



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Faith is not ordering our lives according to principles we can firmly grasp, it's being transformed in ways we probably don't even have any idea we need to be, by a living Other who is always outside our grasp—a God who is profoundly, wildly, radically, maybe practically unbearably alive. And we are created, sustained, and redeemed by our relationship with the living God, not by our valiant and sometimes beautiful and sometimes violent and horrible attempts to make order or meaning or to control or comprehend. We are redeemed by the love of God.

—Debbie Blue, *From Stone to Living Word*

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

October 29, 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

Contemplation is the highest expression of one's intellectual and spiritual life. It is that life itself, fully awake, fully active, fully aware that it is alive. It is spiritual wonder. It is spontaneous awe at the sacredness of life, of being. It is gratitude for life, for awareness and for being. It is a vivid realization of the fact that life and being in us proceed from an invisible, transcendent and infinitely abundant Source. Contemplation is, above all, awareness of the reality of that Source.

—Thomas Merton, *New Seeds of Contemplation*

The Prelude "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" Johnson

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. 52 "I Sing the Mighty Power of God" *ELLACOMBE*

*The Litany of Praise Kelley Williams, Jr.

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

**People: Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world
from everlasting to everlasting, you are God.**

Leader: You turn us back to dust
and say, "Turn back, you mortals."

**People: For a thousand years in your sight
are like yesterday when it is past,
or like a watch in the night.**

Leader: You sweep them away; they are like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning.

**People: In the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers.**

Leader: Turn, O Lord! How long?
Have compassion on your servants!

**All: Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.**

—Psalm 90:1-6, 13-14

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

*The Prayer of Invocation Kelley Williams, Jr.

The Greeting Scott Dickison

The Lessons Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18
I Thessalonians 2:1-8

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 29

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

Monday, October 30

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

Tuesday, October 31

7:00 a.m. Youth Breakfast Club, Epic Donuts
12:00 p.m. Lunch & Learn, GH

Wednesday, November 1

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

Friday, November 3

5:30 p.m. Garraway/Samson Wedding Rehearsal

Saturday, November 4

6:30 p.m. Garraway/Samson Wedding

Sunday, November 5

9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service/Communion/All Saints' Sunday
5:00 p.m. Dogwood Planting, Memorial Garden
5:00 p.m. Youth, YH
5:00 p.m. Preschool, Elementary Atrium and 456
5:30 p.m. All Saints' Vesper Service

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

Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza

Sponsored by the Jackson Chapter
of the American Guild of Organists

Saturday, November 11
9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Northminster Baptist Church Sanctuary

Music students in the sixth grade and higher are welcome. Our goal is to introduce students to the organ and end the workshop with pizza. Please contact Sheila Hess if you are interested in attending at SheilaLHess@cablelynx.com or 601-218-1371. Parents are welcome to observe the session.

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## NORTHMINSTER'S ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DINNER AND COMMUNION SERVICE

Wednesday, November 15  
5:30 p.m. ~ Great Hall

Bring your favorite side dish, salad or dessert to serve your family plus one more.

**Volunteers:** Cindy Reed, Kathy Burkhalter, Hilda Boteler,  
Anna Katherine Scott, Joe D. Rankin, Judy Rankin,  
Sam Sanders, Henry Burkhalter, George Williams

Meat and drinks will be provided. **Please bring  
serving utensils and label your dishes and serving pieces.**  
The meal will be followed by a Thanksgiving Communion service.

We will also be collecting money for our annual Boarding Homes Project.

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NORTHMINSTER ANGEL TREE

Beginning Sunday November 19, the Angel Tree will be in the stairwell foyer with names, ages, clothing sizes, and wish lists from children in our community. If you want an angel early or may not be present at the church during the time the names are on the tree, Megan will be happy to get an angel's information to you. You may also stop by the church to adopt an angel anytime the church office is open. In addition, we have volunteers ready to shop for angels if you are unable to do so but would like to financially support an angel. Remember that more than one person and/or family can work together to provide gifts. Tuesday, December 12, is the last day to bring gifts. Please contact Megan Mayhan at 601-624-6701 or meganmayhan@gmail.com with any questions.

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## MEALS ON WHEELS

Monday, November 6

### Cooks

Kandy Sims  
Lisa Cobb  
Annette Hitt

### Drivers

Rt. 1 Susan & Charles O'Mara  
Rt. 2 Hilda & Bob Boteler

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Pastoral Care Number

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

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

Forgive us, Oh my God,
Because we haven't had the courage to believe that
Through your love for us,
you have always wanted us to be free....
Free not just to say yes or no
to what you have decided for us in advance,
but free to reflect,
to choose,
to act as independent beings
throughout our lives.

—Michel Quoist, *New Prayers*

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Lesley Ratcliff

INTERCESSION AND DEDICATION

*The Offertory Hymn No. 563 "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"

I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

*The Offertory Prayer

Kelley Williams, Jr.

The Offertory

"God the Father, Be Our Stay"

Manz

*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 22:34-46

Major Treadway

Leader:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People:

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

"The Gift of Love"

Hopson

Though I may speak with bravest fire,
and have the gift to all inspire,
And have not love; my words are vain,
as sounding brass and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess,
and striving so my love profess,
But not be giv'n by love within,
the profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control.

Our spirits long to be made whole;

O come, Spirit, come,

Let inward love guide every deed.

By this we worship and are freed. Amen.

The Sermon "Harmonic Love" 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

It is impossible to love Christ without loving others (in proportion as the others are moving toward Christ). And it is impossible to love others (in a spirit of broad human communion) without moving nearer to Christ.

—Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, The Divine Milieu

*The Recessional Hymn No. 708 "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" DENNIS

*The Benediction Scott Dickison

*The Postlude "The Church's One Foundation" Pethel

*The congregation will please stand.

The Lectionary passages for October 29 are found on the following pages in the pew Bible:

- Deuteronomy 34:1-12 ~ page 168
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17 ~ pages 476-477
Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-16 ~ page 93
Psalm 1 ~ page 424
I Thessalonians 2:1-8 ~ page 959
Matthew 22:34-46 ~ page 804

A Common Loaf

We are excited to announce that we will be returning to our practice of partaking from a common loaf of bread during the celebration of the Lord's Supper starting in November.

As you approach the table, the deacon will tear a piece from the loaf and place it in your hands.

We are also pleased to announce we will begin offering a gluten-free option, which will be served by the pastors at the communion table.

We are grateful for a return to this powerful symbol of our common life in Christ, and this increased effort to offer generous welcome to Christ's table.

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'Connor 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 Hallow's Eve, and ask how a richer understanding of "spirituality" might help make room for the unexplainable in our faith.

Wednesday Night Supper, November 1

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: Anna Katherine Scott, Joe D. Rankin, Dea Dea Baker, Mary Heard

Cashier: George Luter

Menu: Roasted pork loin, broccoli salad, rice consommé, squash casserole, yeast rolls, assorted desserts, iced tea

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.

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 that have been submitted by the congregation will be read aloud.

We will have our annual dogwood planting ceremony at 5:00 p.m. in the memorial garden at the north end of the campus.

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.

YOUTH NEWS

Halloween Party

Today at 5:00 p.m. Come in costume for a night of fun, games, snacks and more.

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 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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**ADULT STUDIES**

Today, 5:30 p.m.  
Great Hall

**Deep Calls Out to Deep:  
The Poetry of Scripture**

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.

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BRUMFIELD HOUSE

November 2

TBD

November 9

Jimmy Allen

November 16

Justin Beard

November 23

Mike Peters

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**CHILDREN'S WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE**

**November 5**

**Firecrackers**

Chris & Paul Eason

**Sparklers**

Christine & Bryan Bridges

**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**

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-Second 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 Justin Beard.
 The Caregiving Chair for October is Janice Joyner.
 The Caregiving Coordinator for October is Janice Joyner.
 The Caregiving Chair for November is Sarah Reynolds.
 The Caregiving Coordinator for November is Jean Welsh.
 The Caregiver of the Week is Nena Carmody.
 The Liturgist for October is Mark Wiggs.
 The Liturgists for November are Gwen Anderson, Monica Daniels, Jeanne Cook and Diann Arinder.
 The Flowers for October are provided by Lisa Kelly, Kandy Sims and John Tingle.
 The Flowers for November are provided by John Tingle, Kandy Sims and Lisa Kelly.
 The Usher Captain for October is Eddie Mahaffey.
 The Usher Captain for November is Nancy Smith.

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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.

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CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**Sunday, November 12
immediately following the worship service**

Agenda:

Adoption of the 2024 Budget
Election of Deacon to fill one year of unexpired term