with you.**

GATHERING HYMN *This is the Day* (unison)

**This is the day, this is the day  
that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made!**

**We will rejoice, we will rejoice  
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.**

**This is the day that the Lord has made!**

**We will rejoice and be glad in it!**

**This is the day, this is the day  
that the Lord has made!**

### THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Minister: Jesus, our risen Lord, stands among us,  
so peace be with you.

**Congregants: Come, Almighty God.**

Minister: Amidst all the fears and confusions of these days,

**Congregants: the Lord who was and is and is to come  
is here in our midst.**

Minister: In Christ all the promises of God are fulfilled.

**Congregants: We gather in his name, to celebrate our salvation.**

Minister: So come, let us worship our living Lord!

\*HYMN OF PRAISE 234 *Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain*

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION (unison)

**O Lord our God, Your goodness and grace overwhelm us.**

**We can only begin to understand the depth of Your love,  
as we seek to follow where You lead.**

**We celebrate that we are no longer dead in our sinfulness,  
but instead are fully alive in Jesus Christ.  
Yet we still fall far short of Your glory,  
we still stray onto paths other than Yours,  
we still seek what we want rather than what You provide.  
Forgive us for what and who we have been, repair what we are,  
and by the power of Christ's resurrection raise us up to serve You.  
Hear these our silent prayers.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Hear this wonderful truth: you are already forgiven, loved, whole.  
In Christ, you are a fully flourishing human being.  
Go forth, and live in that promise, and build your future on it.  
By the grace of God in Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.  
May you live a life that shares that grace with others.

**\*RESPONSE HYMN 236      *The Strife Is O'er***

**Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**The strife is o'er, the battle done;**

**the victory of life is won;**

**the song of triumph has begun.**

**Alleluia!**

**Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

## **GROW SPIRITUALLY**

### **THE FIRST READING OF GOD'S WORD Psalm 95:1-7**

<sup>1</sup> O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

<sup>2</sup> Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! <sup>3</sup> For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. <sup>4</sup>

In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. <sup>5</sup> The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed. <sup>6</sup> O come,

let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! <sup>7</sup> For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. O that today you would listen to his voice!

## 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.**

HYMN 386

*Come, Worship God*

## MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

### THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD John 21:1-17

<sup>1</sup>After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. <sup>2</sup>Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. <sup>3</sup>Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. <sup>4</sup>Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Jesus said to them, 'Children, you have no fish, have you?' They answered him, 'No.' <sup>6</sup>He said to them, 'Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. <sup>7</sup>That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the lake. <sup>8</sup>But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. <sup>9</sup>When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.' <sup>11</sup>So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup>Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, 'Who are you?' because they knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup>Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup>This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. <sup>15</sup>When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' <sup>16</sup>A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Tend my sheep.' <sup>17</sup>He said to him the third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, 'Do you love me?'

And he said to him, ‘Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my sheep.

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

**Divine Redeemer, bearer of life, one true light,  
open us now to the wisdom of Your Word,  
enlighten us with Your truth, challenge us with Your call.  
Liberate us from all that distracts us and turns us from Your path.  
Guide us and ground us in Christ's everlasting hope.  
Amen.**

SERMON

*DO YOU LOVE ME?*

Dr. Merritt

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 248 *Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!*

\* PRESENTATION AND DEDICATION OF GIFTS (unison)

**Eternal God, help us to say thank You for all Your gifts,  
to live with gratitude, to look for the best in each other,  
to live charitably with all, to use Your gifts to Your glory.  
May Your resurrection never stop surprising and transforming us,  
until Christ's Kingdom comes. 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 238 *Thine Is the Glory*

\*CHARGE

\*THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

YOUR SERVICE

\*Indicates the People Standing

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Thought of the month: The heavens are the Lord's heavens, but the earth he has given to the children of man. Psalm 115:16

Earth care: This is the season of rebirth. Pay attention as buds appear on the trees, seedlings sprout, and animals are born. When you come across these signs of spring, say a blessing (aloud or silently) for God's new creation.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Circle 1 will meet on Tuesday, April 9th, at 10:00 a.m. at the church.

Hunger Busters will be collected over the next four weeks. If you would like to participate, please pick up a bag in the narthex, fill it, and return it to the church. The food goes to support the Presbyterian Community Center pantry.

If you have not already done so, please take a few moments after service to view two framed documents on display in the Narthex which include a letter of accreditation presented to Northminster Presbyterian Church (previously Williamson Road Presbyterian Church) for helping establish Church Women United, along with the supporting newspaper article of 1943 referencing the (Council of Church Women which was later re-named Church Women United (CWU)).

### Calendar

Today	10:00 am 11:00 am	Sunday School Worship Service
Tuesday	10:00 am	Circle 1
Nest Sunday	10:00 am 11:00 am	Sunday School 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.

**Let us keep those listed below in our prayers.**

**Members**

Alice Baker	Ann Bailey	Bill Bailey
Frances Bowling	Ellen Brumfield	Pam Claterbaugh
Betty Gehlert	Marie Haines	Jake Hayes
Hayes Family	Dennis Kincer	Sheila Lancaster
Patsy Linton	Kay Merritt	Floyd Moretz
Ann Pace	Mac Pace	Buddy Smith
Sandy Smith	Vicki Whitworth	

**Friends and Family**

Nancy Assaid	Joaquin Bielawski
Shirley Basham	Donna Betters
Lucy Collier	Annette Daughty
Terry Foss	Molly Guerrant
Gladys Hughston	Skylar Kirby
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



