



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

What if the real test of our success as God's servants is not what we do but how we do it? What if the real measure of our extraordinariness as Christians is not our thoughtfulness or our friendliness or our busyness but our SPARK? What if the real sign of our witness to the light is not how much we accomplish but our own LIGHTNESS, our own reflection of the bright God who has chosen us and lit us up and sent us into the world like candles in a dark room?

—Barbara Brown Taylor, *The Healing Word, Gospel Medicine for the Soul*

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 19, 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

Thanks be to thee, Lord Jesus Christ. May I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, and follow thee more nearly, day by day.

—*St. Richard of Chichester, England, 13th century*

The Prelude “Now Thank We All Our God” Pethel

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. 16 “Give to Our God Immortal Praise” *DUKE STREET*

*The Litany of Praise Cole Mahaffey

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord!

People: Praise the Lord with lyre, and make melody with the harp. Sing to God a new song.

Leader: The word of the Lord is upright.

People: God loves righteousness and justice. The earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.

Leader: God is our help and shield. Let all who dwell on the earth stand in awe of God.

All: Our hearts are glad in God because we trust God’s holy name. Let God’s steadfast love be upon us as we hope in the Lord.

—Psalm 33, *adapted*

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

*The Prayer of Invocation Cole Mahaffey

The Greeting Major Treadway

The Lessons Psalm 123
I Thessalonians 5:1-11

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, 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

Monday, November 20

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

Tuesday, November 21

7:00 a.m. Youth Breakfast Club
6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, November 22

7:00 a.m. Men’s Bible Study, L/CR

Thursday, November 23

Church office closed

Friday, November 24

Church office closed

Sunday, November 26

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion
9:00 a.m. Living Nativity Practice, Choir Suite
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 Four5Six

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

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!

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## MEALS ON WHEELS

### Monday, November 27

#### Cooks

Kelly Hicks  
Gail England  
Ann Calhoon

#### Drivers

Rt. 1 TBA  
Rt. 2 Pat & Mike Beall

### Monday, December 4

#### Cooks

Patsy Caraway  
Amanda Milam  
Peggy Brady

#### Drivers

Rt. 1 Jean & Kelley Williams  
Rt. 2 Amy Finkelberg & Nancy Smith

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CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

Circle us, Lord, with the light of your presence within this dark world.
Enable us to overcome fear and temptation, sin and self-centeredness.
Enable us to become that which you would desire.
Where there is sickness and disease bring healing.
Where there is hunger and despair bring hope.
Where there is inequity and oppression bring release.
Where there is war bring peace.
Circle this world with the light of your presence.

—*Faith and Worship, adapted*

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Scott Dickison

INTERCESSION AND DEDICATION

*The Offertory Hymn No. 21 "How Great Thou Art" *O STORE GUD*

*The Offertory Prayer Cole Mahaffey

The Offertory "Prayer of Thanksgiving" Wood

*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 25:14-30 Major Treadway

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" Thiman

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.
Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
Justice like mountains high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
To all, life Thou givest to both great and small;
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish but nought changeth Thee.
Great Father of Glory, pure Father of Light,
Thine Angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;
All laud we would render: O help us to see
'Tis only the splendour of light hideth Thee. Amen.

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

Dearest Lord, be thou a bright flame before us, a guiding star above us, a smooth path beneath us, a kindly shepherd behind us, today and for evermore.

—St. Columba, Ireland, 6th century

*The Recessional Hymn No. 60 “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” *FAITHFULNESS*

*The Benediction Scott Dickison

*The Postlude “O God Beyond All Praising” Lasky

**The congregation will please stand.*

The Lectionary passages for November 19 are found on the following pages in the pew Bible:

- Judges 4:1-7 ~ pages 191-192
- Psalm 123 ~ page 498
- Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 ~ pages 765-766
- Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12 ~ pages 476-477
- 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 ~ pages 960-961
- Matthew 25:14-30 ~ page 807

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.

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**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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Coffee for Salt and Light

Premium Honduran coffee is currently for sale at \$12 per bag. Proceeds will help fund expenses of Salt 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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**2024 Northminster Deacon Officers**

At their October Meeting, the Deacons elected the following officers for 2024

- Chair: Cathy Davis
- Vice Chair: Holly Wiggs
- Secretary: Mary Ellen Stancill

Also, the Deacons elected Marty Kelly as Church Clerk, and George Smith as Church Treasurer.

## YOUTH NEWS

### 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 21: Make breakfast for your family at home

Tuesday, November 28: Epic Donuts in Gluckstadt

### 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 23

Mike Peters

November 30

Mitch Peters

November 16

Justin Beard

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

#### November 26

#### **Chapel Coordinators**

Jane Claire & Nason Williams

#### **Firecrackers**

Ceejaye & Mitch Peters

#### **Sparklers**

Karen Treadway

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*The Northminster Choir
Presents*

"Gloria in Excelsis Deo"

*The Morning Hour of Worship
Sunday, December 10*

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

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to Shari and Mark Culver on the death of Shari's father, J.W. Magee.

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-Fifth 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 Andy Frame.

The Caregiving Chair for November is Sarah Reynolds.

The Caregiving Coordinator for November is Jean Welsh.

The Caregiver of the Week is Jean Welsh.

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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Northminster Angel Tree

The Angel Tree is 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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.The church office will be closed Thursday, November 23  
and Friday, November 24 for Thanksgiving.  
For pastoral care needs, please call 601-980-1002.