



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

“And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord,
choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve.”

—Joshua 24:15 (NKJV)

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
 November 12, 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

“Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who shall stand in this holy place? There is no one but us. There is no one to send, nor a clean hand, nor a pure heart on the face of the earth, nor in the earth, but only us, a generation comforting ourselves with the notion that we have come at an awkward time....”

—Anne Dillard *Holy the Firm*, adapted

The Prelude “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” Callahan

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. 20 “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” *ODE TO JOY*

*The Litany of Praise Monica Daniels

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Make haste, O God, to deliver me!

People: Make haste to help me, O Lord!

Leader: Let all those who seek You rejoice and be glad in You

All: And let those who love Your salvation say continuously, “Let God be magnified!”

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

*The Prayer of Invocation Monica Daniels

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.

Senior Pastor	Scott Dickison
Associate Pastor for Children and Adults	Lesley Ratcliff
Associate Pastor for Students	Major Treadway
Minister of Music	Tim Coker
Organist	Sheila Hess
Organist Emeritus	Billy Trotter
Office Manager	Leslie Ward
Financial Secretary	Sam South
Receptionist/Secretary	Jan Wilson/Neely Grimsley
Sexton	Lamenais Simeon

THE CHURCH IN SERVICE

Sunday, November 12

8:30 a.m.	Chapel Communion
9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service/Baby Dedication
11:30 a.m.	Congregational Meeting
11:45 a.m.	Children’s Ministries Cmte., NCC
5:00 p.m.	Youth, YH
5:00 p.m.	Preschool & Elementary Atrium and Four5Six

Monday, November 13

8:30 a.m.	Caregiving, L/CR
12:00 p.m.	Youth Committee, YH
5:30 p.m.	Missions Committee, L/CR

Tuesday, November 14

7:00 a.m.	Youth Breakfast Club, Chick-Fil-A
3:00 p.m.	Children’s Birthday Gathering, GH
4:30 p.m.	Cancer Support, L/CR
5:30 p.m.	Adult Ministries Cmte., Adult Ed. Bldg.

Wednesday, November 15

7:00 a.m.	Men’s Bible Study, L/CR
9:00 a.m.	Enneagram, Adult Ed. Bldg.
10:00 a.m.	Meals on Wheels
5:30 p.m.	Thanksgiving Potluck, GH
7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, November 19

8:30 a.m.	Chapel Communion
9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
11:45 a.m.	Deacons’ Meeting, L/CR

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

MEALS ON WHEELS

Wednesday, November 15

Cooks

Kathy Burkhalter
Lisa Cobb
Elizabeth Quinn

Drivers

Rt. 1 Beverly & Tim Lawrence
Rt. 2 Monica Daniels & Carol Taff

Monday, November 27

Cooks

Kelly Hicks
Gail England
Ann Calhoon

Drivers

Rt. 1 Becky & Tim Frame/Gayla Purvis
Rt. 2 Pat & Mike Beall

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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

## THE DEDICATION OF CHILDREN AND PARENTS

Charlotte Elizabeth Skene  
Daughter of Kyle and Gates Skene

The Litany of Dedication

Lesley Ratcliff

Pastor: We are here today to present Eliza to the church and to dedicate her to God. Who brings this child for this holy purpose?

**Parents:** *We, her parents, bring this child to be dedicated to God.*

Pastor: What can we affirm about this child?

**People:** **That she is made in the image of God and is a child of God by creation.**

Pastor: What will this child be told about her faith history?

**People:** **She will learn about Abraham and Sarah, the grandparents of our faith; about Moses, who led our ancestors out of bondage; and about Miriam, who sang and danced a victory song of freedom; about the Jewish hope for a Messiah; about Jesus Christ the Savior; and about the history of the church as God's redemptive people in the world.**

Pastor: Who will raise this child in the faith, worship with her regularly, teach her to pray and lead her into a loving relationship with God?

**Parents:** *We are the persons primarily responsible for this important work.*

Pastor: Is anyone else to help with the guidance of this child?

**People:** **Yes, we too, will share in her growth, for she belongs to us as well.**

Pastor: We trust that God will be with us in this awesome task.

**People:** **For God is faithful to us in all that we do.**

Pastor: Amen.

The Presentation of the Child

Scott Dickison

The Lessons

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25  
I Thessalonians 4:13-18

Major Treadway

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

## CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

God did not tell us to follow because God needed our help, but because God knew that loving God would make us whole again.

—Saint Irenaeus, adapted

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Major Treadway

**INTERCESSION AND DEDICATION**

\*The Offertory Hymn No. 107 "Christ Be My Leader" SLANE  
\*The Offertory Prayer Monica Daniels  
The Offertory "Eternal Father, Strong to Save" Trotter  
\*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 25:1-13 Lesley Ratcliff  
Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem "Keep Your Lamps" Thomas  
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning;  
the time is drawing nigh.  
Children don't get weary 'til your work is done.  
Christian journey soon be over;  
the time is drawing nigh.  
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning;  
the time is drawing nigh.

The Sermon "Prepared By Hope" 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**

The Gift  
Be still, my soul, and steadfast.  
Earth and heaven both are still watching  
though time is draining from the clock  
and your walk, that was confident and quick,  
has become slow.  
So, be slow if you must, but let  
the heart still play its true part.  
Love still as once you loved, deeply  
and without patience. Let God and the world  
know you are grateful.  
that the gift has been given.

—Mary Oliver

**BOARDING HOMES PROJECT ~ AN ADVENT TRADITION  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3 ~ 1:00 P.M. ~ GREAT HALL**

**For the last four decades Northminster has been delivering warm clothing, food and toiletries to the residents of the Personal Care Homes in Jackson.**

Personal Care Homes are private homes for individuals with mental disabilities. These individuals do not qualify for state hospitalization, and many of the residents exchange their Social Security check for room and board, so there is no money available for any extras. Some are in quite difficult circumstances. All of them appreciate a thoughtful visit and gift. On Sunday, December 3, we will gather in the Great Hall and assemble all of our gifts into individual bags: a blanket, toiletries, warm socks, and cookies baked by you. We will then divide into teams and deliver the gifts to every personal care home resident in Jackson. Usually, we are finished by 3:30 p.m.

This is a wonderful intergenerational opportunity for the entire church family to participate in our community together.

You can help by

- Giving a generous financial contribution
- Showing up on Saturday, December 2, at 9:00 a.m. to help unpack and set up for Sunday
- Baking cookies and bringing them to the Great Hall by Sunday, December 3 at 1:00 p.m.
- Showing up on December 3 at 1:00 p.m. to assemble and deliver bags to Boarding Homes

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THE LIVING NATIVITY

Children in the Beginners, Firecrackers and Sparklers classes, as well as all 1st through 6th graders, are invited to be a part of the Living Nativity, which is a part of the pre-service music for the Christmas Eve Service.

Practice will begin on November 26. The rehearsal schedule is as follows:

- November 26 from 9-9:30 a.m.**
- December 3 from 9-9:30 a.m.**
- December 10 from 9-9:30 a.m.**
- December 17 from 9-9:30 a.m.**
- December 24 at 4:30 p.m.**

All rehearsals will be in the Choir Room, except for December 24, when we will meet in the Great Hall. Because rehearsal times are short, please be on time and present for as many rehearsals as possible.

We look forward to our children leading us in worship throughout the season of Advent!

**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, Gloria Montgomery, 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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Coffee for Salt and Light

Premium Honduran coffee is currently for sale at \$12 per bag.
Proceeds will help fund expenses of Sal y Luz Ministry in Honduras.

To purchase, please call Jann Puckett at
601-594-8590. Jann will deliver to your home.

Please make checks payable to Salt and Light
Ministries (no cash please).

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**PARENTS' NIGHT OUT**

**Friday, December 1  
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 29.**

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

\*The Recessional Hymn No. 271 "Christ Is Coming! Let Creation" *CWM RHONDDA*

\*The Benediction *Scott Dickison*

\*The Postlude "Prelude in G" *Bach*

*\*The congregation will please stand.*

**The Lectionary passages for November 12 are found on the following pages in the  
pew Bible:**

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 ~ pages 187-188

Psalm 78:1-7 ~ page 468

Amos 5:18-24 ~ page 747

Psalm 70: ~ page 463

I Thessalonians 4:13-18 ~ page 960

Matthew 25:1-13 ~ pages 806-807

**Musician for Today**

*Bud Berthold, bongos*

**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**

Jack Root is hospitalized at Baptist.

**ONGOING CAREGIVING CONCERNS**

|                  |                 |                   |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Gorman Schaffer  | Sue Edwards     | Virginia Hamilton |
| Roxanne Aldridge | R.W. McCarley   | Libby McGee       |
| Carolyn Aden     | Vivian Thompson | Robbie Cross      |
| Tom Starling     | Roger Paynter   | Mary Lou Jernigan |

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-Fourth 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 Mary Ellen Stancill.
The Caregiving Chair for November is Sarah Reynolds.
The Caregiving Coordinator for November is Jean Welsh.
The Caregivers of the Week are Holly and Mart McMullan.
The Liturgists for November are Gwen Anderson, Monica Daniels, Jeanne Cook and Diann Arinder.
The Flowers for November are provided by John Tingle, Kandy Sims and Lisa Kelly.
The Usher Captain for November is Nancy Smith.

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**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

**Today  
immediately following the worship service**

**Agenda**

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

**YOUTH NEWS**

**Sunday Nights at the Youth House**

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

**Youth Sunday School**

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

**Breakfast Club**

**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.

November 14: Chick-Fil-A on Highland Colony  
November 21: Make breakfast for your family at home

**Stewpot**

**Saturday, December 2, 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.

**Christmas Party**

**Sunday, December 3, 5:00 p.m.** White Elephant Gift Exchange at the Youth House! Throw on your ugliest Christmas sweater and come to the Youth House. Bring a wrapped gift that costs less than \$10.

**Spring Break Beach Retreat**

**March 11-14.** Somewhere at or near Orange Beach. More details to come.

**Passport**

**July 13-19.** Put these dates on your calendar now. More information to come.

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BRUMFIELD HOUSE

November 16

Justin Beard

November 23

Mike Peters

November 30

Mitch Peters

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**CHILDREN’S WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE**

**November 19**

**Firecrackers**

Taylor & Justin Beard

**Sparklers**

Laura & Patrick Taylor

**November 26**

**Chapel Coordinators**

Jane Claire & Nason Williams

**Firecrackers**

Ceejaye & Mitch Peters

**Sparklers**

Karen Treadway