“Break down, Lord, the screens of pretense and evasion behind which we hide. We want to hear the Word you speak to us. You are God. Bring us back to yourself, the only source of our life and hope.”

-Edmund Barnyard
THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
August 23, 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
To be fully human, fully ourself,
To accept all that we are, all that you envision,
This is our prayer.
Walk with us out to the rim of life,
Beyond security.
Take us to the exquisite edge of courage,
And release us to become.
-Sue Monk Kidd, adapted

The Prelude
“My Faithful Heart Rejoices” Brahms

The Spoken Call to Worship
Charles Poole

*The Processional Hymn No. 45 “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” NELTON
Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streets of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
praise his name - I’m fixed upon it—name of God’s redeeming love.
Here I raise my Ebenezer, hither by thy help I’ve come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, bought me with his precious blood.
O to grace how great a debtor daily I’m constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee:
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here’s my heart, O, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

*The Litany of Praise
Leader: The Lord be with you;
People: And also with you.
Leader: God, your Son Jesus Christ has taught us that power belongs to you.
People: Today you offer us your power, so that we can help announce your kingdom.
All: For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever.
-Diego Frisch, adapted

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

*The Prayer of Invocation
Caroline Crisler
The Greeting
Major Treadway

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
Associate Pastor for Students
Major Treadway
Minister of Music
Tim Coker
Organist
Sheila Hess
Organist Emeritus
Billy Trotter
Pastors’ Secretary/Administrative Assistant
Leslie Ward
Financial Secretary
Sam South
Receptionist/Secretary
Jan Wilson/Neely Grimsley
Sexton
Lamenais Simeon

Northminster Baptist Church
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601-982-4705 FAX
www.northminsterbaptist.org
BACK-TO-YOUTH NIGHT:
Tonight, 4:30-6:00 p.m.
Students: 4:30 on the Basketball Court
Parents: 4:45 in the Amphitheater

Students will scatter for a scavenger hunt. Parents will stay behind for a meeting with Major. Students and Parents will eat dinner together while we see what treasures the students have uncovered.

MEALS ON WHEELS
Monday, August 24
Cooks: Drivers:
Becky Wooley Rt. 1 Julie & Dudley Wooley
Tricia Scott Rt. 2 Mona & Johnny Evans
Polly Watkins

Brumfield House
August 27
Bryan Bridges
September 3
Chuck Poole
September 10
Mike Peters
September 17
Jeff Stancill

The Presentation of Bibles to First Graders
Amelia Lynn Champion  Adella Calhoon Quinn  Ellen Ruth Stancill
Blair Cox Ely  Caroline Claire Samuels  Edward Baron Vance
Sybil Catherine Frame  Evelyn Gayle Sims  Sadie Lawrence Veazey
Ann Arrington Long

Pastor: This is an exciting time for the children who are gathered before us. They have entered first grade, and many of them have also begun worshipping in the sanctuary for the first time.

People: It is our privilege to make a place for them, for they belong to us, just as we all belong to God.

Pastor: As we officially welcome our first graders to worship today, we present them with Bibles inscribed with their own names, praying that, as the Scripture is placed into their hands, so it will become written upon their hearts.

All: Together we give thanks for the children of our congregation and for the Bible; both gifts from God to help us all learn and grow.

The Lessons
Psalm 124  Major Treadway
Romans 12:1-8  
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE
The Meditation of Confession
Oh my God, forgive what we have been, correct what we are, and direct what we shall be.

-Elizabeth Southwell, adapted

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

The Sermon
“Concerning Transformation”  Charles Poole

TIME OF RESPONSE
Maker of us all, go on making us, and let us help Thee. We know that our words are those of a child, but it is Thy children that pray to Thee. It is Thy dark we walk in, it is Thy hand we hold.

-Sue Monk Kidd, adapted
Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty - hold me with thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more,
(want no more,) feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through:
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer, be thou still by strength and shield,
(strength and shield,) be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside,
death of death, and hell’s destruction, land me safe on Canaan’s side:
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee,
(give to thee,) I will ever give to thee.

*CAREGIVING CONCERNS:
**CURRENT CAREGIVING CONCERNS:**
Mary Elizabeth Smith is recovering after surgery.
Jan Wilson is recovering after surgery.

**ONGOING CAREGIVING CONCERNS:**
Linda McGehee
Merle Dean
PatWalston
Vivian Thompson
 Roxanne Aldridge
Martha Collum
Gorman Schaffer
Virginia Hamilton
Robyn Chunn
R.W. McCarty
Jack Cochran
Libby McGee
Robbie Cross
Nancy Herrin

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 Twelfth 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 baptismry, 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 Paul Smith.
The Caregiving Chair for August is Steve Godbold.
The Caregivers of the Week are Mary and Chico Taylor.
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.

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.