

## THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Try, with God's help, to perceive the connection—even physical and natural—which binds your labor with the building of the kingdom of heaven; try to realize that heaven itself smiles upon you, and through your works, draws you to itself; then, as you leave church for the noisy streets, you will remain with only one feeling, that of continuing to immerse yourself in God.

—Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, *The Divine Milieu*

**THE ACT OF WORSHIP**  
**The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost**  
October 22, 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

I saw your prayer lying feeble in a book  
And it could not climb to my lips.  
Your prayer has been in your pocket too long  
To care for the shape of a mouth.  
I have been in your prayers a long time.  
Lying in the hospice, staring at the telephone  
I have been in your prayers waiting  
For the simple touch of your tongue.

—Rodger Kamenetz, *How Do You Market Prayers?*

The Prelude “O Thou of God the Father” Bach

The Call to Worship “I Was Glad” Coker

I was glad when they said unto me: Let us go into the house of the Lord.  
Alleluia! Amen.

\*The Processional Hymn No. 62 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” *ST. DENIO*

\*The Litany of Praise Geri Smith

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: O sing to the Lord a new song;  
Sing to the Lord, all the earth.

**People: Sing to the Lord, bless the Lord's name;  
Tell of the Lord's salvation from day to day.**

Leader: Declare the Lord's glory among the nations,  
The Lord's marvelous works among all the peoples.

**People: For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;  
The Lord is to be revered above all gods.**

Leader: For all the gods of the peoples are idols,  
But the Lord made the heavens.

**All: Honor and majesty are before the Lord;  
Strength and beauty are in the Lord's sanctuary.**

—Psalm 96:1-6

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

\*The Prayer of Invocation Geri Smith

The Greeting Lesley Ratcliff

The Lessons Isaiah 45:1-7  
I Thessalonians 1:1-10

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, October 22**

8:30 a.m. Children return from retreat  
9:15 a.m. Chapel Communion  
10:30 a.m. Sunday School  
2:00 p.m. Worship Service  
5:00 p.m. Youth return from retreat  
5:30 p.m. Preschool, Elementary Atrium and 456  
Adult Studies, GH

**Monday, October 23**

8:30 a.m. Caregiving, L/CR  
10:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels  
12:00 p.m. Youth Committee, YH  
5:30 p.m. Wider Net Cmte., Adult Ed. Bldg.

**Tuesday, October 24**

7:00 a.m. Youth Breakfast Club, Primos

**Wednesday, October 25**

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study, L/CR  
5:30 p.m. Fall Festival, NBC backyard  
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

**Saturday, October 28**

11:30 a.m. AGO Organ Demonstration

**Sunday, October 29**

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
5:00 p.m. Youth, YH  
5:00 p.m. Preschool, Elementary Atrium and 456  
5:30 p.m. Adult Studies, GH

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

# CHILDREN'S WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

## October 29

### **Chapel Coordinators**

Caroline & Kirk Sims

### **Firecrackers**

Amanda & Trey Clark

### **Sparklers**

Dana & Scott Wilson

## November 5

### **Firecrackers**

Chris & Paul Eason

### **Sparklers**

Christine & Bryan Bridges

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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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## **PARENTS' NIGHT OUT**

**Friday, November 10**

**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, November 8.**

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

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

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## CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

Is there such a thing as making a mistake in life? Absolutely. People take the wrong jobs for the wrong reason, they squander their talents, they live lives of quiet desperation never realizing who they truly are. But mistakes can be redeemed if we are willing. The wrong turn can take you to the right door, but then you have to open it and step in.

—Francisco X. Stork

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Scott Dickison

## INTERCESSION AND DEDICATION

\*The Offertory Hymn No. 568 "Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated" *HENDON*

\*The Offertory Prayer *Gerri Smith*

The Offertory "The Peace of Christ" *Cason*

\*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 22:15-22* *Lesley Ratcliff*

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem "God of Grace and God of Glory" *Forrest*

God of Grace and God of Glory on Your people pour Your pow'r;  
Crown Your ancient church's story Bring its bud to glorious flow'r.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, For the facing of this hour!

Lo! The hosts of evil round us Scorn our Christ, assail His ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us, Free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, For the living of these days!

Save us from weak resignation To the evils we deplore;  
Let the gift of Your salvation be our glory evermore  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, Serving You Whom we adore!

God of grace and God of glory, On Your people pour Your pow'r.  
Crown your ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flow'r.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, For the facing of the hour! Amen.

The Sermon "The Things That Are God's" *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**

One of the best stories of the early Christian desert hermits goes like this: “Abbot Lot came to Abbot Joseph and said: Father, according as I am able, I keep my little rule, and my little fast, my prayer, meditation and contemplative silence; and according as I am able I strive to cleanse my heart of thoughts: Now what more should I do? The elder rose up in reply and stretched out his hands to heaven, and his fingers became like ten lamps of fire. He said: Why not be totally changed into fire?”

—Annie Dillard, *For the Time Being*

\*The Recessional Hymn No. 578 “Come, All Christians, Be Committed” *BEACH SPRING*

\*The Benediction Scott Dickison

\*The Postlude Manz  
“God of Grace”

*\*The congregation will please stand.*

**The Lectionary passages for October 22 are found on the following pages in the pew Bible:**

- Exodus 33:12-23 ~ page 70
- Psalms 99 ~ pages 480-481
- Isaiah 45:1-7 ~ page 588
- Psalms 96:1-9, (10-13) ~ page 479
- I Thessalonians 1:1-10 ~ page 959
- Matthew 22:15-22 ~ pages 803-804

**ADULT STUDIES OPPORTUNITIES**

5:30 p.m.  
Great Hall

**Deep Calls Out to Deep:  
The Poetry of Scripture**  
Today and October 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 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.



**LUNCH & LEARN**

Tuesday, October 31  
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.  
Great Hall

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

**(HOLY) GHOST STORIES WITH SCOTT DICKISON**

It could be argued that mystery is at the heart of faith. And yet, as the Southern fiction writer Flannery O’Conner has said, “Mystery is the embarrassment of the modern mind.” How do we resolve this tension between mystery and a modern, rational understanding of the universe? Is there a tension? We’ll explore these questions and more on All Hallows’ Eve, and ask how a richer understanding of “spirituality” might help make room for the unexplainable in our faith.

The cost will be \$10 per person. Please RSVP by October 27 by calling the church office or emailing [lesley@northminsterbaptist.org](mailto:lesley@northminsterbaptist.org)



**BRUMFIELD HOUSE**

**October 26**

Josh Poole

**November 2**

TBD

**November 9**

Jimmy Allen

**November 16**

Justin Beard



**MEALS ON WHEELS**

**Monday, October 23**

**Cooks**

Sara Hays  
Gail Poole  
Lawana McLennan

**Drivers**

Rt. 1 Julie & Dudley Wooley  
Rt. 2 Marianna Field

## YOUTH NEWS

### Youth Sunday School

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

### Breakfast Club

**October Tuesdays at 7:00 a.m.** Breakfast for students before school. We'll gather at 7:00 a.m. and finish in time for folks to get to school. Please let Major know in advance if you would like to come and need a ride to school.

October 24: Primos on Lakeland

October 31: Epic Donuts in Gluckstadt

### Girls' Small Group

**Alternating Wednesday nights at 5:30; next group meeting November 8.**

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

### Passport

**July 13-19.**

Put these dates on your calendar now. More information to come.

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## *Fall Festival*

Wednesday, October 25 ~ 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Giant Slide ~ Games ~ Cookout ~ Cupcake Walk ~ Pumpkin Painting

Costume Parade at 6:00 p.m.

Everyone is invited to join us in the backyard of the church for a fun evening of festivities. Dinner will be provided and served on the back porch of the Youth House at no charge.

**Rain will cancel.**

Non-Scary Costumes Preferred.

**COME JOIN THE FUN!**

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## **ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY**

**November 5**


A printed list of names of loved ones who have preceded us into God's nearer presence will be part of our worship on All Saints' Sunday. Names may be submitted by e-mail to Leslie Ward at [lward@northminsterbaptist.org](mailto:lward@northminsterbaptist.org) or by printing them on the form provided in your Sunday worship bulletin, which may be placed in the offering plate or brought to the church office. Forms will also be available in the church office. **All names must be submitted by Monday, October 23.**

On the evening of November 5, we will meet in the sanctuary at 5:30 p.m. for an All Saints' Vesper Service, at which time the names will be read aloud.

## 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

 Northminster is saddened by the death of Steve Chester, a member of Northminster since 2021. Christian sympathy is extended to Anne Brawley and all of Steve's family and friends.

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is extended to Shirley Geary on the death of her husband Jack; and Bill and Kathleen Geary, on the death of Bill's father, and all of Jack's family and friends.

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is extended to Joan Haynie on the death of Fred Powell.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Larkin and Sarah Kelly on the birth of their son, Caleb Reid Kelly. Caleb is also welcomed by Lisa Kelly and Ann Vickery.

Roger Paynter is hospitalized in Austin, TX.

## ONGOING CAREGIVING CONCERNS

|                  |                 |                   |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Gorman Schaffer  | Sue Edwards     | Virginia Hamilton |
| Roxanne Aldridge | R.W. McCarley   | Libby McGee       |
| Carolyn Aden     | Vivian Thompson | 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 Twenty-First 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 Ginger Parham.

The Caregiving Chair for October is Janice Joyner.

The Caregiving Coordinator for October is Janice Joyner.

The Caregiver of the Week is Dolly Goings.

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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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.