



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

And the angel said to Mary, "Do not be afraid."
-Luke 1:30

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 20, 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

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.”
-Matthew 5:9

The Prelude “A Christmas Prelude” Callahan

The Introit “Advent Message” How
Shirley Foster, *soprano*
Jack McDaniel, *baritone*
Paz Naccari, *alto*
JJ Coker, *tenor*

*The Processional Hymn No. 171 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” MENDELSSOHN

Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King:
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin’s womb:
veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th’incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Hail the heaven form Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.

*The Advent Banner Anders Quinn

*The Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle: Love Sasha Hammack

*The Litany of Praise Luke Williams

Leader: The Lord be with you;

People: And also with you.

Leader: We will sing of the Lord’s great love forever;

**People: With our mouths we will make the faithfulness of God known
through all generations.**

Leader: We will declare that God’s love stands firm forever;

People: That God has established God’s faithfulness in heaven itself.

**ALL: We will establish the line of the Lord forever, and make the
throne of God firm through all generations.**

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

*The Prayer of Invocation Luke Williams

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

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THE CHURCH IN SERVICE

Sunday, December 20

10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Livestream

4:00 p.m. Living Nativity Recording, Sanctuary

Monday, December 21

8:30 a.m. Caregiving Committee, Zoom

5:30 p.m. Longest Night Service, Zoom

Thursday, December 24

5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service, Livestream

Sunday, December 27

10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Livestream

Northminster Baptist Church
3955 Ridgewood Road
Jackson, MS 39211
601-982-4703
601-982-4705 FAX
www.northminsterbaptist.org

Living Nativity Recording
Sunday, December 20 – 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

While we cannot gather in large groups, we have developed a plan for the Living Nativity which follows the spirit of the COVID guidelines we have and allows our children to experience this important moment in their year.

This Sunday from 4pm to 7pm, we will film the children in groups of no more than three families in the sanctuary in costume singing one of the songs from the Living Nativity and then those videos will be combined into one video that will be live streamed on Christmas Eve, and available to share with your loved ones.

For questions or to sign up for a time slot, please contact Lesley Ratcliff.

lesley@northminsterbaptist.org or 601.927.0259

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**Longest Night Service**

**Monday, December 21 - 5:30 p.m.– via Zoom**

Sometimes referred to as Blue Christmas, a Longest Night service acknowledges the hard parts of Christmas, and draws us toward the hope of Christ. The Zoom information and an order of service will be sent in a church-wide email on Monday. Join us for a time of prayer and light on the longest night of the year.

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New Year's Eve

Reflection and Communion ~ Thursday, December 31
6:00–7:00 p.m. ~ in the Sanctuary

The sanctuary will be open for one hour on New Year's Eve for a time of quiet reflection and guided meditation.
Communion will be served to those who wish to partake.

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**MEALS ON WHEELS**  
**Monday, December 28**

**Cooks:**

Ann Vickery  
Gail Poole  
Lawana McLennan

**Drivers:**

Rt. 1 Luke Dove & Bob Hardin  
Rt. 2 Kay Allen & Geri Smith

**Monday, January 4**

**Cooks:**

Annette Hitt  
Kandy Sims  
Lisa Cobb

**Drivers:**

Rt. 1 Julie & Dudley Wooley  
Rt. 2 Marianna Fields & Janet Holt

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Brumfield House

December 24

Skipper Jernigan

December 31

Jeff Wilson

The Greeting

Lesley Ratcliff

The Lessons

Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26
Romans 16:25-27

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

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

“But when the kindness of God our Savior appeared, we were saved, not because of the righteous things we have done, but because of the mercy of God.”

-Titus 3:4-5

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Major Treadway

The Meditation

“Meditation on Greensleeves”

Callahan

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

Charles Poole

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem

“Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head”
Rose Mary Porter, *soprano*

Walker

The Sermon

“Do Not Be Afraid”

Charles Poole

TIME OF RESPONSE

“Lord, grant that we might not so much seek to be loved as to love.”

-St. Francis of Assisi

*The Recessional Hymn No. 170 “It Came upon the Midnight Clear”

CAROL

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
“Peace on the earth, goodwill to men, from heaven's all gracious King”:
the world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,
when, with the ever circling years, shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and all the world give back the song which now the angels sing.

*The Benediction

Charles Poole

*The Postlude

“O Hail This Brightest Day of Days”

Bach

***The congregation will please stand.**

The Lectionary passages for December 20 are found on the following pages in the Pew Bible:

II Samuel 7:1-11, 16 ~ page 245
Luke 1:46b-55 ~ page 832
Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 ~ page 475
Romans 16:25-27 ~ page 926
Luke 1:26-38 ~ page 831

Musician for today:

Amulet Strange, *flute*

CAREGIVING CONCERNS:

CURRENT CAREGIVING CONCERNS:

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to Paul and Vanessa Watson on the death of Paul's sister, Mary Virginia Griffiee.

CONGRATULATIONS to Drew and Jennifer Smith Rymer, on the occasion of their marriage on Saturday, December 5, at the family Lake House in Moss Point.

Daron Wilson is hospitalized at Baptist.

Eda Jackson is hospitalized at St. Dominic.

ONGOING CAREGIVING CONCERNS:

Merle Dean	Sue Edwards	Virginia Hamilton
Libby McGee	Robyn Chunn	R.W. McCarley
Pat Walston	Jack Cochran	Robbie Cross
Vivian Thompson	Martha Collum	Nancy Herrin
Roxanne Aldridge	Gorman Schaffer	

Martha Quarles, mother of Lori Quarles

Louise Lott, mother of Cindy Griffin

Remember those in military service: Chris Spencer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today is the Fourth Sunday of Advent, the inaugural season of the Christian year. Advent is a time of spiritual preparation for the coming of Christ. The color purple reflects the Advent themes of confession and repentance as we "prepare the way of the Lord."

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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 December is Faye Barham.

The Caregiving Coordinators for December are the Co-Chairs.

The Caregivers of the Week are Betty Brown Edgar, Annette Hitt and Faye Barham.

The Liturgist for December is Rush Miller.

The Flowers for December are provided by Lisa Kelly.

The Usher Captains for December are Keith Davis and Nancy Smith.

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The Worship of God on Christmas Eve

Thursday, December 24 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Join the service through the livestream by going to

<https://northminsterbaptist.org/watchlive/>.

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***The Church office will be closed Thursday,  
December 24 and Friday, December 25.***

***For pastoral care needs, please call 601-259-7993.***

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The Worship and Music Committee has prepared

The Season of Advent Devotional Guide 2020.

These worship guides for personal and family worship are available throughout the church and a digital copy can be downloaded from the Northminster website during the Advent season.

Please feel free to take copies for your family and friends as needed.

POINSETTIAS

Lovingly given by

Jack Dean in memory of Elizabeth Tillman Dean
John and Gayla Purvis in memory of Ruth and Richard Ballard
John and Gayla Purvis in memory of Janet and George Purvis
Anne Brawley in memory of Virgil Brawley
Anne Brawley in memory of Sheila Chester
Jack Root, Lindy Root, Bo Coleman and Smith Coleman in memory of
 Jacqueline Smith Root
Jack Root, Lindy Root, Bo Coleman and Smith Coleman in memory of
 Lara Ashley Root Coleman
David and Sunny Fowler, Daron, Jan and Tori Wilson in memory of Dr. Mac and
 Ann McDonnial
David and Sunny Fowler in memory of Dr. J.B. and Wanda Fowler
Jo Ann S. Welch in memory of Scotty Welch
Ann Walt Tagliamonte in memory of Tom Frank Kirkpatrick
Ann Walt Tagliamonte in memory of Jean Walt Stallings
Cindy and Jeff Wilson in memory of Dorothy and Kenton Polk
Cindy and Jeff Wilson in memory of Inez Wilson
Joe M. and June Rankin in memory of Douglas M. Rankin and Bobbie Nell Rankin
Lyllian McMullan, M'lee Williams, Misti Crisler and Mart McMullan in memory of
 Dr. Mart McMullan
Jake, Zach, Anna Kate and Luke Williams, Robert, Jack and Caroline Crisler,
 Connor and Sam McMullan and William Seymour in memory of Dr. Mart
 "Big Daddy" McMullan
Leigh Ann and Brendan Ross in memory of Louis and Kathleen Ramsey
Leigh Ann and Brendan Ross in memory of Marie Ross
Leigh Ann and Brendan Ross in memory of Jean Clements
Monica Daniels, Rose Daniels and Andrew Bryant in memory of Callie Daniels Bryant
Dianne and Kurt Metzner in memory of Leona and Walter Huedepohl
Dianne and Kurt Metzner in memory of Berniece and Curt Metzner
Lori Quarles in memory of John Quarles
Barbara Webb in memory of Dr. Henry "Hal" Webb
Barbara Webb in memory of Mr. and Mrs. T.C. Harris
Randall and Brenda Smith in memory of Lawrence & Merle Crumpton and
 Sandra Gayle Crumpton
Randall and Brenda Smith in memory of Felicita and Jason Smith
Randall and Brenda Smith in memory of Nell Myers Stanley
Randall and Brenda Smith in memory of Kendall Rogers
Randall and Brenda Smith in memory of Louis and Dorothy Smith
Ann Vickery and Lisa Kelly in memory of Harry Vickery
Brian, Ramsey, Ann Arrington, Carter and Cruise Long in memory of
 Ann Arrington Cruise
Joan Haynie in memory of Mary Evelyn and Thomas W. Patton
Lee and Kathryn Sams in memory of Kathryn Y. Becker
Lee and Kathryn Sams in memory of James A. Becker
Lee and Kathryn Sams in memory of Carr Sams
Dolph and Dea Dea Baker in memory of Dot and Fred Adams
Dolph and Dea Dea Baker in memory of Jan and Rip Baker
Max and Diann Arinder in memory of Clifton and Beulah Arinder
Max and Diann Arinder in memory of William and Lois Adams
Pauline Cochran in memory of Paul and Meta Hand
Pauline Cochran in memory of David and Hazel Cochran
Pauline Cochran in memory of Ernest and Shirley Cochran

Kyle, Kim, George and Wesley Watson in memory of J. Clifford and Martha Watson
 Kyle, Kim, George and Wesley Watson in memory of Kyra Robertson Watson
 Kyle, Kim, George and Wesley Watson in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene H. Behm
 Kyle, Kim, George and Wesley Watson in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene P. Cohen
 Kyle, Kim, George and Wesley Watson in memory of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Robertson
 Kyle, Kim, George and Wesley Watson in memory of Tracey R. Cohen
 Claire Sims in memory of Charles Henry Holmes
 Claire Sims in memory of Dale and Pinky Stockstill
 Claire Sims in memory of Peggy Kirkland Sims
 Cecilia Cox, Buck and Donna Cox and Cam Bradford in memory of Bill Cox
 Becky and Guy Parker, III family in memory of Dr. Pat Welsh
 Becky and Guy Parker, III family in memory of Dr. Mart McMullan
 Becky and Guy Parker, III family in memory of Mr. Roger Friou
 Jud Lee in memory of Jane Morgan Lee Chandler
 John and Janet Clark in memory of Jim Hendrick
 John and Janet Clark in memory of Mary Hendrick
 John and Janet Clark in memory of John S. Clark
 John and Janet Clark in memory of Mamie Craft Clark
 John and Janet Clark in memory of Larry Clark
 John and Janet Clark in memory of Ethan Clark
 John Palmer in memory of John N. Palmer, Jr.
 John Palmer in memory of Mrs. John N. Palmer
 Lynda and Ben McCarty in memory of Roger Friou
 Susie Friou in memory of Roger P. Friou
 Marcia and Chuck Poole in memory of Hazel Smith

POINSETTIAS

Lovingly given by

Mary Ashley Adkins in honor of Annette Hitt
 Jo Ann S. Welch in honor of the Mary Foose Sunday School Class
 Crisler and Doug Boone in honor of Helen and Red Moffat
 Crisler and Doug Boone in honor of Suzanne and Bill Boone
 Crisler and Doug Boone in honor of Will and Sam Boone
 Crisler and Doug Boone in honor of Kirk Sims, Jeff Stancill, Brooks Elfert, and
 Northminster Pastors
 Joe M. and June Rankin in honor of Latou A. and Mary Louise Tutor
 M'lee Williams in honor of Kelley Williams, Jr.
 Kelley and M'lee Williams in honor of Jake, Zach, Anna Kate and Luke Williams
 Grateful Members in honor of Our Northminster Pastors
 Grateful Members in honor of Our Northminster Staff
 Tom and Connie Kossen in honor of the Chair of Technology Committee,
 Kelley Williams, Jr.
 Joan Haynie in honor of Fred A. Powell
 Lee and Kathryn Sams in honor of Sandy and Mary Helen Sams
 Max and Diann Arinder in honor of our church pastors and staff
 Max and Diann Arinder in honor of Jim & Gloria Martin
 Pauline Cochran in honor of Chuck and Marcia Poole
 Pauline Cochran in honor of Bill and Sheila Nicholas
 Pauline Cochran in honor of Jim and Elta Johnston
 Becky and Guy Parker, III family in honor of All Northminster Staff and Ministers
 Becky and Guy Parker, III family in honor of Judy and Guy Parker
 Becky and Guy Parker, III family in honor of Bob and Anne Blackmon
 Becky and Guy Parker, III family in honor of Julia and Mary Lynn Parker
 The Dr. Mart McMullan family in honor of Dr. Chuck Poole
 Susie Friou in honor of Suzanne and Bill Boone
 Susie Friou in honor of Dianne and Kurt Metzner
 Marcia and Chuck Poole in honor of Northminster Baptist Church