Guidelines for Reception of the Lord's Supper: The Lord's Supper, also called Communion or the Eucharist, is the family meal of Christians. We invite all followers of Jesus Christ to partake of this sacrament: those who have believed the good news, have repented of their sins and are baptized members in good standing in the Lord's Church. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. We hope that this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with his people, the Church.

Note About Partaking: "Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself." (1 Corinthians 11:27-29)



**Prayers of Reflection for Those Not Partaking:** If you are not able to receive the Lord's Supper this morning, please use this time to meditate on one of the following prayers.

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth: Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer for Awakening: Lord Jesus, I have heard teaching from the Bible for years, and have been in church for years, but very little of this even seems real to me. Please show me the reality of what you are saying. Unnerve me with the badness of the bad news. Captivate me with the goodness of the good news. Make what is familiar seem new. Amen.

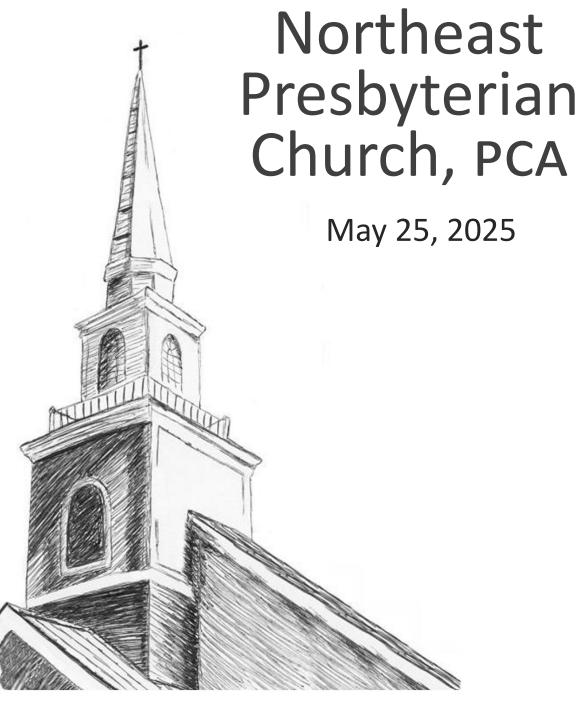
Prayer of Belief: Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

# COMING UP AT NEPC

**MAY 26** Memorial Day (NEPC office closed) MAY 29-JUN 19 Women's Summer Bible Study JUNE 1 Ordination Service for Artis Love JUN 10-12, 17-19 VBS Workdays

**JUNE 14** Dawn Treaders Men's Prayer REGISTER AS A **GUEST** HERE





Gathering • Growing • Going

# SERVICE OF WORSHIP

MAY 25. 2025

**#Prelude:** "My Country, 'Tis of Thee"

**Charles Wesley** 

Dr. Robert Jones, organist

**#Welcome and Announcements** 

Pastor Josh Desch

Memorial Day Moment of Silence

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: "Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.

**People:** For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

ALL: Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?"

| John 5:1–5

#### **ADORATION**

#\*Opening Hymn: "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

Baptism of Ryan Reese Turner

Gloria Patri Hvmn 623

**Kids Church Dismissal** 

#### **OFFERTORY**

#### Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Pastor Eric Walter

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.

#### INSTRUCTION

Scripture: Isaiah 7:1–12 (ESV)

Message: "Ahaz and the Great Test of Faith" Pastor Desch

1. Keep Calm, and Trust Yourself?

# Ushers will seat you at these times.

OR . . .

2. Keep Calm, and Trust God!

#### RESPONSE

Anthem: "Fairest Lord Jesus"

arr. Llovd Larson

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O Thou of God and man the Son: Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor, Thou my soul's glory, joy, and crown. Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring: Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, Who makes the woeful heart to sing. Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling starry host: Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels heaven can boast. Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations! Son of our God and the Son of man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be Thine!

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\*Nicene Creed Pastor Walter

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God of God, Light of Light, true God of true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through Him, all things were made. For us and for our salvation, He came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified; who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church\*. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

\*holy catholic and apostolic Church: "The worldwide fellowship of believing people whose Head is Christ.

## COMMUNION

#### THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### CHARGE AND BLESSING

\*Hymn: "Yet Not I, but Through Christ in Me"

\*Benediction Pastor Desch

\*Postlude: "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" Harold DeCou and Russell Schulz-Widmar

Dr. Robert Jones, organist

<sup>\*</sup> As the congregation stands, please feel free to remain seated as needed.