

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

“Lo, I tell you a mystery”
but the mystery is larger
than the telling.
It eludes our boundaries,
it escapes our
taming
and
naming.
I love the mystery.

-Robert Raines

*NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211*

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Second Sunday of Christmastide

January 2, 2022

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

Open our hearts, O Lord, and enlighten our minds, by the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may seek what is well pleasing to your will.

-The Venerable Bede

The Prelude "The Old Year Now Hath Passed Away" Bach

The Spoken Call to Worship Charles Poole

*The Processional Hymn No. 181 "As with Gladness Men of Old" *DIX*

As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold;
as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright,
so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped to that lowly manger bed,
there to bend the knee before him whom heaven and earth adore,
so, may we with willing feet ever seek the mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare at that manger rude and bare,
so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heavenly King.

Holy Jesus, every day keep us in the narrow way;
and when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glory hide.

*The Christmas Banner May Taylor

*The Litany of Praise Amanda Milam

Leader: The Lord be with you;

People: And also with you.

Leader: God, your will is still creating, calling us to life made new.

People: You have called us to be faithful in our lives and ministry.

Leader: Now reveal to us fresh vistas where there is work to do.

People: Created in your image, we would a true reflection be of your justice, grace and mercy.

All: We respond in grateful worship, joined in one community.

-Jane Parker Huber, *adapted*

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

*The Prayer of Invocation Amanda Milam

The Greeting Lesley Ratcliff

The Lessons
Jeremiah 31:7-14
Ephesians 1:3-14

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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
Associate Pastor for Children and Adults
Associate Pastor for Students
Minister of Music
Organist
Organist Emeritus
Pastors' Secretary/Administrative Assistant
Financial Secretary
Receptionist/Secretary
Sexton
Wider Net Ministry Coordinator

Charles Poole
Lesley Ratcliff
Major Treadway
Tim Coker
Sheila Hess
Billy Trotter
Leslie Ward
Sam South
Jan Wilson/Neeley Grimsley
Lamenais Simeon
Rosaline McCoy

THE CHURCH IN SERVICE

Sunday, January 2

9:15 a.m.

Sunday School

10:30 a.m.

Worship Service/Communion

Monday, January 3

7:00 a.m.

Men on First and Third, GH

8:30 a.m.

Caregiving, L/CR

10:00 a.m.

Meals on Wheels

Wednesday, January 5

7:00 a.m.

Men's Bible Study, L/CR

5:30 p.m.

Mentor Parents Meeting

7:00 p.m.

Choir, Choir Room

Friday, January 7

6:00 p.m.

Parents' Night Out, NCC

Saturday, January 8

9:00 a.m.

Deacons' Retreat, GH

Sunday, January 9

9:15 a.m.

Sunday School

10:30 a.m.

Worship Service/Deacon Ordination

3:30 p.m.

Children's Ministries Committee, L/CR

5:00 p.m.

Youth, YH

5:00 p.m.

Atrium, Girls of Grace and Guys 456

5:30 p.m.

Baptism of the Lord Vesper Service,

Sanctuary

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

Children's Birthday Gathering

Tuesday, January 11 ~ 3:00 p.m. -5:00 p.m.

Children who have a birthday in January are invited to stop by the Northminster Great Hall between 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. to enjoy an ice cream treat with Lesley.

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## CHILDREN'S WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

### January 9

#### **Firecrackers**

Dana & Scott Wilson

#### **Sparklers**

Kelly & Josh Guyton

### January 16

#### **Chapel Coordinators**

Lesley & Brock Ratcliff

#### **Firecrackers**

Dabbs & Jeffery Massey

#### **Sparklers**

Courtney & Walt Denton

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MEALS ON WHEELS

Monday, January 3

Cooks:

Lisa Cobb
Annette Hitt
Becky Wooley

Drivers:

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

Wednesday, January 19

Cooks

Jo Ann Welch
Carolyn McIntyre
Shari Culver

Drivers:

Rt. 1 Nancy Smith & Amy Finkelberg
Rt. 2 Carol Taff & Sandi Rhoden

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

God of mercy and forgiveness,
For the times when our love of indulgence and ease have weakened our hold on spiritual things,
Forgive us.
Amen

-Kenneth Slack, *adapted*

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Major Treadway

INTERCESSION AND DEDICATION

*The Offertory Hymn No. 185 "We Three Kings of Orient Are"

KINGS OF ORIENT

We three kings of Orient are,
bearing gifts we traverse afar
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

Refrain:

*O star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.*

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever ceasing never
over us all to reign.

Refrain:

Frankincense to offer have I,
incense owns a Deity nigh;
prayer and praising gladly raising,
worshiping God on high.

Refrain:

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom,
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

Refrain:

Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and Sacrifice;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
sounds thro' the earth and skies.

Refrain:

*The Offertory Prayer

Amanda Milam

The Offertory

"How Lovely Shines the Morning Star"

Manz

*The Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Gospel John 1:1-9 Charles Poole
Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**
The Anthem "Sweet Little Jesus Boy" traditional
Jack McDaniel, *bass*
The Sermon "Concerning the Mystery of God's Will" Charles Poole

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Call to the Table Charles Poole
The Communion Litany
Pastor: On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples and said, "Take, eat: This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."
People: **Thanks be to God for the broken bread.**
Pastor: After supper, he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."
People: **Thanks be to God for the cup.**
Pastor: Thanks be to God for the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus.
All: **Thanks be to God for the table of communion.**
The Bread
Worshippers will come forward by the center aisle. Receive the bread and, having received it, return to your seat by the outside aisle.
The Cup
Worshippers will be served the cup seated in the pews. Take the cup, a symbol of your willingness to receive the Grace of God. Once all have been served, drink the cup together.

COMMITMENT

Northminster is an open fellowship that wants to share its gift of life and ministry with others. During the Time of Response, this church extends to you an invitation to membership by your request for baptism, by letter from a sister church, or by statement of your Christian experience in another denomination. If you would like to unite with this covenant community, please express this desire by coming forward at this point of the service.

STUDENT NEWS:

Sunday Nights at the Youth House: January 9, 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Nights at the Youth House start back. Join us for a shared meal, games, lessons, prayer, and fellowship.
MLK Service Day: Monday, January 17.
Time to be together, to serve and to reflect.
Super Bowl Party: Sunday February 6, 5:00 p.m.
Youth Sunday and Dessert Auction : Sunday February 20.
The Youth will teach Sunday School throughout the church and lead worship. Following the worship service, the congregation will be invited to enjoy a lunch in the Great Hall and bid on desserts donated. This is the only fundraiser for the Youth throughout the year. For now, put a hold on that date on your calendar and begin dreaming of what delicious dessert you want to create for the auction.

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**Northminster Essentials**

Sunday, January 23 through Sunday, March 6  
9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.  
Library

If you are seeking to better understand the history and practices of the family of faith called Northminster, whether you are a friend of the church, a prospective or new member wanting to become more involved in the life of the church or a long-time member wanting to expand your knowledge of Northminster, this is the course for you.

For questions or to sign up, please call the church office at 601.927.0259 or email [lesley@northminsterbaptist.org](mailto:lesley@northminsterbaptist.org).

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PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Friday, January 7 ~ 6:00-10:00 p.m. ~ NCC

You can make a reservation for your children (infant-6th grade) by calling the church office, **601-982-4703, by Wednesday, January 5.**

Please remember to feed your children before they arrive, or provide a brown-bag supper.

***We will also have Parents' Night Out:
February 4 and March 4.***

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**Baptism of the Lord  
Vesper Service**

**January 9 ~ 5:30 p.m.**


Since 2004, Northminster has offered an annual evening service at which those who wish may receive baptism. For 2022, this opportunity will be offered on the evening of Baptism of the Lord Sunday, which falls on January 9.

If you wish to receive baptism in a smaller setting than our Sunday morning worship hour, this may be an opportunity you will wish to consider. To have a conversation about baptism on the evening of January 9, please call one of the pastors before the end of the year.

**CAREGIVING CONCERNS:**

**CARE CARDS** may be found in the pew racks, if you would like to write anyone. Place your cards in the offering plate. Cards will be mailed from the church office on Monday morning.

**CURRENT CAREGIVING CONCERNS:**

 Northminster is saddened by the death of LC James, an active member of Northminster since 2019. Christian sympathy is extended to all of LC’s family and friends.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Cy and Natalie Parks on the birth of their daughter, Sellars Dalen Parks. Sellars is also welcomed by her brother, Stetson Parks, and her grandmother, Dawn Warrington.

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** to Rebecca and Mark Wiggs on the death of Rebecca’s mother, Jewell Lee.

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** to Julia and Todd Sherwood on the death of Julia’s father, Lee Carroll Brown.

**ONGOING CAREGIVING CONCERNS:**

|                  |                |                   |
|------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Emily Smith      | Sue Edwards    | Robyn Chunn       |
| Roxanne Aldridge | R. W. McCarley | Virginia Hamilton |
| Pat Walston      | Jack Cochran   | Gorman Schaffer   |
| Vivian Thompson  | Martha Collum  | Libby McGee       |
| Anne Brawley     | Robbie Cross   |                   |

Martha Quarles, mother of Lori Quarles

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Today is the Second Sunday of Christmastide;** a twelve-day celebration of the birth of Jesus, and the incarnation of God in the life of Christ. The liturgical color is white, symbolic of the purity of Christ.

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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 Smith Boykin.
The Caregiving Chair for January is Faye Barham.
The Caregiving Coordinator for January is Nancy Bourn.
The Caregiver of the Week is Zina Bass.
The Liturgist for January is Linda McGehee.
The Flowers for January are provided by Kandy Sims and Jennifer Stribling.
The Usher Captain for January is Dawn Warrington.

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**Communion and Children**

Communion Sundays are special times of worship at Northminster, and we want all of our children to feel as included as possible. It has been a long-standing tradition at Northminster that each family will decide whether or not non-baptized children can receive Communion. Please know that children who have not yet been baptized and whose families decide that they need to wait to receive Communion can still come forward to receive a blessing from the deacons who are serving Communion. *To signify that they wish to receive the blessing but not Communion, these children simply need to cross their arms over their chests, as if in prayer, when they approach a deacon who is serving the bread.* Hopefully, this option will provide non-baptized children who do not partake in Communion a way to more fully participate in the worship life of our faith community. Jesus Christ said, “Let the little children come to me.” Here at Northminster, our desire is to be as welcoming of children as the Savior we follow.

**TIME OF RESPONSE**

Not my will Lord, but thy will be done.

-Luke 22:42

\*The Recessional Hymn No. 539 “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” HOUSTON

I want to walk as a child of the light;  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world,  
the star of my life is Jesus.

**Refrain:**

*In him there is no darkness at all;  
the night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God:  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.*

I want to see the brightness of God;  
I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,  
and show me the way to the Father.

**Refrain:**

I’m looking for the coming of Christ;  
I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race,  
we shall know the joy of Jesus.

**Refrain:**

\*The Benediction Charles Poole  
\*The Postlude “As With Gladness Men of Old” Burkhardt  
\*The congregation will please stand.

**The Lectionary passages for January 2 are found on the following pages in the Pew Bible:**

Jeremiah 31:7-14 ~ page 641  
Psalm 147:12-20 ~ pages 507- 508  
Ephesians 1:3-14 ~ page 949  
John 1:(1-9) 10-18 ~ page 862