

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, December 31

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
11:30 a.m. Treadway Reception, GH
6:00 p.m. New Year's Eve Meditation, Sanctuary

Monday, January 1

Church office is closed

Tuesday, January 2

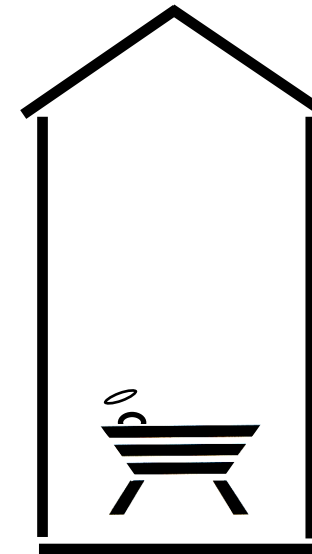
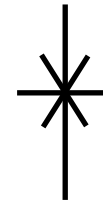
8:30 a.m. Caregiving, L/CR

Wednesday, January 3

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, January 7

9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service/Communion
5:00 p.m. Twelfth-Night Fire Pit, YH
5:00 p.m. Preschool and Elementary Atrium
and SN456
5:30 p.m. Baptism of the Lord Vesper Service



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

And this was the moment
When a few farm workers and three
Members of an obscure Persian sect
Walked haphazard by starlight straight
Into the kingdom of heaven.

—U.A. Fanthorpe, from BC: AD

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

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The First Sunday after Christmas Day
December 31, 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

Blessed is the influence of one true, loving soul on another.
—George Eliot

The Prelude “Now Sing We, Now Rejoice” Manz

The Spoken Call to Worship

*The Advent Banner Baron Vance

*The Processional Hymn No. 161 “Once in Royal David’s City” IRBY

*The Litany of Praise Charles O’Mara

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Elizabeth, Mary’s cousin, and Zechariah, the priest, received new birth breaking all their familiar patterns.

People: Simeon the singer and Anna the prophet hoped for years to see the Messiah, then recognized the gift in a poor couple’s baby.

Leader: We understand Christ as a creative voice in all the universe.

People: Christ is life, a life-light that could not be overcome.

All: Thanks be to God.

—Maren C. Tirabassi, *adapted*

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

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

*The Prayer of Invocation Charles O’Mara

The Greeting Scott Dickison

The Lessons Isaiah 61:10-62:3
Psalm 148

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

NEW YEARS’ EVE

Reflection and Communion
Today

6:00-7:00 p.m. ~ in the Sanctuary

Childcare will be available.

The sanctuary will be open for one hour on New Year’s Eve for a time of quiet reflection and guided meditation.

Communion will be served to those who wish to participate.

PARENTS’ NIGHT OUT

Friday, January 19

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, January 17.

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

SAVE THE DATE!

INSTALLATION SERVICE FOR SCOTT DICKISON

Sunday, January 21, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.

Reception to follow in the Great Hall

NORTHMINSTER ESSENTIALS

Sunday, January 21 through Sunday, March 3

9:15 a.m.-10:15 a.m.

Library (room opposite the main office)

If you are seeking to better understand the history and practices of the family of faith called Northminster, whether you are a friend of the church, a prospective or new member wanting to become more involved in the life of the church, or a long-time member wanting to expand your knowledge of Northminster, this is the course for you.

For questions or to sign up, please call the church office at 601-982-4703 or email Lesley at lesley@northminsterbaptist.org.

YOUTH NEWS

Youth Sunday School

Join us January 7 around 9:15 a.m. There will be donuts and good conversation.

Twelfth-Night Fire Pit

Sunday, January 7 at 5:00 p.m. Join us outside the youth house as we roast marshmallows and bring Epiphany to a close. Bring greenery from home to add to the fire!

Stewpot

Saturday, February 4 at 9:30 a.m. We will gather in the Great Hall kitchen and prepare a meal to be served at Stewpot, then we will eat lunch together.

Youth Sunday/Dessert Auction

February 11. Youth lead worship and teach Sunday school, followed by a church-wide luncheon and dessert auction to raise money for youth trips and activities.

Spring Break Beach Retreat

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

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### **BRUMFIELD HOUSE**

#### January 4

Scott Wilson

#### January 11

Jeff Wilson

#### January 18

Deacon

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CHILDREN'S WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

January 7

Firecrackers

Patrick & Laura Taylor

Sparklers

Josh & Kelly Guyton

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Parents of 6th graders are invited to attend the

### **MENTOR PARENTS' MEETING**

**Wednesday, January 10 at 6:00 p.m.**

in the Library

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SAVE THE DATE!

Northminster Women's Retreat 2024

Friday, February 16 – Sunday, February 18

Eagle Ridge Conference Center

Raymond, MS

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

The best things are nearest: breath in your nostrils, light in your eyes, flowers at your feet, duties at your hand, the path of God just before you.

—Robert Louis Stevenson

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Lesley Ratcliff

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us
our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

INTERCESSION AND DEDICATION

*The Offertory Hymn No. 150 "What Child Is This?"

GREENSLEEVES

*The Offertory Prayer

Charles O'Mara

The Offertory

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Hudson

*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

Luke 2:22-40

Scott Dickison

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem

"Sweet Little Jesus Boy"

Jack McDaniel, *bass*

Traditional

The Sermon

"Holding Together"

Major Treadway

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

God is more anxious to bestow God's blessings on us than we are to receive them.

—Saint Augustine of Hippo

*The Recessional Hymn No. 152 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

GLORIA

*The Benediction

Major Treadway

*The Postlude

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Burkhardt

*The congregation will please stand.

The Lectionary passages December 31 are found on the following pages in the pew Bible:

Isaiah 61:10-62:3 ~ page 604

Psalm 148 ~ page 508

Galatians 4:4-7~ page 947

Luke 2:22-40 ~ page 833

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 Becky, Stephen, Ben, Andrew and Wesley Oakes on the death of Becky’s father, Robert B. Neal.

Bill Boone is receiving physical therapy at Methodist Rehab.

Carla Holt is recovering at the Sienna at St. Catherine’s.

ONGOING CAREGIVING CONCERNS

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

Martha Quarles, mother of Lori Quarles

Remember those in military service: Milton Greenwood

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 First Sunday after Christmas Day a twelve-day celebration of the birth of Jesus, and the incarnation of God in the life of Christ. The liturgical color is white, symbolic of the purity of Christ.

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The Deacon of the Week is Dudley Wooley.

The Caregiving Chair for December is Annette Hitt.

The Caregiving Coordinators for December are Annette Hitt, Janice Joyner, Sarah Reynolds and Sunny Fowler.

The Caregiving Chair for January is Annette Hitt.

The Caregiving Coordinators for January are Faye Barham and Susie Friou.

The Caregivers of the Week are Annette Hitt and Faye Barham.

The Liturgist for December is Amanda Milam.

The Liturgist for January is Richard Joiner.

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

The Flowers for January are provided by Jennifer Stribling, Becky Frame and Kandy Sims.

The Usher Captain for December is Keith Davis.

The Usher Captain for January is Dawn Warrington.

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**Baptism of the Lord
Vesper Service**

January 7 ~ 5:30 p.m.

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**The church office will be closed Monday, January 1.  
For pastoral care needs, please call 601-980-1002.  
Caregivers will meet Tuesday, January 2.**

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All are invited to a reception celebrating

THE TREADWAYS

Today
immediately following worship
in the Great Hall