



## **THE WORSHIP OF GOD**

Contrary to popular opinion, Christians are not nice people who never get angry with one another. Those are not the virtues of God's people. Our virtues are truth-telling, kindness, forgiveness, and yes, even angry-as long as it is the anger that is part of true love-through which we move closer to one another and to the God who has shown us how it is done.

-Barbara Brown Taylor

**THE ACT OF WORSHIP**  
**The Fifth Sunday in Lent**  
March 26, 2023  
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

Forgiveness is the giving, and so the receiving, of life.

-George MacDonald

The Prelude "See the Lord of Life and Light" Bach

The Call to Worship "Drop, Drop, Slow Tears" Gibbons

*Drop, drop, slow tears, and bathe those beautiful feet  
which brought from heav'n the news and Prince of Peace.*

*Cease not, wet eyes, his mercies to entreat;  
to cry for vengeance sin doth never cease.*

*In your deep floods drown all my faults and fears;  
nor let his eye see sin, but through my tears.*

The Procession of the Lenten Banner Cobb Hendrix

\*The Processional Hymn No. 52 "I Sing the Mighty Power of God" *ELLACOMBE*

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise,  
that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.

I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule by day;  
the moon shines full at his command and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord that filled the earth with food;  
he formed the creatures with his word and then pronounced them good.

Lord, how your wonders are displayed where'er I turn my eye,  
if I survey the ground I tread or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flower below but makes your glories known;  
and clouds arise and tempests blow by order from your throne;  
while all that borrows life from you is ever in your care,  
and everywhere that I may be, you, God, are present there.

\*The Litany of Praise Beverly Lawrence

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Out of the depths I have cried to You, O Lord.

**People: Lord, hear my voice.**

Leader: With You Lord there is forgiveness,

**All: Oh Lord, hear my voice. Amen.**

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

\*The Prayer of Invocation Beverly Lawrence

The Greeting Lesley Ratcliff

**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, March 26**

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
11:30 a.m. Children's Ministries Committee, NCC  
3:30 p.m. Guys' Scavenger Hunt, NCC Entrance  
5:00 p.m. Preschool & Elementary Atrium & SN456  
5:00 p.m. Youth, YH  
5:30 p.m. Adult Studies, Adult Ed. Building

**Monday, March 27**

8:30 a.m. Caregiving, L/CR  
10:30 a.m. Meals on Wheels  
5:30 p.m. Deacon Nominating Committee, L/CR  
5:30 p.m. Wider Net Committee, Adult Ed. Bldg.

**Tuesday, March 28**

6:00 p.m. Women's Lenten Gathering, GH

**Wednesday, March 29**

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study, GH  
5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper, GH  
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

**Saturday, April 1**

9:30 a.m. Youth Stewpot, GH

**Sunday, April 2**

9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service/Communion  
5:00 p.m. Preschool & Elementary Atrium & SN456  
5:00 p.m. Youth, YH  
5:30 p.m. Messiah Presentation

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

## Easter Egg Hunt and Picnic

Wednesday, April 12

5:30-7:00 p.m.

Everyone is invited to join us for the annual Easter Egg Hunt in the Youth House Backyard!

Preschool and Elementary aged children can bring their baskets and will hunt for eggs at 5:45 p.m.

### Prints of Wyatt Waters Painting

Would you like to have a print of the Wyatt Waters painting of Northminster presented to Chuck and Marcia Poole on the occasion of their retirement? Prints will be 9.25" x 12" and will cost \$135.00 each. At least 20 must be ordered for the limited edition to be produced.

If you are interested, please call Neely at 601-982-4703 or email her at [neely@northminsterbaptist.org](mailto:neely@northminsterbaptist.org).

### MEALS ON WHEELS

Monday, March 27

#### Cooks

Helen Turner  
Polly Watkins  
Jean Welsh

#### Drivers

Rt. 1 Suzan & Tommy Thames  
Rt. 2 Hilda & Bob Boteler

### BRUMFIELD HOUSE

March 30

Kirk Sims

April 6

Mitch Peters

April 13

Joe Sims

April 20

Cathy Davis

### CHILDREN'S WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

April 2

**Firecrackers**

Morgan & Aaron Samuels

**Sparklers**

Caroline & Jack Nowell

### Children's Birthday Gathering

Tuesday, April 11

3:00-5:00 p.m.

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

The Lessons

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Romans 8:6-11

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

Love is a universal language and underlying energy that keeps showing itself despite our best efforts to resist it.

-Richard Rohr

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Lesley Ratcliff

### INTERCESSION AND DEDICATION

\*The Offertory Hymn No. 213 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

HAMBURG

When I survey the wondrous cross  
on which the Prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss,  
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
save in the death of Christ, my God;  
all the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,  
sorrow and love flow mingled down.  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a present far too small;  
love so amazing, so divine,  
demands my soul, my life, my all.

\*The Offertory Prayer

Beverly Lawrence

The Offertory

Grazioso from "The Seasons"

Vivaldi

\*The Doxology

OLD HUNDRETH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Gospel

John 11:1-45

Courtney Allen Crump  
Lesley Ratcliff

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem

“Out of the Depths”

Frost

Out of the depths have I cried unto you.  
Lord hear my voice, Lord, hear my voice.  
Lord, let your ear be attentive to my cry;  
Lord, hear my cry for mercy.

If you, O Lord, kept a record of sin,  
who, then, could stand?  
If you, O Lord, kept a record of sin,  
who, then, could stand?

But with you, Lord, there is forgiveness.  
Therefore, you may be you,  
Lord, there is forgiveness.  
Therefore, you may be feared.

I wait for the Lord, my soul does wait,  
in his word do I hope.  
If you, O Lord, kept a record of sin,  
Lord, who, then, could stand?

If you, O Lord, kept a record of sin,  
O who, then, could stand?  
But with you, Lord, there is forgiveness.  
Therefore, we will not fear.  
I wait for the Lord, my soul does wait,  
do I hope, in his word do I hope.

The Sermon

“Transforming Life and Death”

Courtney Allen Crump

**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**

God has promised forgiveness to your repentance, but God has not promised tomorrow to your procrastination.

-St. Augustine of Hippo

**Easter Lilies**

If you would like to order an Easter lily for the sanctuary on Easter Sunday as a memorial or in honor of someone, please fill out the information form inside the bulletin and drop off at the church office or e-mail, [lward@northminsterbaptist.org](mailto:lward@northminsterbaptist.org).

The names will be listed in the order of worship on Easter Sunday, April 9.  
(The cost per lily is \$10. **Please submit all names by Monday, March 27.**)

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**Palm Sunday Processional**

**April 2**

Children are invited to participate in waving palms  
for the processional at the 10:30 worship service.

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**The Northminster Choir will present Part 2 of Handel’s Messiah  
on Sunday evening, April 2, at 5:30 p.m.**

Messiah remains one of western music’s most popular sacred works. “Handel completed the entire score in only 24 days. Enthusiastic Romanticists of later eras would attribute this swiftness to divine inspiration, though Handel composed other works of comparable size, more secular in nature, just as swiftly. He was by nature a facile composer. The miracle of Messiah’s composition, then, is not how rapidly Handel wrote the music, but how comprehensively astute, finely-detailed, and consistently powerful it is.” Although composed in 1742 and first performed in April of that year, it was a 1750 charitable performance for the benefit of London’s Foundling Hospital that launched subsequent annual performances. “Easter-time performances of Messiah continued each year at the Foundling Hospital, and Handel conducted or attended every one of them until his death in 1759.” In gratitude, he bequeathed to the hospital a conducting score and complete set of performance parts for Messiah. Part 2 is divided into 7 scenes, beginning with Christ’s Passion, which is the longest scene and includes 5 choruses. Subsequent scenes in Part 2 are Christ’s Death and Resurrection, Christ’s Ascension, Christ’s Reception in Heaven, The Beginnings of Gospel Preaching, The World’s Rejection of the Gospel, and God’s Ultimate Victory, which ends with the “Hallelujah Chorus” and concludes Part 2.

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In collaboration with the  
Dialogue Institute Mississippi  
**Ramadan Interfaith Dinner**

**April 19, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.**

A time of fellowship followed by a presentation on fasting in the Muslim tradition from Sabri Agachan, State Representative of the Dialogue Institute Mississippi, and a presentation on fasting in the Christian Tradition from Major Treadway and Lesley Ratcliff. We will break the fast and the meal will begin at sunset, around 7:30, and will include food from Aladdin Mediterranean Grill, as well as food prepared by our Turkish friends and other Muslim families in our community.

Because food is being prepared by our friends,  
we kindly request reservations for dinner by Friday, April 14.

**To RSVP, please call or email the church office.**

## HOLY WEEK AT NORTHMINSTER

Monday, April 3 - Friday, April 7

### Holy Week Meditations

Monday - Friday  
Sanctuary  
7:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

### Communion in the Chapel

Monday - Friday  
7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.

### Maundy Thursday Communion

Sanctuary - 7:00 p.m.

### Good Friday Tenebrae

Sanctuary - 7:00 p.m.

### Easter Sunday Service

April 9

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

*Please remember to bring flowers for the  
flowering of the cross on Easter Sunday.*

### ADULT STUDIES

#### Do You Hear What I Hear?

Let the Psalms sing to you in your own small group setting!

Participants are invited to experience the Psalms in a personal way.

- ◆ Form your own group, of whatever size
- ◆ Agree on a convenient time and place to gather
- ◆ Download a guide sheet with suggestions and discussion starters
- ◆ Begin each session with a brief online video, then as a group explore the Psalms
- ◆ Independent groups will meet three or more times, according to their choice

If you prefer, you may attend an on-site meeting in the Adult Education building at 5:30 p.m. tonight .

For more information or to establish a group,  
email Lesley at [lesley@northminsterbaptist.org](mailto:lesley@northminsterbaptist.org).

Unique in scripture, the Hebrew hymnal sings to us still!

#### Our Friend, Lex:

#### Understanding the Lectionary

April 16 and 23

5:30 in the Adult Education Building

Brock and Lesley Ratcliff will lead a series on the history and practicalities of the lectionary. If you have ever wondered how and why we choose the scriptures that we use each Sunday, this is a great opportunity to learn.

#### OLD BOARD GAMES NEEDED FOR BIBLE CAMP

If you have old board games that you would like to get rid of, please bring them to Northminster and place them in the blue container marked “board games” in the children’s area or the office. We will be using the pieces for a Bible Camp craft, so the games do not need to be complete sets. Thanks for helping us prepare for Play It Forward Bible Camp 2023!

\*The Recessional Hymn No. 558 “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

BEECHER

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast.  
Let us all in thee inherit; let us find the promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;  
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be.  
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee.  
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

\*The Benediction

Courtney Allen Crump

\*The Postlude

“Prelude in B flat”

Bach

*\*The congregation will please stand.*

**The Lectionary passages for March 26 are found on the following pages in the pew Bible:**

Ezekiel 37:1-14 ~ pages 704-705

Psalms 130 ~ page 500

Romans 8:6-11 ~ page 919

John 11:1-45 ~ pages 873-874

#### Musician for today:

Bonnie Brown, *violin*

#### About Our Pulpit Guest

Rev. Dr. Courtney Allen Crump is the Senior Pastor of Grace Baptist Church in Richmond, Virginia. She grew up in Jackson, Mississippi, where she was formed in faith and ordained to gospel ministry at Northminster Baptist Church. Courtney is a graduate of Vanderbilt University and received a Master of Divinity from the Wake Forest University School of Divinity. She received a Doctor of Ministry in congregational development focusing on vital practices for recognizing abundance and cultivating generosity in the 21st century church. She has served churches in Mississippi, North Carolina, and Georgia, as well as serving as Rebuilding Coordinator in Gulfport, Mississippi following Hurricane Katrina. Courtney is married to Josh, a city planner, and they have a 19 month old daughter, Kennedy.

#### 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:

**April 2:**

Lesley Ratcliff

**April 9:**

Lesley Ratcliff

**April 16:**

Steven Fuller, Former Associate Pastor, Northminster

**April 23:**

John Meadors, Professor, Mississippi College

**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 | Eliza Skene     |                   |

Martha Quarles, mother of Lori Quarles

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Today is the fifth Sunday in Lent.**

Lent is the season in which we anticipate Jesus’ final trip to Jerusalem and the self-giving nature of love shown in his Passion and death. The season begins with Ash Wednesday and extends for forty weekdays through Saturday of Holy Week. Sundays are excluded from Lent, being regarded as feast days in the midst of the forty-day fast. Because Lent is the most strongly penitential season of the year, the liturgical color is purple.

Our Lenten banner is a visual symbol of Christ’s sacrifice. The images of the cross, thorns, and spear remind us of his agony on our behalf. The pattern is broken, reminding us of the power of the cross, the disruption of evil, and a life broken for us. The purple recalls the penitential color of Lent and the red reminds us of sacrifice.

The banner was designed and made by a Northminster member.

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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 Jennifer Stribling.  
 The Caregiving Chair for March is Janice Joyner.  
 The Caregiver Coordinator for March is Faye Barham.  
 The Caregiving Chair for April is Sarah Reynolds.  
 The Caregiver Coordinator for April is Annette Hitt.  
 The Caregivers of the Week are Susan and Hunter Pratt.  
 The Liturgist for March is Joe D. Rankin.  
 The Liturgist for April is Gwen Anderson.  
 The Flowers for March are provided by Jane Claire Williams, Jill Buckley, Lisa Kelly and Kandy Sims.  
 The Flowers for April are provided by Kathryn Davis, Lisa Kelly, Kathryn Sams and Kandy Sims.  
 The Usher Captain for March is Nancy Smith.  
 The Usher Captain for April is Keith Davis.

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**Palm Cross Making**

If you would like to help make the palm crosses for Palm Sunday, please join us in the Great Hall on Thursday, March 30 at 9:00 a.m. Please bring a pair of scissors.

**YOUTH 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:** Tonight at 5:00 p.m. Join us for a shared meal, games, lessons, prayer and fellowship.

**Stewpot:** Saturday, April 1, 9:30 a.m. We will gather in the Great Hall kitchen, prepare a meal and serve it at Stewpot; then, we will eat lunch together.

**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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**Women’s Lenten Gathering**

**Tuesdays, March 28 and April 4  
6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Great Hall**

Join us for a time of reflection and creativity, led by Amy Williams and Lesley Ratcliff as we explore Lenten questions through reflection and creativity. A light supper will be provided for \$8 per person.

**Please RSVP to Lesley Ratcliff if you plan on attending at [lesley@northminsterbaptist.org](mailto:lesley@northminsterbaptist.org).**

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**Guys’ Scavenger Hunt**

**Today  
3:30-5:00 p.m.**

First through sixth grade guys are invited to join us for a scavenger hunt and snack.

We’ll meet at the Northminster Children’s Entrance to start the hunts!

Please contact Lesley at [lesley@northminsterbaptist.org](mailto:lesley@northminsterbaptist.org) to sign up.

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**A Lenten Gift**

The Worship Committee has prepared the annual Lenten Guide, *A Lenten Journey*, for use in the daily worship and meditations of our Northminster congregation and friends. Based on scriptures drawn from the Daily Lectionary, *A Lenten Journey* will provide thoughts from Worship Committee members for each day of Lent, which began with Ash Wednesday, February 22.

The Guide in booklet form is available in the church office, in the foyer outside the office, in the Library, and in the Great Hall, as well as in gathering areas outside the Sanctuary. It is also available on the Northminster website. Please feel free to share this very active part of Northminster’s witness with friends and family.