



NORTHMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

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

June 1, 2025

7th Sunday of Easter

10:30am

Chimes

Welcome

Prelude

Call to Worship— based on Psalm 57

Awake, O people of God!

Let us sing and awake the dawn.

I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples,

We will sing praises to you among the nations.

For your steadfast love is as high as the heavens;

your faithfulness extends to the universe.

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens.

Let your glory be over all the earth.

We are thankful to be a Resurrection People!

We sing in praise of Christ's victory over death.

*Hymn #260

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; his the scepter, his the throne;

Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone!

Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood:

"Jesus out of every nation has redeemed us by his blood."

Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;

Alleluia! he is near us; faith believes nor questions how.

Though the cloud from sight received him, when the forty days were o'er,

shall our hearts forget his promise: "I am with you evermore"?

Alleluia! Bread of angels, here on earth our food, our stay;

Alleluia! here the sinful flee to you from day to day.

Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's redeemer, hear our plea

where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! King eternal, Lord omnipotent we own;
Alleluia! born of Mary, earth your footstool, heaven your throne.
As within the veil you entered, robed in flesh, our great high priest;
here on earth both priest and victim in the eucharistic feast.

Scripture – John 20:19-23

Sermon – Every part of Easter, right here before us

Hymn #267 (remain seated) *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

Come, lift your hearts on high: Alleluia! Amen! Let praises fill the sky: Alleluia! Amen!
He is our guide and friend; to us he'll condescend; his love shall never end: Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again: Alleluia! Amen! Life shall not end the strain: Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore his goodness we'll adore, singing forevermore: Alleluia! Amen!

Call to Confession

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Response to Forgiveness #634, verse 1 *To God Be the Glory*

To God be the glory; great things he has done! So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin, and opened the life-gate that all may go in.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory: great things he has done!

*Passing the Peace

Announcements and Invitations

Gathering of our Offerings

Offertory Music

*Response #606 *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Remembering our Baptisms

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 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.

Invitation to the Table

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

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 #526

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken; the wine is poured; Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

[*Refrain*] Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again; pass the Word around: loaves abound!
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again; pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Christ is able to make us one; at the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express. [*Refrain*]

Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere! [*Refrain*]

*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:* Betty Faulkner; 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); Cody Hynes - *Military Personnel Prayer List:* Austin Riley; Joshua Sulkers; Isaac Falkenstine (Bonnie Diboll's grandson); Nicholas Sanchez (Kathy McCord's godson); James Watwood; Carter Eddlemon (Doug & Carol Holt's grandson)

Sanctuary Flowers

Flowers today have been given to the glory of God by Martha Hopkins in honor of friends and loved ones, past and present, and with love to her Northminster family.

If you would like to contribute to the weekly flower arrangements, whether in celebration of a special event or in memory of a loved one, please sign up on the board in the foyer. Arrangements are \$65 (payable to Northminster) and can be taken home with you or gifted to one of our homebound or sick members.

Children's Sunday School – Summer Schedule

Although the school year is winding down, we are excited to continue children's Sunday school June 29th! We continue to meet downstairs in room 123 starting at 9:30^{AM} for lessons, crafts, and snacks. We will break for the month of July and return August 3rd.

Montreat!

Northminster members will be joining several other Flint River Presbytery churches for another annual week at Montreat Conference Center in beautiful western North Carolina. Attending from our flock are Carolyn and Elizabeth Goode, CJ Preyna, and Sambo Alderman. Attending with them are Rosie Miles, Deb Tregaskis, and Pastor Ralph. They depart Saturday, June 7 and return Saturday, June 14. Let's be praying for a fun and faith-filled week of worship, preaching, and fellowship.

Men's Breakfast

Wednesday, June 11th at 7^{AM}, Join us at H&H Soul Food Restaurant in downtown Macon for breakfast together and discussion of the life of David, this week: "Names" – 1 Samuel 16:1-13. This is a dutch treat activity.

5th Sunday Lunch

Sunday, June 29, all are invited to join us for our 5th Sunday Lunch in the fellowship hall. Please use your blue response sheet in the coming weeks to let us know if you plan to attend.

Summer office hours

From the week of June 8th through July 12th, the church office will only be open Mondays and Fridays from 9am-1pm. An insert with details is included in your bulletin or you may refer to your weekly email updates.

Pentecost PCUSA Special Offering

A foundation of faith established during childhood helps ensure lifelong faith and service. The patterns and lessons established during these formative years continue to bear fruit throughout a person's life. By receiving the Pentecost Offering, you are nurturing the faith of those who are the church to come — children, youth, and young adults. This offering will be collected June 8.

Summer Reading Group

All are invited to celebrate with us, the 100th birthday of Georgia's own legendary Catholic novelist, Flannery O'Connor. We'll read a half dozen of her wild and wonderful stories from *The Short Stories of Flannery O'Connor*, then take a field trip to explore her home in Milledgeville. Our reading group will meet every two weeks in the evening via ZOOM. Stay tuned for dates, times, and short story selections! Led by Pastor Ralph and Betty Lamb.

Fall Women's Retreat

Ladies, mark your calendars for October 24-25 for our annual women's retreat and start thinking about who you can invite to participate. This year's theme is "The Tree of Life: Israel's Sages on the Search for Wisdom" featuring Dr. Christine Roy Yoder, the Richards Professor of Biblical Interpretation at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur.

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: Mark Brown; Barbara Fatkin; Amy Maley;

Nita McCord; Michael Napier; Renea Preyna; Gregg Reed; Jeanne Roddenberry; Amanda Smith; Gail Walker

RALPH HAWKINS, Pastor and Teaching Elder PAUL EVANS, Parish Associate

SAM ALDERMAN, III, Clerk of Session JENNIFER WHITEHEAD, Ministry Assistant

Office hours: Monday-Friday 9:00-1:00; Jennifer Cell: 478-318-7911

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I am very thankful that the church we attended while in India was in English. I don't think I will have this luxury every week so I enjoyed it while I could. It was an interesting experience with all the fun of figuring out how things are done in a new place. On this particular Sunday we shared Communion. Amidst trying to figure out how the distribution system (women receive the bread and wine before men, women cover their heads when receiving Communion and the wine is scooped from the cup into our mouths,) worked and trying to open my mouth wide enough so that spoon didn't touch any part of my mouth, words from our bible study the day before echoed through my head. We were reminded as we read 1 Corinthians 11, that when we come to the table as a community we need not be so concerned about turning the bread into flesh, as remembering to turn our flesh into bread. While I doubt I am able to convey the same power of these words, my hope is next time you break bread, you reflect on turning your flesh into bread in your everyday life.

Maggie Cuff, while a Presbyterian Young Adult Volunteer in India



"Freshly ground pepper?"

compiled by RWH for Northminster Macon — week of 2025-06-01

Monday Morning



When Jesus was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?"

Luke 24:30-32

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." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

John 20:19-23

The Lord's Supper is the sign and seal of eating and drinking in communion with the crucified and risen Lord. During his earthly ministry Jesus shared meals with his followers as a sign of community and acceptance and as an occasion for his own ministry. He celebrated Israel's feasts of covenant commemoration.

In his last meal before his death, Jesus took and shared with his disciples the bread and wine, speaking of them as his body and blood, signs of the new covenant. He commended breaking bread and sharing a cup to remember and proclaim his death.

On the day of his resurrection, the risen Jesus made himself known to his followers in the breaking of bread. He continued to show himself to believers, by blessing and breaking bread, by preparing, serving, and sharing common meals.

Presbyterian Directory for Worship

Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts, Thou fount of life, thou Light of men, from the best bliss that earth imparts we turn unfilled to Thee again. We taste Thee, O Thou living Bread, and long to feast upon Thee still: We drink of Thee, the Fountainhead, and thirst our souls from Thee to fill. O Jesus, ever with us stay, make all our moments calm and bright; chase the dark night of sin away; shed o'er the world Thy holy light.

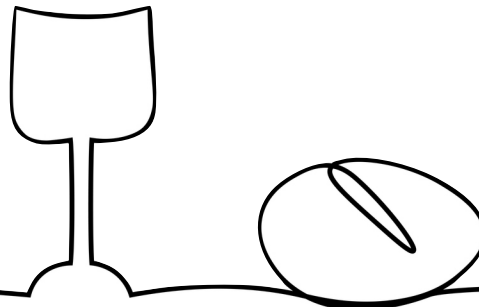
St. Bernard of Clairvaux (1091–1153)

All baptized Christians who rejoice in so great a gift, who confess their sins, and who draw near with faith intending to lead a new life, may receive the Lord's Supper. This includes baptized children who have expressed a desire to participate, and who have been instructed in the meaning of the sacrament in a way they can understand.

Presbyterian Study Catechism (1998)

Jesus lives again;
earth can breathe again.
Pass the Word around:
loaves abound!

Fred Kaan, 1975
"Let us Talents and Tongues Employ"



The hiding place of God, the revelation place of God, is the material world. You don't have to put spirit and matter together; they have been together ever since the Big Bang, 14.6 billion years ago (see Genesis 1:1-2 and John 1:1-5). You have to get on your knees and recognize this momentous truth as already and always so. The Eucharist offers microcosmic moments of belief, and love of what is cosmically true. It will surely take a lifetime of kneeling and surrendering, trusting and letting go, believing and saying, "How could this be true?" Gandhi also said, "If I really believed what you believe, I wouldn't get up from my knees." The only trouble is that many fervent Christians kneel before the Eucharistic Body of Christ but not the Human Body of Christ that Paul brilliantly describes (1 Corinthians 12:12-26). Remember, it is much easier for God to transform bread than to transform people, and the bread is for the sake of the people.

Richard Rohr, *Eucharist as Touchstone*

My God, my Father, I lift up my heart to thee. Give me thy Holy Spirit. Grant me the grace to approach this table with humble repentance and ardent desire in Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant me to receive this holy sacrament with firm faith in thy word, that in receiving these visible signs from thy hand I may receive by faith the body and blood of Jesus Christ, who died for me as the nourishment of eternal life. May I take from it the peace and spiritual joy proper to thy children with ardent love for thee, my God, and a firm resolve henceforth to consecrate my life to thy service, until I see thy face and my soul is received by Jesus Christ my Savior, who has redeemed it by his death.

Pierre Du Moulin (1568–1658)
Huguenot minister in France

The church in its profoundest expression is the gathering of a people who are able to sustain one another through the inevitable tragedies of our lives. They are able to do so because they have been formed by a narrative, constantly reenacted through the sharing of a meal, that claims nothing less than that God has taken the tragic character of our existence into his very life.

Stanley Hauerwas, *Community of Character*