

# North Raleigh Presbyterian Church

The Twenty Fifth Sunday after Pentecost  
November 19, 2023

11905 Strickland Rd



Raleigh, NC 27613

919-848-9529

northraleighpc.org

*a congregation of the PC(USA)*



**yoke**<sup>1</sup> [yohk] [SHOW IPA](#)  

[See synonyms for yoke on Thesaurus.com](#)

*noun, plural* **yokes** for 1, 3-20, **yoke** for 2.

1. a device for joining together a pair of draft animals, especially oxen, usually consisting of a crosspiece with two bow-shaped pieces, each enclosing the head of an animal.: Compare [harness](#) (def. 1).
2. a pair of draft animals fastened together by a yoke:  
*five yoke of oxen.*

[SEE MORE](#)

*verb (used with object),* **yoked, yok-ing.**

21. to put a yoke on; join or couple by means of a yoke.
22. to attach (a draft animal) to a plow or vehicle:  
*to yoke oxen.*

[SEE MORE](#)

*verb (used without object),* **yoked, yok-ing.**

26. to be or become joined, linked, or united.

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*Rooted in Love. Growing in Service.*

# GATHERING

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please find the Friendship Pad and pass it down the pew so all may sign.*

*Please note Nursery is available in the Faith Ministries Building.*

## PRELUDE

*Will You Come and Follow Me*

Callahan

*Duet with Holly Donato, organ and Terri Nicotera, flute*

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 1

One: Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor lingered in the way of sinners,  
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

All: **Their delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**

One: They are like trees planted by streams of water,  
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither;  
everything they do shall prosper.

All: **It is not so with the wicked;  
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

One: Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright  
when judgment comes,  
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

All: **For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

One: Let us worship God.

## \*HYMN 726

*Will You Come and Follow Me*

KELVINGROVE

## \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Following the Call to Confession please observe a moment of silent confession.*

God of love, your commandments are so simple: love God, love neighbor, love self. Yet we cannot always muster that love. Love for you seems too abstract and distant. Love for our neighbors seems too impractical and draining. Love for ourselves seems too impossible and unimportant.

But you are truly the God of love; if there is anyone who can help us love, it is you. Shower us with your love so we might have the greatest example, and help us learn from you. Amen.

## \*DECLARATION OF GOOD NEWS

One: Friends, In the name of Jesus Christ,  
we are loved and accepted, forgiven and freed.

All: Thanks be to God.

## \*THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you!

One: Please share the peace with the people around you.

## \*RESPONSE OF PRAISE HYMN 619 v. 1 *Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven*

LAUDA ANIMA

Praise, my soul, the God of heaven;  
glad of heart your carols raise;  
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
who, like me, should sing God's praise?  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the Maker all your days!

## PROCLAIMING

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 58:1-9

ANTHEM

*Like a Tree*

Bryce/Edwards

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Galatians 3:19-29

SHARING THE FAITH WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

*Children Pre-K - 2nd grade may attend Children's Church during the sermon.*

SERMON

\*HYMN 838

*Standing on the Promises*

PROMISES

## RESPONDING

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*A Declaration of Faith, 3.3*

God bound his people to himself in covenant. Freed slaves became the people of God when they accepted the Lord's covenant. God charged them to respond to his rescuing love by obeying his commandments. Their life together was to express the justice and compassion of their holy God.

Since we, too, are the Lord's covenant people, we know we must be holy as the Lord is holy. We must keep God's commandments, not in order to earn or compel the Lord's favor, but to reflect the character of God and to be his grateful and loving people.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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.

## INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

## PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory

Meditation on *Jesus Calls Us*

Ballard

\*DOXOLOGY 607 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## SENDING

\*HYMN 720

*Jesus Calls Us*

GALILEE

\*CHARGE AND BENECTION

One: Friends, what is our charge?

All: Our charge is to create the church Jesus expects.

POSTLUDE

*To God Be the Glory*

Hayes

*Duet with Holly Donato and Megan Livengood*

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

✠ ✠ ✠

Liturgy adapted from *Call to Worship*.  
Cover art is a page from *dictionary.com*.

**Leading and supporting worship today:**

**Preacher:** Lisa Hebacker

**Liturgists:** Brandon Melton, Stormy Ingold

**EIC:** Debbi Freer

**Ushers:** Karen Fink, Bob Lippard

**Nursery:** Sarah Mulligan, Haley Stallworth

**Counters:** Cary Martin, Chris Welch

**Livestream:** Michael Patterson, David Syme

**Director of Music:** Terri Nicotera

**Organist:** Holly Donato

**Chancel Guild:** Stormy Ingold

**Acolyte:**

**Children's Church:** Beth Morgan

**SRT:** Cary Martin



## NRPC NEWS AND EVENTS

**Anniversaries:** David and Patty Sharer 11/23

**Birthdays:** Debbie Bell 11/22

**Reception Honoring New Members:** Please join us following the service for a reception in honor of new members. The reception will be held in the Narthex. Come enjoy some fellowship and tasty treats!

**The Tuesday Morning Bible study** meets on November 28, at 10:30 am in the FMB. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. Everyone is welcome!

**Angel Tree Gifts:** Angel Tree gifts should be placed under the tree in the Narthex by November 26, placed in gift bag with tissue (do not wrap them), and include the angel with the child's name and social worker's name on the tag. For questions, contact Margaret Albert at [margaretcAlbert@gmail.com](mailto:margaretcAlbert@gmail.com). Thank you for caring for these children!

**Fellowship with Books** meets November 27 at 6:30 pm at the home of Kim Stall, 5909 Applegarth Lane. The next meeting will be Monday, January 15.

**Preparation for Expectation of Celebration!** We invite you to an intergenerational pre-Advent happening on Saturday, December 2 from 3:00-6:00 pm. We will have crafts, activities, and food! Please RSVP to [stormydoug@mac.com](mailto:stormydoug@mac.com).

**Bible 301** start December 3 after worship. This Advent we're bringing together faith and life by looking at current world events through Scripture. Childcare is offered upon request. Find an RSVP link in the Friday News.

**Your Participation is needed in the 2023 Advent Pageant** on Sunday, December 17! We will also decorate the Chrismon trees in the sanctuary. If you want to participate, click the interest form link in the Friday News. Contact Erin Robbins or Sarah Bales with questions. Following the pageant, the NRPC Men are bringing back the Advent Dinner and Pie Auction, starting at 5:30 pm. We encourage all men to help prepare, serve, and cleanup.

***Rooted in Love, Growing in Service...a welcome invitation to visitors:*** The Congregational Engagement Committee is creating Welcoming Teams to ensure visitors receive a warm welcome and information about our church. If you are interested in serving in this ministry, please contact Janet Livengood.

**Devotional book recommendations:** Two recent discoveries for your 2024 devotional use are *A is for Alabaster* by Anna Carter Florence and *Sacred Space: The Prayer Book 2024* by The Irish Jesuits. Please read the Friday News (or pick up a flier on the pastors' pew) for more information on how to place an order.

**Stewardship Update:** We are grateful for all the individuals and families who pledged to support NRPC's mission in 2024. To date we have received 74 pledges, totaling \$351,198. If you have not pledged, you may pledge online by clicking the link in the Friday News.

*\*To subscribe to NRPC's Friday News, please email [office@nrleighpc.org](mailto:office@nrleighpc.org).*

October 2023	Actual	Budget
<i>Contribution Income</i>	\$334,463	\$350,433
<i>Expenses</i>	\$368,598	\$391,794
<i>Capital Campaign</i>	\$102,281	\$100,000
<i>Capital Campaign annual need is \$120,000 minimum</i>		

# THIS WEEK AT NRPC

Sunday 11/19	9:00 AM	Cornerstone Class (F, Z)
	9:45 AM	New Member Welcome (N)
	10:30 AM	Worship Service (S, Y)
	11:30 AM	New Member Reception (N)
	4:00 PM	Pioneer Class (F)
	5:00 PM	Drum Circle (S)
Monday 11/20	6:30 PM	Deacons Meeting (F)
Tuesday 11/21	5:00 PM	Bethel Church (F)
Wednesday 11/22	10:00 AM	Staff Meeting (F)
Thursday 11/23		Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
Friday 11/24		Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
Saturday 11/25		
Sunday 11/26	9:00 AM	Cornerstone Class (F, Z)
	10:30 AM	Worship Service (S, Y)
	11:30 AM	Confirmation Reception (F)
	4:00 PM	Pioneer Class (F)

Look ahead to 2024:



Legend: A=Admin F= Faith Ministries Building  
Y= You Tube S=Sanctuary N=Narthex Z=Zoom O=Outdoors OFF=Offsite

*Ministers:* All the Congregation

<i>Pastor:</i> Lisa Hebacker	LisaHebacker@nrleighpc.org
<i>Associate Pastor:</i> Brandon Melton	BrandonMelton@nrleighpc.org
<i>Director of Music:</i> Terri Nicotera	TerriNicotera@msn.com
<i>Church Organist:</i> Holly Donato	Hdonato26@gmail.com
<i>Church Office:</i> Rebecca Turner	Office@nrleighpc.org
<i>Bookkeeper:</i> Lizzie Jeffress	Treasurer@nrleighpc.org