

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

July 25, 2021

Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Liturgist: Caitlin Vera

CALL TO WORSHIP: based on Psalm 124:

Leader: "Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth."

People: What did God do to help us?

Leader: God chose the people of Israel to make a
new beginning.

**People: They received God's covenant and prepared the way
for Jesus to come as our Savior.**

Leader: Let us worship the God of the covenant, the God
of heaven and earth.

*OPENING HYMN #517

The Solid Rock

*OPENING PRAYER

*PRAISE SONG

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

GUIDED PRAYER

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - Hebrews 6:17-20

We believe that "when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek." Amen.

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, and on Facebook: www.facebook.com/npcmh

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK JULY 25

Today:

9:45 am – Adult Sunday School

11 am- Worship

12: 15 pm- Congregational Meeting

Mon July 26:

Tues July 27:

12 pm - Lynchburg Daily Bread Meal Distribution

Wed July 28:

7 pm- Choir Practice

Thurs July 29:

10 am- Women's Book Club @ Mary Wilhelm's

Next Sun August 1:

9:45 am – Adult Sunday School

11 am - Worship

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.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

After more than a year away, our Sunday morning Adult Sunday school class resumed on Sunday, May 23! Join us in the Fellowship Hall from 9:45-10:45 as we explore God's Word together and are encouraged in our walk with the Lord. It has been a long time, and we're looking forward to seeing you then!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TODAY

Following worship this morning there will be a brief meeting of the congregation for electing the members of the nominating committee. The meeting will begin after the postlude. The chairs for this year's nominating committee are George Brine and Michael Babcock. We are looking for three members of the congregation to participate.

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

For July, the Book Club will read *How to Be a Good Creature: A Memoir in 13 Animals* by Sy Montgomery. The author reflects on the personalities and quirks of 13 animals—her friends—who have profoundly affected her in this stunning, poetic, and life-affirming memoir. The next meeting will be Thursday, July 29, at 10 am at Mary Wilhelm's home.

AMHERST COUNTY LIONS CLUB EYEGLASS DONATION

We have been collecting used eyeglasses for donation. The box is on the table beside the Fellowship Hall. All donations will need to be turned in by Sunday, August 1, 2021.

ELDERS AVAILABLE FOR PRAYER FOLLOWING WORSHIP

In James 5:13-14 we read, "Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord." Each Sunday, two elders will be available in the New Song room following worship for anyone who needs or would like prayer.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Sharon Bryant

ANTHEM

Ah, Holy Jesus Arr. Tim Mills Kevin Chiarizzio

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

***Doxology– 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.

***Prayer of Dedication**

SCRIPTURE

1 Peter 2:9-12; 3:8-17

Pastor: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON

“Hope is the Anthem”

SERIES: Conversations

“But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you.” — 1 Peter 3:15

***CLOSING HYMN #514**

Blessed Assurance

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

***Please Stand**

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Pastor, David Garrison

ELDERS

Ron Reyburn, Judy Reyburn
John Lange, George Brine,
Sharon Bryant, Caitlin Vera,
Michael Babcock,
Maggie Brockman

Bob Mills, *Director of Music*
Liz Boothe, *Organist*
Sharon Bryant, *Sunday School*
Superintendent
Sandy Stafford, *Secretary*
Vonnice Rucker, *Treasurer*

SERMON NOTES, July 25

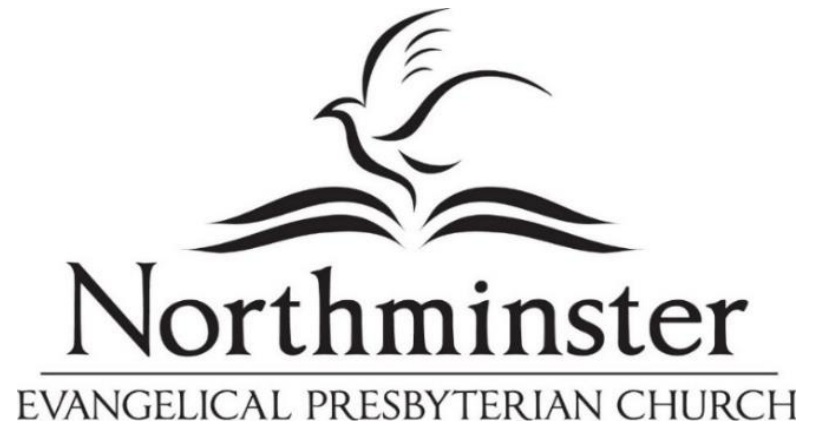
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SERMON**

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

⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. ¹¹ Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. ¹² Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

1 Peter 2:9-12(ESV)

⁸ Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. ⁹ Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing. ¹⁰ For “Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit ¹¹ let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it. ¹² For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

¹³ Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵ but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

1 Peter 3; 8-17 (ESV)