

SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY

May 8, 2022
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Mother’s Day

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Liturgist, Maggie Brockman
CALL TO WORSHIP —based on Matthew 18:20
Leader: Joyful is the sound we make this morning!
People: For this day liberates us from doubt and fear.
Leader: Thankful is the song we sing!
People: For this day moves us past darkness and despair.
Leader: Hopeful is the prayer upon our lips!
People: For this day awakens in us long-awaited new life.
Leader: Jesus said, “Where two or more are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”
People: Christ lives here and now. He is among us at this and every moment!
Leader: May his peace and presence be known to you.
People: And also to you.

***OPENING HYMN #108** Come, Christians, Join to Sing

*OPENING PRAYER

***PRAISE SONG** 10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

GUIDED PRAYER

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** —Romans 8:31-33, 37-39
We believe that God is for us, therefore who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.... No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. AMEN.

ANTHEM Happy the Home When God Is There
Words by Henry Ware, Jr. & Bryan Jeffery Leech
Music by John B. Dykes

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 COMING WEEK

Today, May 8:
9:45 am – Inquirer's Class
9:45 am – Sunday School for all ages
11:00 am – Worship
6:30-7:45 pm – Sunday Night Live

Mon May 9:
7:00 pm – Habitat for Humanity Board Meeting

Tues May 10:
12:00 pm – Lynchburg Daily Bread Meal Distribution

Wed May 11:
10:30 pm – Pastor's Midweek Bible Study
7:00 pm – Choir Practice

Thurs May 12:
10:00 am – Women's Book Club
6:30 pm – Session

Next Sunday, May 15:
9:45 am – Inquirer's Class
9:45 am – Sunday School for all ages
11:00 am – Worship
12:15 pm – Potluck Lunch With Angie Woodruff
6:30-7:45 pm – Sunday Night Live

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.

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB – THURSDAY MAY 12 @ 10:00 am
The Women's Book Club will meet on Thursday, May 12, at 10 a.m. at the Bryants' dock in Monacan Park. In case of inclement weather, they will meet at Sharon Bryant's home. They are reading ***The Rose Code*** by Kate Quinn. This historical fiction is based on women in England during WWII who cracked code for the war effort. Please let Sharon know if you will be attending.

POTLUCK WITH ANGIE WOODRUFF – SUNDAY, MAY 15
Join us after worship for a potluck lunch where Angie and her family will share the history of Woodruff's Pies. Please join us to hear more about Angie and the whole Woodruff family. Bring your favorite dish to share. Pies and drinks will be provided.

BLAZE PIZZA NIGHT – TUESDAY, MAY 17 FROM 5:00-9:00 pm
If you like pizza, then we invite you to join us for a pie or two at Blaze Pizza on Ward's Road to help raise money to send our youth to summer camp. Blaze Pizza will donate 20% of the proceed from your meal to our church for the youth. All you need to do is present the flier at the door or use coupon code 1178A for online orders. We hope to see you there!

SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE – SUNDAYS @ 6:30 pm
Youth in grades 4-12 are invited to attend Sunday Night Live. We are continuing our study, “What is the Gospel?” The word “Gospel” means “good news,” but hearing something is good and knowing why it’s good are two very different things. As we take a closer look at the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, we'll find that the Good News of Easter may be bigger, bolder, and better than we ever imagined. We hope to see you here!

PASTOR'S MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY – WEDNESDAYS @ 10:30 am
Join us in person or online for a midweek bible study with Pastor David! We are currently working through the Book of Hebrews, with a focus on learning to study the Bible ourselves and apply it to our daily lives.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
Join us in the Fellowship Hall from 9:45-10:45 am as we explore God's Word together and are encouraged in our walk with the Lord. Bob Mills is leading a series on education and the church.

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.

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 — Hymn #813
For the life that you have given,
For the love in Christ made known,
With these fruits of time and labor,
With these gifts that are your own:
Here we offer Lord our praises;
Heart and mind and strength we bring;
Give us grace to love and serve you,
Living what we pray and sing.

*Prayer of Dedication

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Ruth 1:19-22
NEW TESTAMENT READING: Hebrews 12:12-17

Pastor: The Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God

SERMON: “Bitterness or Blessing?”
SERIES: RUTH: A STORY OF REDEMPTION
See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God;
that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble,
and by it many become defiled. — Hebrews 12:15

*CLOSING Hymn #519 It Is Well With My Soul

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

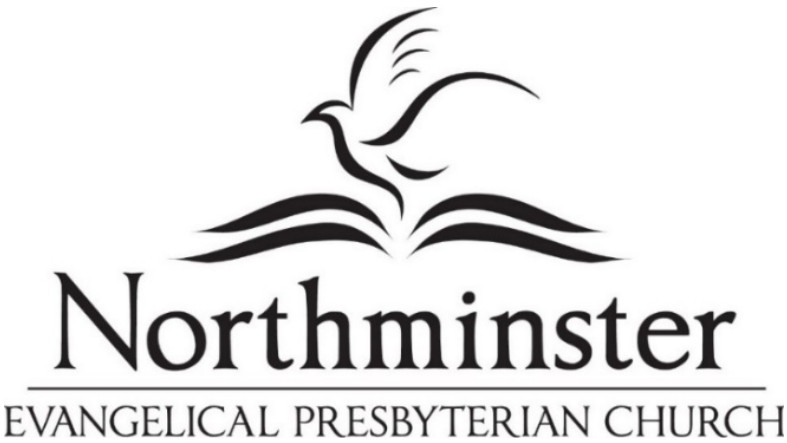
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ELDERS Pastor, David Garrison
Ron Reyburn, Bob Mills, Director of Music
John Lange, George Brine, Liz Boothe, Organist
Sharon Bryant, Anne Wilkins, Sharon Bryant, Sunday School Superintendent
Maggie Brockman, Liz Boothe

SERMON NOTES, May 8

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NEW TESTAMENT READING: Hebrews 12:12-17

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

¹⁹ So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem. And when they came to Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them. And the women said, “Is this Naomi?” ²⁰ She said to them, “Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me. ²¹ I went away full, and the LORD has brought me back empty. Why call me Naomi, when the LORD has testified against me and the Almighty has brought calamity upon me?”

²² So Naomi returned, and Ruth the Moabite her daughter-in-law with her, who returned from the country of Moab. And they came to Bethlehem at the beginning of barley harvest.

Ruth 1:19-22 (ESV)

¹² Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, ¹³ and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. ¹⁴ Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵ See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; ¹⁶ that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. ¹⁷ For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears.

Hebrews 12:12-17 (ESV)