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

THE CHURCH IN SERVICE

Sunday, December 25

No Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Monday, December 26

Church office closed

10:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels

Tuesday, December 27

Church office closed

Wednesday, December 28 7:00 a.m.

Men's Bible Study, L/CR

Saturday, December 31

6:00 p.m. New Year's Eve Reflection Service

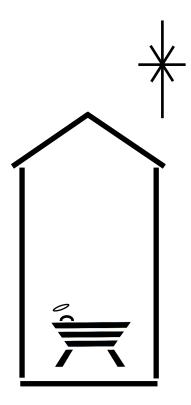
Sunday, January 1

No Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Monday, January 2

Church office closed



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

If, as Herod, we fill our lives with things, and again with things; if we consider ourselves so unimportant that we must fill every moment of our lives with action, when will we have the time to make the long, slow journey across the desert as did the Magi?

Or sit and watch the stars as did the shepherds?

Or brood over the coming of the child as did Mary?

For each one of us, there is a desert to travel. A star to discover.

And a being to bring to life.

-Anonymous, *Simple Abundance*

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

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH 3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

THE ACT OF WORSHIP Christmas Dav

December 25, 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

Every year the season leads me
Far away to that place
Where you are still a newborn baby
In the hay sleeping safely
Timeless Christmas Child
My heart holds you close today
'Cause I know what was to come
And I see what God has done
So each Christmas you could be born again in me.

-Kyle Matthews

The Prelude

"O Hail This Brightest Day of Days"

Bach

The Call to Worship

"Fanfare for Christmas"

Shaw

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

*The Christmas Banner

Anne Mabry Hendrix

*The Lighting of the Christ Candle

Iyanu Carson

Light the Light, the Fire of Life



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

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. on January 10, 17, 31; and February 7.

A Zoom option is available.

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

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

January 1

Firecrackers & Sparklers

Dabbs & Jeffery Massey

January 8

Firecrackers

Lorraine & Smith Boykin

Sparklers

Camille & Drew Snyder

BRUMFIELD HOUSE

December 29

Mike Peters

MEALS ON WHEELS

Monday, December 26

<u>Cooks</u> <u>Drivers</u>

Polly Watkins Rt. 1 Julie & Dudley Wooley

Peggy Brady Rt. 2 TBA

Helen Turner

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

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.

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.)

> > Parents of sixth graders are invited to attend the

Mentor Parents' Meeting

Wednesday, January 4 at 6:00 p.m.

in the Library.

Baptism of the Lord Vesper Service January $8 \sim 5:30$ p.m.

Since 2004, Northminster has offered an annual evening service at which those who wish may receive baptism. For 2023, this opportunity will be offered on the evening of Baptism of the Lord Sunday, which falls on January 8.

If you wish to receive baptism in a smaller setting than our Sunday morning worship hour, you may wish to consider this opportunity. To have a conversation about baptism on the evening of January 8, please call one of the pastors before December 30.

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

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

You can make a reservation for your children (infant-6th grade) by calling the church office at 601-982-4703 by Wednesday, January 4.

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

We will also have Parents' Night Out:

February 3, March 3 and April 28.

*The Processional Hymn No. 173 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!

Come and behold him, born the King of angels;

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him. Christ the Lord.

True God of true God, Light from Light eternal, lo, he shuns not the virgin's womb; Son of the Father, begotten, not created:

Refrain:

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation! O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above: "Glory to God, all glory in the highest";

Refrain:

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning, Jesus, to thee be all glory given;

Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;

Refrain:

*The Litany of Praise

Gray Jackson

ADESTE FIDELES

The Lord be with you. Leader:

People: And also with you.

Leader: A child is born, a child to save us. We share the news with great joy! People: Leader: A child is born, a child to challenge us. People: We share the news with great joy!

All: A child is born, a child for the world! We share the news with

great joy!

-Ruth Burgess

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

MEINEKE

*The Prayer of Invocation Gray Jackson Major Treadway The Greeting

The Lessons Isaiah 52:7-10 Hebrews 1:1-4

> Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

Merciful God, we lay before you all the idols that have kept us from true worship. We have been so distracted by our own concerns and destructive pleasures that we have not heard the songs of angels or seen your activity in the commonplace. You have brought light to the world, and we have chosen to live in darkness. O God, we need the Savior you have sent to deliver us from our self-destructive ways. We want to be led to a new day by the good news of great joy.

-Lavon Bayler

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Lesley Ratcliff

INTERCESSION AND DEDICATION

*The Offertory Hymn No. 162 "The First Noel, the Angel Did Say" THE FIRST NOEL

The first Noel, the angel did say, was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain:

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east, beyond them far, and to the earth it gave great light, and so in continued both day and night.

Refrain:

And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far, to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went.

Refrain:

This star drew nigh to the northwest, o'er Bethlehem it took its rest, and there it did both stop and stay, right over the place where Jesus lay.

Refrain:

Then entered in those wise men three, full reverently upon their knee, and offered there in his presence their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.

Refrain:

Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord, who hath made heaven and earth of naught, and with his blood our life hath bought.

Refrain:

*The Offertory Prayer

Gray Jackson

The Offertory

"Fantasy on Stille Nacht"

Coker

*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!

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
Roxanne Aldridge
Jack Cochran
Robbie Cross
Michael Grantham

Sue Edwards
R.W. McCarley
Libby McGee
Gorman Schaffer
Carolyn Aden

Martha Quarles, mother of Lori Quarles

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today is the first Sunday in the season of the Christian year known as Christmastide; a twelve-day celebration of the birth of Christ and the incarnation of God in the life of Christ. The liturgical color is white, symbolic of the purity of Christ.

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 December is Annette Hitt.

The Caregiver Coordinators for December are Annette Hitt, Steve Godbold, Sarah Reynolds and Faye Barham.

The Caregiving Chair for January is Annette Hitt.

The Caregiver Coordinator for January is Jean Welsh.

The Caregiver of the Week is Annette Hitt.

The Liturgist for December is Gray Jackson.

The Liturgist for January is Richard Joiner.

The Flowers for December are provided by Lisa Kelly and Kandy Sims.

The Flowers for January are provided by Jennifer Stribling and Kandy Sims.

The Usher Captain for December is Keith Davis.

The Usher Captain for January is Dawn Warrington.

The church office will be closed
Monday, December 26 and Tuesday, December 27.

For pastoral care needs, please call 601-980-1002.

New Year's Eve

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 offered.

*The Parting Anthem "Hallelujah" HANDEL

> Hallelujah! For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ. And He shall reign for ever and ever King of Kings

and Lord of lords. Hallelujah!

*The Benediction Major Treadway

*The Postlude "Swiss Noel" Daquin

The Lectionary passages for December 25 are found on the following pages in the pew Bible:

> Isaiah $62:6-12 \sim pages 604-605$ Psalm $97 \sim page 480$ Titus $3:4-7 \sim page 969$ Luke 2:(1-7) 8-20 \sim pages 832-833 Isaiah $52:7-10 \sim page 596$ Psalm $98 \sim page 480$ Hebrews 1:1-4 (5-12) ~ pages 970-971 John 1:1-14 ~ page 862

Musicians for today:

Vince Massimino, violin 1 Milena Rusanova, violin 2 Ausra Jasineviciute, viola Ben Randman, cello Glenn Hale, bass Joe M. Rankin, clarinet

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Gospel John 1:1-14 Major Treadway

> Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Anthem "Wexford Carol" Hagenberg

> Good people all, this Christmas time, Consider well and bear in mind What our good God for us has done In sending his beloved son.

With Mary holy we should pray, To God with love this Christmas Day. In Bethlehem upon that morn, There was a blessed Messiah born.

Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep. To whom God's angels did appear Which put the shepherds in great fear.

Prepare and go, the angels said To Bethlehem, be not afraid; For there you'll find, this happy morn A princely babe, sweet Jesus, born.

With thankful heart and joyful mind The shepherds went the babe to find And as God's angel had foretold They did our Saviour Christ behold.

Within a manger he was laid And by his side the virgin maid Attending on the Lord of Life Who came to earth to end all strife.

With Mary holy we should pray, To God with love this Christmas Day. In Bethlehem upon that morn,

There was a blessed Messiah born.

The Sermon "And the Word Became Flesh" Major Treadway

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.

TIME OF RESPONSE

May the gifts we give this Christmas Meet the needs that go unmet; May they heal the hurt between us; May they say what's gone unsaid. May we find at last in Jesus The gift we've always sought, And let the love we show each other be The gift we give to God.

-Kyle Matthews

^{*}The congregation will please stand.