



NORTHMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

...making disciples, growing in faith together and serving others in Christ

September 1, 2024

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30AM

Chimes

Welcome

Prelude

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship – based on Luke 24:28-36

When we come to our Lord's table, we cannot help but remember those early disciples, on the road to Emmaus.

Not yet recognizing the risen Jesus, they nevertheless invite him to join them as a guest:
"Please, be our guest. It's getting late, and soon it will be too dark to walk."

In that same spirit, let us welcome the risen Christ among us as we worship in this hour.
Come, dear Jesus, lend us your Spirit as we gather in the shelter of your good news.

When they sit down at the table for dinner, Jesus takes the bread in his hands.

He gives thanks for it, and then he breaks it and gives it to them.

At that instant, their eyes are suddenly opened so they recognize Him.

They went and told the others what they experienced:

"The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to us!"

As it was for them then, may it be so for us today:

that he would be made known to us in the breaking of our bread.

*Hymn #515

I Come with Joy!

I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved, and free,
the life of Jesus to recall, in love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love in Christ's communion bread, in Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are friends, and strangers now are friends.

The Spirit of the risen Christ, unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known, alive among us here, alive among us here.

Together met, together bound by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world the love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Scriptures – Jeremiah 6:16 and Matthew 11:29

Sermon – “Rest for your souls”

Hymn #182 (remain seated) *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

Call to Confession

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Response to Forgiveness #438 *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me* verses 1-3

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.
Let the water and the blood from thy wounded side which flowed
be of sin the double cure, cleanse from guilt and make me pure.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands.
Could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone. Thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring; simply to thy cross I cling;
naked, come to thee for dress, helpless, look to thee for grace;
foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

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, died, and was buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Passing the Peace

Gathering of our Offerings

Offertory Music

Remembering our Baptisms

*Hymn #525 *Let Us Break Bread Together*

Let us break bread together on our knees; (on our knees) let us break bread together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)

Let us drink wine together on our knees; (on our knees) let us drink wine together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)

Let us praise God together on our knees; (on our knees) let us praise God together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right for us to give thanks and praise...

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, Hallowed by Thy name, Thy Kingdome 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.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

All who desire the communion meal are invited to come forward to the table, receive a portion of bread from the pastor, take a cup from one of the elders, and return to the pew. We will share in the cup together once everyone has been served.

Music during communion

Closing Unison Prayer

God of grace, you renew us at your table with the bread of life.

May this food strengthen us in love and help us to serve you in each other.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Lord. Amen.

*Hymn #716

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store,
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door:
gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the church made one.
Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone.
Born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.

Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your grace conferred:
ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel word.
Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call,
healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.

*Charge and Benediction

*Sung Response

Northumbria Community

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever he may send you. May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm. May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you. May he bring you home rejoicing, once again into our doors.

Postlude



Information & Announcements

Welcome Friends and Guests!

Whether you are sharing in the worship of God with us for the first time, visiting with family or friends, or returning for a visit to your home church, we welcome you today in the name of Jesus. Please share some contact information in the red book located in the pew so we can follow up with you and make a place for you in our weekly fellowship.

Prayer Concerns

If you have a need or a request for prayer, please contact the church office.

Ongoing Prayer Requests: Our Flint River Presbytery and campus ministries

Current Member Concerns: Ann R. Smith; Jane Prentice; Ann Hall; Jane Ebey; Evelyn Clark; Annette Hutto; Jeff, Lynn, Josh and Hannah Denny - Current Friends and Family Concerns: Margaret Yawn; Donna Carole Kitchens; Susan Garrett (colleague of Gregg Reed, cancer diagnosis) - Military Personnel Prayer List: Austin Riley; Joshua Sulkers; Isaac Falkenstine (Bonnie Diboll's grandson); Nicholas Sanchez (Kathy McCord's godson); James Watwood; Dawson Everett (Gwen Kitchens' great-nephew); Carter Eddlemon (Doug & Carol Holt's grandson)

Children's Sunday School

We will kick-off our new school year next Sunday, September 8th at 9:30am! We can't wait to see all Northminster children (grades 5 and under) and their friends.

Adult Sunday School

Join us for Sunday School in the Fellowship hall at 9AM as Pastor Ralph leads us through "Good Thinking about the Good Book" a Bible study about the Bible itself.

Confirmation Kick-off – September 21-22

First Presbyterian Church of Thomaston, GA is hosting a presbytery-wide weekend retreat for all youth (in grades 6 through 12) who have not yet completed confirmation. This retreat will also serve as Northminster's kick-off event to our own confirmation class.

5th Sunday Lunch – September 29

We will celebrate Northminster's 60th year of making disciples, growing in faith together and serving others in Christ over lunch in the fellowship hall all September 29th following the worship service.

Women's Bible Study – October 2

All women are invited to join this year's fall Bible study where Ralph will be teaching based on the book of Philippians. This study begins Wednesday, October 2 with a morning session at 10^{AM} and an evening session at 6^{PM}. Details coming next week.

Rise Against Hunger – October 6

We will host this year's presbytery-wide Rise Against Hunger packing event. Stay tuned for details.

2024 Northminster Express – October 19

This year, the Northminster Express will be riding the rails in scenic Blue Ridge, Georgia! We are currently taking reservations for our group tour aboard the Blue Ridge Scenic Railway. Tickets are \$68 for adults and \$48 for children between the ages of 2-12. We will depart from Northminster via chartered bus Saturday, October 19th at 6am and return around 5:30pm.

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Our calling at Northminster is to make disciples, to grow in faith together, and to serve others in Christ.

CONGREGATION: Ministers of the Good News; SESSION of Ruling Elders: Kari Alderman; Mark Brown; Jeff Denny; Barbara Fatkin; Nita McCord; Michael Napier; Donna Shuford; Amanda Smith; Minor Vernon; Gail Walker
RALPH HAWKINS, Pastor and Teaching Elder PAUL EVANS, Parish Associate
KAREN JONES, Clerk of Session JENNIFER WHITEHEAD, Ministry Assistant

Office hours: Tuesday-Friday 9:00-1:00; Sunday 7:00-1:00; Jennifer Cell: 478-318-7911

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