

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

*March 24, 2024*  
*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

Mark 11:1-11; John 12:2-16; Psalm 118:19-29

(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 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 Zechariah 9:9)

Minister: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

**Congregants: Hosanna in the highest!**

Minister: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

**Congregants: Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!**

Minister: Lo, your king comes to you.

**Congregants: Triumphant and victorious is he.**

Minister: He comes in humility, riding on a donkey.

**Congregants: He rides a colt, the foal of a donkey.**

Minister: He comes today, so let us worship our God.

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

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION (unison)

**Merciful God, as we enter Holy Week and gather now in worship,  
turn our hearts again to Jerusalem,**

**to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ,**

**so that united with him and with all the faithful,**

**we may one day enter in triumph**

**the city not made by human hands,**

**the new Jerusalem, eternal in the heavens,**

**and live with You in glory.**

**In our sinfulness and brokenness,**

**we seek Your forgiveness, and ask for Your mercy.**

**Give us the same mind that was in Christ,**

**that we might obey Your will and follow Your path.**

**Hear these our silent prayers.**

\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (from I John 4:9)

In this is love, not just that we loved God,

but that God loved us and sent His Son into this world,

so that we might live and be saved through Him.

Hear the good news: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

\*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 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.**

### ANTHEM

*Hosanna! Praise the Lord!* Handel, arr. Patrick M. Liebergen

### MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

#### THE SECOND READING OF GOD'S WORD Luke 19:29-44

<sup>29</sup> When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, <sup>30</sup>saying, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. <sup>31</sup>If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" just say this: "The Lord needs it." ' <sup>32</sup>So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. <sup>33</sup>As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, 'Why are you untying the colt?' <sup>34</sup>They said, 'The Lord needs it.' <sup>35</sup>Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. <sup>36</sup>As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. <sup>37</sup>As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, <sup>38</sup>saying, 'Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!' <sup>39</sup>Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, order your disciples to stop.' <sup>40</sup>He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.' <sup>41</sup>As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it, <sup>42</sup>saying, 'If you, even you, had

only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. <sup>43</sup>Indeed, the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you, and hem you in on every side. <sup>44</sup>They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another; because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God.'

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

**Eternal God, Whose Word silences the shouts of the mighty,  
quiet within us every voice but Your own.  
Speak to us through the sacrifice and the victory of Jesus Christ,  
so that we might receive grace and strength to share his love  
in lives given to Your service. Through his name we pray. Amen.**

SERMON

*A PARADE OF CHEERS AND TEARS*

Dr. Merritt

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 200 *A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd*

\* PRESENTATION AND DEDICATION OF GIFTS (unison)

\*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

Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-A-737649 . All rights reserved. Used by permission CCLI#1241295

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Big thank you to the "heavenly choir" who sang Happy Birthday to me. All 99 years of me loved it! I love each and every one of you. - Fran Bowling

Northminster- You are the Best! Thanks for your calls, food, cards, and especially your prayers. You have been so kind and loving to my family and me. The Baker and Esworthy Families

OUR ANNUAL MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP SERVICE will be held at 7:00 this coming Thursday evening, and will include the celebration of Holy Communion and the "stripping" of the sanctuary. This is a special time at the Table, and you are encouraged to join us.

NEXT SUNDAY IS EASTER, our highest holy day of worship, when we celebrate our Lord's resurrection, gathering at his Table and sharing in glorious music and scriptural words of promise. We look forward to seeing you in worship with us!

We will be collecting the One Great Hour of Sharing offering this Sunday and next. Join Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed.

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.

#### Calendar

Today	10:00 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Worship Service
Thursday	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Service
Nest Sunday	10:00 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Easter Service

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
3911 Greenland Avenue, Roanoke, Virginia 24012-3250  
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