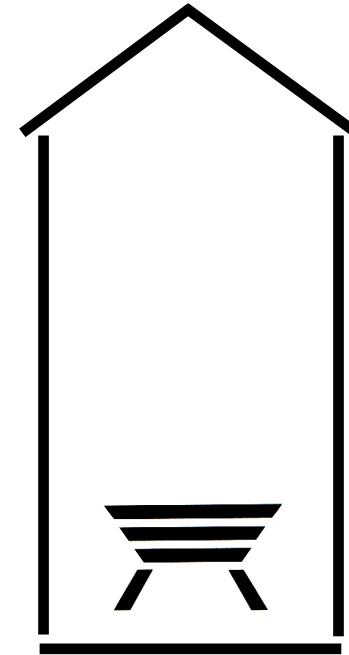


POINSETTIAS

Lovingly given in honor by

Mike Peters in honor of Mitch, Ceejaye, Anna Mitchell, Elizabeth and Eleanor Peters
Mike Peters in honor of Sam, Courtney, Savannah, Marshall and Milton Peters
Grateful members in honor of Our Pastors
Grateful members in honor of Our Church Staff
Amy and George Williams in honor of Jean and Kelley Williams
George and Mary Elizabeth Smith in honor of Chuck and Marcia Poole
Madeleine and Mary Gilbert Wylie in honor of Rush and Kathy Miller
The Wylie Family in honor of Pastor Lesley and Pastor Major
Gray Jackson and Dabbs Massey in honor of Ann and Gerry Lauman
Gray Jackson and Dabbs Massey in honor of Carolyn Aden
John and Gail England in honor of Elizabeth Triplett
John and Gayla Purvis in honor of Cate and Jack Purvis
John and Gayla Purvis in honor of Sybil and Davis Frame
John and Gayla Purvis in honor of Ryder Purvis
Becky and Guy Parker in honor of Judy and Guy Parker
Becky and Guy Parker in honor of Anne and Bob Blackmon
Becky and Guy Parker in honor of Julia and Mary Lynn Parker
Max and Diann Arinder in honor of Northminster Pastors and Staff
Max and Diann Arinder in honor of Mary Foose Sunday School Class
Lori Quarles in honor of Martha Quarles
M'lee and Kelley Williams in honor of Jake, Zach, Anna Kate and Luke Williams
M'lee Williams in honor of Kelley Williams, Jr.
Eddie, Barrie, Cole, Andrew and Nicholas Mahaffey in honor of Carolyn Donnell Aden
Eddie, Barrie, Cole, Andrew and Nicholas Mahaffey in honor of Dean Mahaffey
Sam Sanders in honor of Bobbie Jean Sanders
The Choir in honor of Tim Coker and Sheila Hess



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

As Christmas trees are lighted,
as people rush to shop and send their cards,
as Christmas songs are heard everywhere,
keep us close to you,
that the one whose coming we celebrate -
Jesus Christ - may be honored by all we do.

May all that we do in this season
shine forth with your love.

We are your people.

Love through us.

Let Christ be seen in us;
for we pray in Christ's name.

Amen.

-Ruth C. Duck

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 18, 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

I'm ever and always a stranger to grace. I need this annual angel visitation...to know the virgin conceives and God is with us.

-Eugene H. Peterson

The Prelude "Awake, Awake for Night Is Flying" Bach

The Call to Worship "Savior of the Nations, Come" Coker/Bach

*Savior of the nations, come; Mary's Son, make here your home.
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.
Come, Lord, come!*

*The Advent Banner May Taylor

*The Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle: Love Madeleine Wylie

Eddie, Barrie, Cole, Andrew and Nicholas Mahaffey in memory of
Barry Burleigh Aden

Eddie, Barrie, Cole, Andrew and Nicholas Mahaffey in memory of
Robert Joseph Mahaffey, Sr.

Nicky and Diane Drake in memory of Margie and Noble Brooks

Nicky and Diane Drake in memory of Lois and Woodrow Drake

The Greener Family in memory of Sharon Stribling Greener

The Greener Family in memory of Shirley Bradham Faile

Sam Sanders in memory of Jim Sanders

Sam Sanders in memory of Bill Sanders

Joe D. Rankin in memory of Craig Cunningham

By their family in memory of Mac and Ann McDonneal

The Choir in memory of Jim Hess

Light the Light, the Fire of Life

IL EST NÉ

6 Light the light, the fire of life, let the

11 can - dle re - veal His glo - ry. Je - sus Christ has

Fine

17 come to earth and for us shall come a - gain.

23 Light the can - dle of His love, light the light of _

29 Beth - lehem's sta - ble, light the can - dle of His love,

light the light by _ which we see.

The musical score is written for a single voice in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. It consists of nine staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score begins with a repeat sign and ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The word 'Fine' is written above the staff at measure 11.

POINSETTIAS

Lovingly given in memory by

Ann Arrington, Carter, Cruise, Ramsey and Brian Long in memory of
Ann Arrington Cruise
Mike, Mitch and Sam Peters in memory of Anne Peters
By her family in memory of Dianne Metzner
By their family in memory of Leona and Walter Huedepohl
By their family in memory of Berniece and Curt Metzner
Jennifer Rymer in memory of Emily Smith
Pam Carter, Lanna Daniels, Wright and Jones, and Cori Ely, Bowen, Blair and Hannah
Rhodes in memory of Sam Cox
Dea Dea and Dolph Baker in memory of Dot and Fred Adams
Dea Dea and Dolph Baker in memory of Jan and Rip Baker
Amanda and Sherry Milam in memory of Dr. John B. Milam
Amy and George Williams in memory of Beth Breland
George and Mary Elizabeth Smith in memory of Bru (Julius) Ridgway
George and Mary Elizabeth Smith in memory of Pat Welsh
George and Mary Elizabeth Smith in memory of Al Meena
George and Mary Elizabeth Smith in memory of Judy Kirkpatrick
Gray Jackson and Dabbs and Jeffery, Logan, Dylan, Sterling and
Rhodes Massey in memory of Eda and Gray Jackson
Joe M. and June Rankin in memory of Latou and Louise Tutor
Joe M. and June Rankin in memory of Douglas and Bobbie Rankin
Joe M. and June Rankin in memory of Rev. Jim Hess
The Wooley Family in memory of O.B. and Easie Wooley
John and Gayla Purvis in memory of Jan and George Purvis
John and Gayla Purvis in memory of Ruth and Richard Ballard
Kim, Kyle, George and Wesley Watson in memory of J. Clifford and
Martha Watson
Kim, Kyle, George and Wesley Watson in memory of Kyra Robertson Watson
Kim, Kyle, George and Wesley Watson in memory of Mr. and Mrs.
Eugene H. Behm
Kim, Kyle, George and Wesley Watson in memory of Mr. and Mrs.
Eugene P. Cohen
Kim, Kyle, George and Wesley Watson in memory of Mr. and Mrs.
W. C. Robertson
Kim, Kyle, George and Wesley Watson in memory of Tracey R. Cohen
Billy and Annette Trotter in memory of Tom and Maurice Gregory
Billy and Annette Trotter in memory of Rosemary Harrison
Billy and Annette Trotter in memory of James Hess
Carolyn and Buddy McIntyre in memory of W. R. and Elizabeth Newman
Carolyn and Buddy McIntyre in memory of John and Anne McIntyre
Becky and Guy Parker in memory of Howard McMillan
Anne McCaslin, Rollins and Becca in memory of Howard McMillan
Sybil, Davis, Anna and Andy Frame in memory of Jan and George Purvis
Max and Diann Arinder in memory of William and Lois Adams
Max and Diann Arinder in memory of Clifton and Beulah Arinder
Lori Quarles in memory of John Quarles
Pat and Mike Beall in memory of Suzi Beall Culbert
Lee and Kathryn Sams in memory of Jim Becker
Lee and Kathryn Sams in memory of Kathryn Becker
Lee and Kathryn Sams in memory of Carr Sams
Lee and Kathryn Sams in memory of Mary Helen Sams

*The Processional Hymn No. 157 “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” *IN DULCI JUBILO*

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss; Jesus Christ was born for this;
he has opened heaven’s door, and we are blest forever more.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save;
calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

*The Litany of Praise

Caroline Crisler

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Welcome, saints of God, to this time of celebration; come with
clean hands and pure hearts to worship God.

**People: We come to this holy place seeking a blessing. We gather as
apostles to renew our faith.**

Leader: Let us together prepare to greet the child of Mary, the one called
Emmanuel, God with us.

**People: We remember the story of God's greatest gift. We lift up our
heads to share the good news.**

Leader: Be still, that the Holy Spirit may be known to us; be open to the
grace and peace of salvation.

**All: We affirm that God loves us and all people; we seek to live that
love among all we meet.**

-Lavon Bayler

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

MEINEKE

*The Prayer of Invocation

Caroline Crisler

The Greeting

Major Treadway

The Lessons

Isaiah 7:10-16

Romans 1:1-7

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

Christ has come so that we know there is forgiveness; and in that we find our true
hope, our only peace, our source of joy, our capacity for love. Thanks be to God.

Amen.

-Maren C. Tirabassi

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

The Morning Prayer and Lord’s Prayer

Norman Perkins

INTERCESSION AND DEDICATION

*The Offertory 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 Offertory Prayer Caroline Crisler

The Offertory “People, Look East” Wood

*The Doxology *LASST UNS ERFREUEN*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Christ, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Holy Spirit evermore.
Praise Loving God, whom we adore. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Gospel Matthew 1:18-25 Lesley Ratcliff

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” Hobby

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.

Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of ev’ry nation, joy of ev’ry longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king;
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.
Rule in all; hope of all. Come, expected Jesus. Come.

The Sermon “Be Born in Us” Lesley Ratcliff

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 an invitation to membership by 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 come forward at this point in the service.

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.

Associate Pastor for Children and Adults
Associate Pastor for Students
Minister of Music
Organist
Organist Emeritus
Office Manager
Financial Secretary
Receptionist/Secretary
Sexton

Lesley Ratcliff
Major Treadway
Tim Coker
Sheila Hess
Billy Trotter
Leslie Ward
Sam South
Jan Wilson/Neely Grimsley
Lamenais Simeon

THE CHURCH IN SERVICE

Sunday, December 18

9:00 a.m. Living Nativity Rehearsal, Choir Room
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Monday, December 19

8:30 a.m. Caregiving, L/CR

Wednesday, December 21

7:00 a.m. Men’s Bible Study, L/CR
10:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, December 24

4:30 p.m. Live Nativity Rehearsal
5:00 p.m. Pre-service Music
5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Communion Service

Sunday, December 25

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

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

Rabbi Rosen of Beth Israel has invited any interested
Northminster congregants to participate in

Judaism 101

at Beth Israel on select Tuesdays.

Meetings will take place from 7:00-9:00 p.m.
December 20; January 10, 17, 31; and February 7.

A Zoom option is available.

If you would like more information, please contact the church office.

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## **Honduran Coffee for Salt and Light**

Premium Honduran coffee is currently for sale at \$12 per bag.

Proceeds will help fund expenses of Sal y Luz Ministry in Honduras.

To purchase, please call Jann Puckett at 601-594-8590. Jann will deliver to your home.

Please make checks payable to **Salt and Light Ministries (no cash, please)**.

~~~~~

MEALS ON WHEELS

Wednesday, December 21

Cooks

Rose Mary Porter

Kathryn Davis

Jan Stewart

Drivers

Rt. 1 Suzan & Tommy Thames

Rt. 2 Beverly Raddin & Taylor Pedigo

Meals on Wheels needs volunteers!

Meals on Wheels needs a driver for Wednesdays and a cook for Mondays.

If you are interested, please notify the following:

Drivers contact Steve Bass at 601-209-2436

Cooks contact Peggy Brady at 601-201-6242

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## **CHILDREN'S WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE**

### **December 25**

#### **Firecrackers & Sparklers**

Karen Treadway & Brock Ratcliff

### **January 1**

#### **Firecrackers & Sparklers**

Dabbs & Jeffery Massey

~~~~~

BRUMFIELD HOUSE

December 22

Jeff Wilson

December 29

Mike Peters

TIME OF RESPONSE

Now you might be a shepherd, you might be a king,

You might be rich or poor.

You're probably somewhere in between.

You might be lost and lonely, you might have traveled far,

But the good news is that God has finally come to where you are.

-Kyle Matthews, Chris Harris & Don Wise

*The Recessional Hymn No. 152 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

GLORIA

Angels we have heard on high
sweetly singing o'er the plains
and the mountains in reply
echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain:

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say, what may the tidings be
which inspire your heavenly song?

Refrain:

Come to Bethlehem, and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Refrain:

See within a manger laid
Jesus, Lord of heaven and earth!
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
sing with us our Savior's birth.

Refrain:

*The Benediction

Lesley Ratcliff

*The Postlude

"Lift Up Your Heads"

Cherwien

**The congregation will please stand.*

**The Lectionary passages for December 18 are found on the following pages in the
pew Bible:**

Isaiah 7:10-16 ~ page 554

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19 ~ pages 470-471

Romans 1:1-7 ~ pages 913-914

Matthew 1:18-25 ~ page 783

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.

ONGOING CAREGIVING CONCERNS

Cheryl Allen	Sue Edwards	Virginia Hamilton
Roxanne Aldridge	R.W. McCarley	Libby McGee
Jack Cochran	Vivian Thompson	Gorman Schaffer
Robbie Cross	Tom Starling	Carolyn Aden
Michael Grantham		

Martha Quarles, mother of Lori Quarles

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 Eddie Mahaffey.  
The Caregiving Chair for December is Annette Hitt.  
The Caregiver Coordinators for December are Annette Hitt, Steve Godbold, Sarah Reynolds and Faye Barham.  
The Caregiver of the Week is Steve Godbold.  
The Liturgist for December is Gray Jackson.  
The Flowers for December are provided by Lisa Kelly and Kandy Sims.  
The Usher Captain for December is Keith Davis.

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ADVENT WREATH AND CANDLES

The Advent wreath and candles have a rich tradition. While the wreath and candles are yearly placed in our sanctuary, we have not recently given special attention to their meaning. This year, with the assistance of our children, we will sing its meaning into our collective memories. A well-known carol tune will be used to help us experience more deeply the qualities the candles call forth in our worship. Hopefully, the congregation will begin to join the children in singing as the candles are lit.

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## **The Northminster Pulpit**

*During this season of our lives between Senior Pastors, Northminster welcomes the following ministers to the pulpit to offer the sermon for the day:*

**December 25:** Major Treadway  
**January 1:** Lesley Ratcliff  
**January 8:** Deacon Ordination, no sermon  
**January 15:** Major Treadway

## STUDENT NEWS

**Youth Sunday School:** Sunday mornings at 9:15-ish in the Youth House.

There will be donuts and good conversation.

**Sunday Nights at the Youth House:** Start back Sunday, January 8 at 5:00 p.m.

Join us for a shared meal, games, lessons, prayer and fellowship.

**MLK Service Day:** Monday, January 16. A time to be together, to serve and to reflect.

**Stewpot:** Saturday, February 4, 9:30 a.m. We will gather in the Great Hall kitchen and prepare a meal to be served at Stewpot, then we will eat lunch together.

**Super Bowl Party:** February 12, 5:00 p.m. until half-time is over. Come and watch the game, watch the commercials, or just eat and hang out. Just come. We'll watch the first half of the game and the halftime show.

**Youth Sunday/Dessert Auction:** February 19. Youth lead worship and teach Sunday school, followed by a church-wide luncheon and dessert auction to raise money for youth trips.

**Spring Break Trip:** March 11-15. Universal Studios, Florida. A week of good fun, good fellowship, and good memories in the making. Cost: \$500. Today is the last day to sign up. Contact Major with questions (major@northminsterbaptist.org).

**Passport 2023:** June 18-26. Converse University, Spartanburg, SC. Summer Camp. Meaningful Missions. Creative Discipleship. Fun. Cost: \$425. Sign up in the Youth House or with Major.

**Mystery Trip 2023:** July 6-11. Minimal details forthcoming. Embrace the Mystery! Cost: \$250. Sign up in the Youth House or with Major.

*(Cost should never be a barrier to participation; please let Major know if you or someone you know needs financial assistance to participate.)*

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New Year's Eve Reflection and Communion

**Saturday, 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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**Children's Birthday Gathering  
Tuesday, January 10  
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

Children who have a birthday in January are invited to stop by the Northminster Great Hall to enjoy an ice cream treat with Lesley

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**Pastoral Care Number
601-980-1002**