

SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY

July 23, 2023

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Liturgist: John Lange

**CALL TO WORSHIP** — from Psalm 89:1-4  
Leader: I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever;  
**People: with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.**  
Leader: I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;  
**People: your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.**  
Leader: You said, “I have made a covenant with my chosen one,  
I have sworn to my servant David:  
'I will establish your descendants forever,  
and build your throne for all generations.”  
**People: Praise the Lord!**

\*OPENING HYMN #72

To God Be The Glory

\*OPENING PRAYER

\*SONG

Forever

GUIDED PRAYER

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH — Westminster Larger Catechism Q.32  
Leader: How is God's grace revealed in the second covenant?  
**People: His grace is revealed in the second covenant by God freely providing and making available to sinners a mediator and through him life and salvation. God uses faith as the only way for sinners to become united to him; he promises and gives his Holy Spirit to all his elect in order to bring about this faith in them along with all the other saving graces and in order to make it possible for them to be holy and obedient, as proof of the truth of their faith and thankfulness to God and as the way he has established for them to be saved. Amen.**

ANTHEM

Come Let Us Join  
By Joseph M. Martin

FOR OUR GUESTS:  
WELCOME TO  
NORTHMINSTER EVANGELICAL  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We are glad you are here. We hope the information listed on these pages will help you choose your next steps in connecting at Northminster. If you need help finding anything or have questions, just ask an usher or the pastor. To learn more about activities here, please pick up our newsletter from the rack in the hallway or foyer table. You can also learn more about us on our website: [www.npcmh.com](http://www.npcmh.com), on Facebook/[npcmh](https://www.facebook.com/npcmh), and YouTube: [www.youtube.com/@npcmh](https://www.youtube.com/@npcmh).

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 23-30

- Sunday, July 23:**  
9:45 am – Sunday School  
11:00 am – Worship
- Monday, July 24:**  
10:00 am – Amherst County Senior Center  
6:30 pm – Christian Education Committee Meeting
- Tuesday, July 25:**  
12:00 pm – Lynchburg Daily Bread Meal Distribution
- Wednesday, July 26:**  
10:00 am – Amherst County Senior Center  
12:00 pm – Midweek Prayer Time
- Friday, July 28:**  
9:00 am – Session Workshop
- Next Sunday, July 30:**  
9:45 am – Sunday School  
11:00 am – Worship


 church center

- Service Times
- Easy Giving
- Event Signups
- Community Connection
- Family Pre-Check

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Children are welcomed in the service. A nursery is provided for infants – 4 years. Others needing childcare may leave worship after the ANTHEM.

**JOIN US FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL**

If you're looking for an opportunity to grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ, we encourage you to join us Sunday mornings for a intergenerational Sunday school class, from 9:45-10:45. We look forward to seeing you!

**MIDWEEK PRAYER – WEDNESDAYS @ Noon**

Please join us on Wednesdays at noon for a time of prayer in the sanctuary as we bring our needs before our loving God.

**HELPING HANDS OFFERING – NEXT SUNDAY**

Each 5th Sunday, any undesignated offerings placed in the collection plates goes to Helping Hands, a ministry of churches in the Madison Heights-Elon area of Amherst County to help residents in need. It is administered through Madison Heights Baptist Church. Thank you for helping us meet the needs of those in our community!

**CORRIE TEN BOOM'S THE HIDING PLACE – SAT Aug. 5, 2:15pm**

Join us at Regal River Ridge to see A.S. Peterson's stage adaptation of Corrie Ten Boom's *The Hiding Place*. *The Hiding Place* is Corrie Ten Boom and her family's story of risking everything to hide Jewish refugees—a story of faith, hope, love, and forgiveness in the face of un-thinkable evil. Tickets are \$16.05 each. Learn more and buy tickets at [www.thehidingplacefilm.com](http://www.thehidingplacefilm.com).

**MISSION FOCUS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY**

Our focus for the month of July is **Christmas in July**, supporting Operation Christmas Child & Christmas Food Baskets. This month, we are collecting canned meats and/or peanut butter and jelly in separate jars. There will be collection containers in the Fellowship Hall and food suggestion for each month. You may donate to Operation Christmas Child by specifying **OCC** on your check memo line. See the newsletter for more information. Thank you for your support!

**SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE CHANGE – BEGINS 8/27**

Beginning Sunday, August 27 the worship service will start at **10:30 am**. Additionally, Sunday School will begin at **9:00 am**. We are excited about how this change will enhance our discipleship, worship and fellowship. Read more about this change in this month's newsletter.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

WORSHIPING GOD WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory  
\*Offertory Response – *Your Work, O God  
Your work, O God, needs many hands  
to help you everywhere;  
And some there are who cannot serve,  
unless our gifts we share  
Because we love you and your work,  
our offering now we make;  
Be pleased to use it as your own,  
we ask for Jesus' sake.*

\*Prayer of Dedication

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Hebrews 8:1-13  
*Pastor: The Word of the Lord*  
*People: Thanks be to God*

SERMON: **PLANNED OBSOLESCENCE**  
**SERIES: ALWAYS ONLY JESUS**  
*In speaking of a new covenant, he makes the first one obsolete.  
And what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.*  
— Hebrews 8:13

\*CLOSING HYMN #227 Rock of Ages

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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*Pastor, David Garrison*  
**ELDERS** **Bob Mills, Director of Music**  
Ron Reyburn (Clerk of Session), Sharon Bryant, *Sunday*  
John Lange, Liz Boothe, *School Superintendent*  
Sharon Bryant, Judy Reyburn, Mike Henderson &  
Mike Henderson, Anne Wilkins Barbara Baker,  
*Treasurers*



SERMON NOTES, JULY 23

# Northminster

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Experiencing and sharing God's love  
to transform our homes, community and world.*

<sup>1</sup> Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, <sup>2</sup> a minister in the holy places, in the true tent that the Lord set up, not man. <sup>3</sup> For every high priest is appointed to offer gifts and sacrifices; thus it is necessary for this priest also to have something to offer. <sup>4</sup> Now if he were on earth, he would not be a priest at all, since there are priests who offer gifts according to the law. <sup>5</sup> They serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things. For when Moses was about to erect the tent, he was instructed by God, saying, "See that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown you on the mountain." <sup>6</sup> But as it is, Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises. <sup>7</sup> For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion to look for a second.

<sup>8</sup> For he finds fault with them when he says:  
"Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord,  
when I will establish a new covenant with the house of Israel  
and with the house of Judah,  
<sup>9</sup> not like the covenant that I made with their fathers  
on the day when I took them by the hand  
to bring them out of the land of Egypt.  
For they did not continue in my covenant,  
and so I showed no concern for them, declares the Lord.  
<sup>10</sup> For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel  
after those days, declares the Lord:  
I will put my laws into their minds,  
and write them on their hearts,  
and I will be their God,  
and they shall be my people.  
<sup>11</sup> And they shall not teach, each one his neighbor  
and each one his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,'  
for they shall all know me,  
from the least of them to the greatest.  
<sup>12</sup> For I will be merciful toward their iniquities,  
and I will remember their sins no more."

<sup>13</sup> In speaking of a new covenant, he makes the first one obsolete. And what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.

— Hebrews 8:1-13 (ESV)