Faith is two empty hands open to receive all of the Lord. Faith is living with unshakable confidence, a belief in the mercy and grace of God.

-Adapted from Alan Redpath and Martin Luther
**THE ACT OF WORSHIP**
The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost  
August 16, 2020  
Ten-thirty o’clock

**PREPARATION AND PRAISE**
The worship of God begins this morning as you enter the Sanctuary. You are encouraged to use these moments for meditation, reflection and prayer.

**The Meditation of Preparation**
Lord, help us to be still and know that You are God. We ask for Your mercy. Quiet our minds and hearts so that the only voice we hear is Yours.

**The Prelude**
“*All My Hope on God Is Founded*”  
Callahan

**The Spoken Call to Worship**
Emma Kate Poole

*The Processional Hymn No. 16 “Give to Our God Immortal Praise”*  
Duke Street

Give to our God immortal praise;  
mercy and truth are all his ways:  
wonders of grace to God belong;  
repeat his mercies in your song.

He built the earth, he spread the sky,  
and fixed the starry lights on high:  
wonders of grace to God belong;  
repeat his mercies in your song.

He fills the sun with morning light;  
he bids the moon direct the night:  
his mercies ever shall endure,  
when suns and moons, shall shine no more.

He sent His Son with power to save  
from guilt and darkness and the grave:  
wonders of grace to God belong;  
repeat his mercies in your song.

Through this vast world he guides our feet,  
and leads us to his heavenly seat:  
his mercies ever shall endure,  
when this our world shall be no more.

*The Litany of Praise*  
Heed Burnham

**Leader:** The Lord be with you;  
**People:** And also with you.

**Leader:** How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity.  
**People:** It is like a summer rain which restores the parched earth.

**Leader:** It is like a cool breeze at the shore of a lake, at the top of a mountain or through a crowded city street.  
**People:** God meets us here.

**All:** We have gathered to worship the maker of our days, the restorer of our souls and the breath of our lives.

-Susan A. Blain

*The Gloria Patri No. 807: “Glory Be to the Father”*  
Meineke

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**MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH**
Every member a minister

Every member of Northminster Baptist Church, like every disciple of Christ, is commissioned to participate in Christian ministry. The following persons have been called by this congregation to serve as enablers in such ministry.

**Pastor**  
Charles Poole

**Associate Pastor for Children and Adults**  
Lesley Ratcliff  
Major Treadway

**Associate Pastor for Students**  
Tim Coker  
Billy Trotter

**Minister of Music**  
Sheila Hess  
Sam South

**Organist**  
Jan Wilson/Neely Grimsley

**Organist Emeritus**  
Lamenais Simeon

**Pastors’ Secretary/Administrative Assistant**  
Leslie Ward  
Jan Wilson/Neely Grimsley

**Financial Secretary**  
Sam South

**Receptionist/Secretary**  
Lamenais Simeon

**Sexton**  
Northminster Baptist Church  
3955 Ridgewood Road  
Jackson, MS 39211  
601-982-4703  
601-982-4705 FAX  
www.northminsterbaptist.org
Little Free Library Donations

In June, the Yellow Church summer camp staff welcomed a new addition to Wood Street—a brand new Little Free Library! This library holds books that are available to anyone in the community who would like to come by and grab one (or a few!). The library was thoughtfully and beautifully hand-painted by camp counselor D’Khiyah Matthews, and was mounted in front of the Yellow Church by Dennis Smith and Cade Carpenter.

If you are interested in donating books to keep the Little Free Library well stocked, contact Hilda Boteler for further details.

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MEALS ON WHEELS
Wednesday, August 19

Cooks:       Drivers:
Shirley Geary    Rt. 1  Laine & Bob Hardin
Jan Stewart     Rt. 2  Suzanne & Bill Boone
Rose Mary Porter

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Brumfield House

August 20
  Taylor Beard

August 27
  Bryan Bridges

September 3
  Chuck Poole

September 10
  Mike Peters

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Plants For Church Grounds

With so many of us spending more time at home and working in our gardens, I thought it would be a good time to ask for plants you have that you may be thinning out.

Some of the specific plants we would like to have are: Hostas, Wood Ferns, Autumn Ferns, Swamp Irises, perennials like Daisies, Mexican Petunias, Irises, Black-Eyed Susans, etc. Please call Joe D. Rankin, Chair, Landscaping and Grounds, 601-942-9356.

*The Prayer of Invocation     Yates Elfert
The Greeting                  Lesley Ratcliff
The Celebration of the Mentor Program

The Litany of Blessing         Lesley Ratcliff
Pastor:  The young people before us today are at a turning point in their lives. They are leaving the path of childhood and entering the path of young adulthood.

Sixth graders: We are ready for the journey.
Congregation: Your family of faith will be with you every step of the way. Though we cannot all be present with you today, we will be faithful witnesses to your journey, and seek to encourage and support you. May our presence on your journey remind you of God’s love for you and God’s call upon your lives.

Sixth graders: We will remember and be true to God’s love and calling.
Congregation: May God continue to bless your journey as you seek God’s path. May God grant us all the grace, vision, and strength to walk in the light of Christ’s love.

Amen.

The Lessons               Mary Elise Byrd
Psalm 133
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Leader:  This is the Word of the Lord.
People:  Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession
When we have been left out, God has included us. When we have been forgotten, God has remembered us. When we are downtrodden, God lifts us up. We are forgiven, renewed and restored.

-Mindi Welton-Mitchell, adapted

The Silent Prayer
The Assurance of Pardon
The Morning Prayer and Lord’s Prayer

The Meditation     “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”     Hobby

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Gospel               Matthew 15:21-28
Leader:  This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People:  Thanks be to God.

The Anthem     “How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings”     Liddle
Suzy Haynes, soprano

The Sermon     “Northminster Stories”     Charles Poole
TIME OF RESPONSE

“How good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together in unity.”
-Psalm 133:1

*The Recessional Hymn No. 710 “We Are Called to Be God’s People” AUSTRIAN HYMN

We are called to be God’s people, showing by our lives his grace,
one in heart and one in spirit, sign of hope for all the race.
Let us show how he has changed us, and remade us as his own,
let us share our life together as we shall around his throne.
We are called to be God’s servants, working in his world today;
taking his own task upon us, all his sacred words obey.
Let us rise, then, to his summons, dedicate to him our all,
that we may be faithful servants, quick to answer now his call.
We are called to be God’s prophets, speaking for the truth and right,
standing firm for godly justice, bringing evil things to light.
Let us seek the courage needed, our high calling to fulfill,
that the world may know the blessing of the doing of God’s will.

*The Benediction

Charles Poole

*The Postlude

“The Church’s One Foundation” Pethel

*The congregation will please stand.

The Lectionary passages for August 16 are found on the following pages in the Pew Bible:

Genesis 45:1-15 ~ page 37
Psalm 133 ~ page 501
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 ~ pages 921-922
Matthew 15:21-28 ~ page 797

Mentor Sunday

Using a curriculum written by our Pastoral Staff, each sixth grader and their Adult Mentor have met to explore some of the basic tenets of our faith, including topics such as worship, baptism, communion, youth discipleship, prayer and other-mindedness.

The Adult Mentors listed below have served as witnesses, and have represented this community of faith, as these sixth graders have prepared for their graduation from the children’s department to the youth house. This Sunday the sixth graders have prepared their liturgy and led us in worship. This is a Sunday to celebrate and bless our sixth graders.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mentees</th>
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<tr>
<td>Heed Burnham</td>
<td>Kurt Metzner</td>
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<td>Mary Elise Byrd</td>
<td>Carrie Blount</td>
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<td>Yates Elfert</td>
<td>Percy Quinn</td>
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<td>Kayla Jernigan</td>
<td>Sarah Reynolds</td>
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<td>Cole Mahaffey</td>
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<td>Emma Kate Poole</td>
<td>Amy Williams</td>
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Cover Meditation offered by Mary Elise Byrd
Mediation of Preparation written by Emma Kate Poole
Litany of Praise offered by Heed Burnham and Yates Elfert
Mediation of Confession offered by Kayla Jernigan
Time of response offered by Cole Mahaffey

CAREGIVING CONCERNS:

CURRENT CAREGIVING CONCERNS:

- J. George Smith is recovering after surgery.
- Jan Wilson is recovering after surgery.
- Linda McGehee is recovering after surgery.
- Sue Edwards is recovering after surgery.

ONGOING CAREGIVING CONCERNS:

- Merle Dean
- Robyn Chunn
- R.W. McCarley
- Pat Walston
- Jack Cochran
- Robbie Cross
- Vivian Thompson
- Martha Collum
- Nancy Herrin
- Roxanne Aldridge
- Gorman Schaffer
- Libby McGee
- Virginia Hamilton
- Martha Quarles, mother of Lori Quarles
- Louise Lott, mother of Cindy Griffin
- Hazel Smith, mother of Marcia Poole

Remember those in military service: Chris Spencer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today is the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost. The Season after Pentecost celebrates the existence of the church and the presence of the Holy Spirit in the world. The liturgical color is green, symbolic of the church’s growth and mission. The Tree of Life (Genesis 2:9, Revelation 22:1-2) which rises above the baptistry, and is woven into our paraments, underscores this liturgical season’s emphasis on the living, growing Kingdom of God.

The Caregiving Committee considers it a privilege to pray for each concern that affects our church family. Recognizing the power of prayer, we meet each Monday at 8:30 a.m. in the church conference room for a brief, informal prayer-time and invite all who can to join us. If you have prayer concerns, please call the church office or a member of the Caregiving Committee.

The Deacon of the Week is Jeff Stancill.
The Caregiving Chair for August is Steve Godbold.
The Caregiving Coordinators for August are Susie Friou and Susan O’Mara.
The Caregiver of the Week is Judy Jernigan.
The Liturgist for August is Linda McGehee.
The Flowers for August are provided by Jill Buckley, Lida Caraway, Susie Friou, Ann Lauman and Ann Vickery.
The Usher Captain for August is Matt Kelly.

Backpack Blessing Drive Thru

Tonight, Sunday, August 16
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

As our children and youth, teachers and administrators, and all school employees, get ready to go back to school, we would like to take time to bless them. The back parking lot will be set up from 5 - 7 p.m. tonight for anyone who wishes to drive through and be blessed, and receive a zipper pull for their school bags.

Everyone in the car will receive an ice cream cup, so bring the whole family! See you there!