



## THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The word *community* has many connotations, some positive, some negative. Community can make us think of a safe togetherness, shared meals, common goals, and joyful celebrations. It can also call forth images of sectarian exclusivity, in-group language, self-satisfied isolation, and romantic naivete. However, community is first of all a quality of the heart. It grows from the spiritual knowledge that we are alive not for ourselves but for one another. Community is the fruit of our capacity to make the interests of others more important than our own. The question, therefore, is not "How can we make community?" but "How can we develop and nurture giving hearts?"

—Henri Nouwen, *Bread for the Journey*

**THE ACT OF WORSHIP**  
**The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

September 10, 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

God is the friend of silence. See how nature -- trees, flowers, grass -- grows in silence; see the stars, the moon and the sun, how they move in silence . . . We need silence to be able to touch souls.

—Mother Teresa

The Prelude “Now Thank We All Our God” Bach/Fox

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 “When the Morning Stars Together” Burkhardt  
(see insert)

\*The Litany of Praise Gray Jackson

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: The God of new beginnings has called us to this place.

**People: We come celebrating the new life that is ours as God's faithful people.**

Leader: Let your joy ring through the universe, and let your vision see to the depths of every soul.

**All: We will be shouters of joy and seekers of God's light wherever we go. Praise God for this day!**

—Sandra E. Graham, *Flames of the Spirit*

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

\*The Prayer of Invocation Gray Jackson

The Greeting Lesley Ratcliff

The Lessons Psalm 149  
Romans 13:8-14

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.

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, September 10**

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
11:30 a.m. Congregational Meeting  
5:00 p.m. Preschool & Elementary Atrium & Four5Six  
5:00 p.m. First Sunday Party

**Monday, September 11**

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

**Tuesday, September 12**

5:30 p.m. Building Maintenance Supervision  
Cmte., L/CR

**Wednesday, September 13**

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study, L/CR  
5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper, GH  
5:30 p.m. Girls' Small Group, YH  
6:00 p.m. Life After High School, YH  
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, September 14**

7:00 p.m. Organ Concert, Sanctuary

**Friday, September 15**

6:00 p.m. Parents' Night Out, NCC

**Sunday, September 17**

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
11:30 a.m. Rising First Graders Lunch, GH  
11:45 a.m. Youth Committee, YH  
4:00 p.m. Worship & Music Committee, L/CR  
4:00 p.m. Youth Lake Party  
5:00 p.m. Preschool & Elementary Atrium & Four5Six  
6:45 p.m. Deacons' Meeting, L/CR

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

## LUNCH & LEARN

Come enjoy a delicious meal and a presentation during the lunch hour!

A Visual Presentation by  
**WYATT WATERS**

Tuesday, September 26  
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.  
Great Hall

The cost will be \$10 per person. Please RSVP by September 21 by calling the church office or emailing [lesley@northminsterbaptist.org](mailto:lesley@northminsterbaptist.org)

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**FALL ADULT STUDIES OPPORTUNITIES**

5:30 p.m.  
Adult Ed. Building

**Funerals 101**

Sundays, September 24 and October 1

On the first night, we will talk about why we do funerals the way we do funerals at Northminster. On the second night, you will have opportunity to think about what is important to you for your funeral service, and record that information in a funeral form to insure that information 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**

Sundays, 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 up 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.

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## CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

O Holy Spirit of God, let me grow a little this day. As I think of the duties that lie ahead, I might ask for many graces and favors; but let me ask only this one now: the grace and power to be in some way enlarged this day in vision,

—Geddes MacGregor

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Major Treadway

## INTERCESSION AND DEDICATION

\*The Offertory Hymn

“Northminster Jubilee Hymn”  
(see insert)

*HYFRYDOL*

\*The Offertory Prayer

Gray Jackson

The Offertory

“Rejoice in the Lord”

Diemer

\*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 18:15-20

Lesley Ratcliff

Leader:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People:

**Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem

“All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name”

Burkhardt

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!  
Let angels prostrate fall;  
bring forth the royal diadem  
and crown him Lord of all.

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,  
ye ransomed from the fall;  
bring forth the royal diadem,  
and crown him Lord of all.

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget  
the worm-wood and the gall,  
go spread your trophies at his feet,  
and crown him Lord of all.

Let every kindred, every tribe  
on this terrestrial ball,  
to him all majesty ascribe,  
and crown him Lord of all.

Oh, that with yonder sacred throng  
we at his feet may fall!  
We'll join the everlasting song  
and crown him Lord of all.

The Sermon

“Where Two or Three”

Scott Dickison

## 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

Gracious God, bless this church.  
Make it a dwelling place of love.  
Embrace all who enter with the warmth of welcome,  
surround them with comfort and bless them with peace.  
May the doors be open to those in need,  
may thanksgiving and forgiveness reside here,  
laughter and joy fill the space between these walls.  
May communion be the gift of every gathering  
and deepened friendship be the blessing of every good-bye.  
—Pat Bergen, CSJ. Sisters of St. Joseph of Lagrange, *adapted*

- \*The Recessional Hymn No. 609      “What a Fellowship”      *SHOWALTER*
- \*The Benediction      Scott Dickison
- \*The Postlude      “Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens Adore Him”      Paige
- \**The congregation will please stand.*

The Lectionary passages for September 10 are found on the following pages in the pew Bible:

- Exodus 12:1-14 ~ page 51
- Psalms 149 ~ page 508
- Ezekiel 33:7-11 ~ page 701
- Psalms 119:33-40 ~ page 494
- Romans 13:8-14 ~ page 923
- Matthew 18:15-20 ~ pages 799-800

### Musicians for Today

- Wayne Linehan, *trumpet*
- Ben Bullock, *trumpet*
- Mimi Linehan, *horn*
- Ken Lyon, *trombone*
- Wade Rackley, *tuba*
- Jason Mathena, *percussion*

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Today  
immediately following the worship service

### Agenda

Election of Deacons

### Deacon Nominees

- Elizabeth Boone    Matt Kelly    Dabbs Massey
- Joe D. Rankin    Bill Thompson    Will Walker

## Organ Concert

The Jackson Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is sponsoring an organ concert by Dr. Jerry Aultman at Northminster on Thursday, September 14 at 7:00 p.m. Dr. Aultman, a native of Jackson, is retired as Distinguished Professor of Music Theory at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, and is presently organist at First Baptist Church, Dallas. He is also a Fellow in the American Guild of Organists. Admission is free, and all are welcome to attend. For questions, please contact Billy Trotter at 601-941-3599.

## PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Friday, September 15  
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, September 13.

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

We will also have Parents' Night Out on  
October 20, November 10, and December 1.

## Rising First Graders

On Sunday, September 17, rising first graders will begin attending worship and will be recognized at the beginning of the worship service.

Following worship, they and their families will have lunch and then take an in-depth tour of the sanctuary, work on using a bulletin and a hymnal, talk about why we worship, and create worship bags. Let's make them feel welcome and recognize the ways that their presence enhances the worship experience for all of us!

## 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.

# YOUTH NEWS

## Youth Sunday School

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

## First Sunday Party

Today, 5:00-6:30 p.m. Come and celebrate the beginning of a new school year at Alex and Elise's house (while the Youth House gets a fresh coat of paint). We'll have burgers, swimming, and boardgames. Let Major know if you need a ride to/from the church.

## Life after High School

Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m., starting Wednesday, September 13.

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.

## Girls' Small Group

Every other Wednesday night at 5:30 p.m., starting Wednesday, September 13.

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

## Lake Party (Rescheduled)

Sunday, September 17, 4:00-6:00 p.m. We'll gather at the Jernigans' house at Lake Lorman where we'll eat dinner, tube, and swim. Let Major know if you need a ride to/from the church.

## 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.

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### **BRUMFIELD HOUSE**

#### September 14

Scott Wilson

#### September 21

Carrie Blount

#### September 28

Jeff Wilson

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

#### September 17

##### **Firecrackers**

Gates & Kyle Skene

##### **Sparklers**

Weatherly & Becker Sams

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### **MEALS ON WHEELS**

#### Wednesday, September 20

##### Cooks

Carolyn McIntyre  
Shari Culver  
Jo Ann Welch

##### Drivers

Rt. 1 Cathy & Jeff Davis  
Rt. 2 Carol Taff & Keith Davis

## 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 hospitalized at Baptist Hospital.

## 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 Fifteenth 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 baptism 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 Smith Boykin.

The Caregiving Chair for September is Sunny Fowler.

The Caregiving Coordinator for September is Susan O'Mara.

The Caregivers of the Week are Jean Welsh and Lawana McLennan.

The Liturgist for September is Gray Jackson.

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

The Usher Captains for September are Nancy Smith, Matt Kelly and Dawn Warrington.

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

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### **Wednesday Night Supper Resumes September 13**

**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: Carol Ann Vest, Anna Katherine Scott, M'lee Williams and Kathy Burkhalter

Menu: Turkey panini, Bowtie pasta salad, Fruit with citrus dressing, Assorted desserts, Iced Tea