

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.

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

Scott Dickison
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, October 1

9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service/Communion
11:30 a.m. Life After High School, YH
11:30 a.m. Children's Ministries Cmte., NCC
5:00 p.m. Youth, YH
5:00 p.m. Preschool & Elementary Atrium & Four5Six
5:30 p.m. Adult Studies, GH

Monday, October 2

8:30 a.m. Caregiving, L/CR
10:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels

Tuesday, October 3

5:30 p.m. Deacon Nominating Cmte., L/CR

Wednesday, October 4

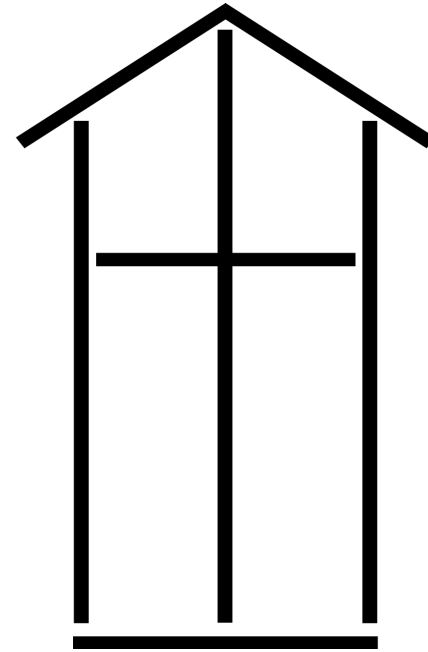
7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study, L/CR
5:30 p.m. Wednesday night supper, GH
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, October 7

9:30 a.m. Stewpot (Youth), GH kitchen

Sunday, October 8

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
5:00 p.m. Preschool & Elementary Atrium & Four5Six
5:00 p.m. Youth, YH
5:30 p.m. Adult Studies, GH



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

My God, my God, thou art a direct God, may I not say a literal God, a God that wouldst be understood literally and according to the plain sense of all that thou sayest? But thou art also...a figurative, a metaphorical God, too; a God in whose words there is such a height of figures, such voyages, such peregrinations to fetch remote and precious metaphors, such extensions, such spreadings, such curtains of allegories, such third heavens of hyperboles, so harmonious elocutions, so retired and so reserved expressions, so commanding persuasions, so persuading commandments, such sinews even in thy milk, as all profane authors seem of the seed of the serpent that creeps, thou art the Dove that flies.

—John Donne, *Devotions upon Emergent Occasions*

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

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 1, 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

Let there always be quiet, dark churches in which people can take refuge. Places where they can kneel in silence. Houses of God, filled with God's silent presence. There, even when they do not know how to pray, at least they can be still and breathe easily.

—Thomas Merton, *New Seeds of Contemplation*

The Prelude "Lyric Andante" Reger

The Call to Worship "O Be Joyful in the Lord" Yarrington

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands!
Serve the Lord with gladness,
and come before his presence with a song.
Bless the Lord!

*The Processional Hymn No. 95 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" CORONATION

*The Litany of Praise Anne Guidry

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old.

People: Things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us.

Leader: We will not hide them from our children; we will tell them to the coming generation.

All: The glorious deeds of the Lord and the Lord's might, and the wonders God has done.

—Psalm 78:1-4

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

*The Prayer of Invocation Anne Guidry

The Greeting Major Treadway

The Lessons Psalm 25:1-9
Philippians 2:1-13

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Save the Date!
Inward and Onward:
The Future of Church and Self
October 14-15, 2023

This fall you will have three opportunities at Northminster to hear from Ed Bacon, priest, speaker and author of *8 Habits of Love*.

"8 Tools for Discovering Your True Self of Love Beneath Life's Fears"

Saturday, October 14
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

"Traits of Healthy Churches"

Sunday, October 15
Immediately following worship
Lunch will be provided.

Rev. Bacon will also offer the sermon during worship on October 15.

REGISTER HERE: <https://forms.gle/G8U4gSzfPKBjFiNe7>

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Friday, October 20
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, October 18.**

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

We will also have Parents' Night Out on
November 10 and December 1.

Children's Retreat

October 21-22, 2023

Children in third through sixth grade are invited to our annual Fall Retreat.

We will leave at 8:00 a.m. on October 21 and return in time for worship at Northminster on October 22.

For questions or to sign up, contact Lesley Ratcliff at 601-982-4703 or lesley@northminsterbaptist.org.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

October 8

Firecrackers

Gregg & Lida Caraway

Sparklers

Josh & Kelly Guyton

Wednesday Night Supper, October 4

5:30 p.m. — Great Hall

Come join us for a delicious meal and a brief vespers service!

Cost: \$5 per child, \$8 per adult, \$25 per family

Servers: Cindy Reed, Dea Dea Baker and M'lee Williams

Cashier: George Luter

Menu: Barbecue chicken, Caesar salad, cheese grits, sweet and sour green beans, assorted breads, homemade coconut cake, homemade carrot cake, fudge pie, ice cream cups, iced tea

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### Pastoral Care Number

To alert the ministers of a pastoral care need, please call 601-980-1002.

#### Pastor on Call

Weekends and Monday: Rotating

Tuesday: Scott

Wednesday: Lesley

Thursday: Scott

Friday: Major

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Children's Birthday Gathering

Tuesday, October 17

3:00-5:00 p.m.

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

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### BRUMFIELD HOUSE

#### October 5

Joe Sims

#### October 12

Kirk Sims

#### October 19

Holly Wiggs

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MEALS ON WHEELS

Monday, October 2

Cooks

Jim Blackwood

Becky Wooley

Polly Bourne

Drivers

Rt. 1 Luke Dove & Bob Hardin

Rt. 2 Kay Allen & Geri Smith

Wednesday, October 18

Cooks

Judy Rankin

Sara Hays

Missy Caver

Drivers

Rt. 1 Suzan & Tommy Thames

Rt. 2 Rob Hill & Ryan McElveen

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

Concerning a great old man, some of the Fathers used to relate that if one came to him to ask for a word, he would say, "Look, I am going to play the part of God and seat myself on the throne of judgement. What do you want me to do for you, then? If you say, 'Have mercy on me,' God says to you, 'If you want me have mercy on you, do you also have mercy on your bother; if you want me to forgive you, do you also forgive your neighbor?' Can there be injustice in God? Certainly not, but it depends on whether we wish to be saved."

—*The Wisdom of the Desert Fathers*, translated by Benedicta Ward

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Lesley Ratcliff

INTERCESSION AND DEDICATION

*The Offertory Hymn No. 112 "Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee" *ST. AGNES*

*The Offertory Prayer Anne Guidry

The Offertory "Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness" Brahms

*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 21:23-32

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem

"Beautiful Savior"

Burkhardt

Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man!

Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands, robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;

Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, he makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, bright the sparkling stars on high;

Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!

Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!

The Sermon

"By What Authority?"

Scott Dickison

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Call to the Table

Scott Dickison

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 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

He comes to us as one unknown, nameless, just as in an ancient time, by the lakeside, he came to those men who knew him not. He speaks the same word to us: "Follow me!" He places us at the tasks which he must fulfill in our time. To those who obey him, wise or simple, he will reveal himself in the labors, conflicts, and miseries they will experience in communion with him. As an ineffable mystery, they shall come inwardly to know who he is.

—Albert Schweitzer, *The Quest for the Historical Jesus*

*The Recessional Hymn No. 634 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" *CWM RHONDDA*

*The Benediction Scott Dickison

*The Postlude "Prelude in Classic Style" Young

YOUTH NEWS

Youth Sunday School

Sunday mornings at 9:15-ish in the Youth House. There will be donuts and good conversation.

Life after High School

Today after Worship. All high school seniors are welcome to join Major for a series of discussions about practical life skills necessary for thriving after high school graduation.

Sunday Nights at the Youth House

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

Girls' Small Group

Alternating Wednesday nights at 5:30; next group meeting October 11.

Join Sarah Reynolds in a study of *3 Big Questions That Shape Your Future* by K. Acevedo and B. Griffin.

Stewpot

Saturday, October 7 at 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.

Fall Retreat

Saturday, October 21-Sunday, October 22 at Camp Bratton-Green in Canton.

We will leave from the church at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday and return by 2:00 p.m. on Sunday.

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## ADULT STUDIES OPPORTUNITIES

5:30 p.m.  
Great Hall

**Funerals 101**  
Today

Last week we talked about why we do funerals the way we do at Northminster. Tonight, you will have the opportunity to think about what is important to you for your funeral service and to record that information in a funeral form to ensure it is available to your family after your death. Let's plan ahead but not put a date on the calendar!

**Deep Calls Out to Deep:  
The Poetry of Scripture**  
October 8, 22 and 29

It is no coincidence that the language of God in scripture is most often written in poetry and not prose. This subtle shift in form opens our imaginations to infinite possibilities of inference, reflection, and depth. Over these three weeks, Scott will lead us as we consider the use of poetry in scripture, and pair scripture with contemporary poems to explore the ways in which these extra-biblical voices can enhance and enrich our experience of the gospel.

**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**

Steve Chester is under hospice care in Yazoo City.

George Puckett is recovering after surgery.

**ONGOING CAREGIVING CONCERNS**

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

Martha Quarles, mother of Lori Quarles

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.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Today is the Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost.** The Season after Pentecost celebrates the existence of the church and the presence of the Holy Spirit in the world. The liturgical color is green, symbolic of the church’s growth and mission. The Tree of Life (Genesis 2:9, Revelation 22:1-2), which rises above the baptistry and is woven into our paraments, underscores this liturgical season’s emphasis on the living, growing Kingdom of God.

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The Deacon of the Week is Thomas Elfert.
The Caregiving Chair for October is Janice Joyner.
The Caregiving Coordinator for October is Janice Joyner.
The Caregiver of the Week is Lisa Cobb.
The Liturgist for October is Mark Wiggs.
The Flowers for October are provided by Lisa Kelly, Kandy Sims and John Tingle.
The Usher Captain for October is Eddie Mahaffey.

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**Preschool Atrium, Elementary Atrium  
and Four5Six today at 5:00 p.m.**

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Our Sanctuary carpet and brick flooring have recently been professionally cleaned (including the balcony) and we ask that everyone help us maintain these spaces by disposing of any beverages prior to entering these sacred spaces.

**The congregation will please stand.*

The Lectionary passages for October 1 are found on the following pages in the pew Bible:

Exodus 17:1-7 ~ page 56
Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16 ~ page 468
Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 ~ page 685
Psalm 25:1-9 ~ page 436
Philippians 2:1-13 ~ page 954
Matthew 21:23-32 ~ pages 802-803

Musician for Today

Ausra Jasineviciute, *viola*

Communion and Children

Communion Sundays are special times of worship at Northminster, and we want all 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 is the Savior we follow.