



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Jesus' three temptations in the desert were about choosing "upward mobility." But Jesus said "no" because He knew God's way is downward. Jesus invites us to become more like He was: the image of God appearing in flesh among us.

—Henri J. M. Nouwen

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The First Sunday in Lent
 February 18, 2024
 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. Following the service, please enjoy a time of fellowship with those around you.

The Prelude "My Heart Abounds In Pleasure" Brahms

The Meditation of Preparation

Jesus told the parable of the prodigal son to dramatize what he meant by the word repent. When the prodigal son repented, he left and sought out his father and humbled himself before him, and then he was forgiven. Our sins were atoned for by Christ on the cross. No suffering that we can endure will lead us to repentance; only He can.

The Call to Worship "Drop, Drop, Slow Tears" —Billy Graham Gibbons

Drop, drop, slow tears, and bathe those beautiful feet
 which brought from heav'n the news and Prince of Peace.
 Cease not, wet eyes, his mercies to entreat;
 to cry for vengeance sin doth never cease.
 In your deep floods drown all my faults and fears;
 nor let his eye see sin, but through my tears.

The Procession of the Lenten Banner Billy Dickison

*The Processional Hymn No. 2 "Holy, Holy, Holy" *NICAEA*

*The Litany of Praise Alex Williams

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lord, show us Your ways.

People: Lord, show us Your truth.

Leader: Lord, teach us to be humble.

People: Lord, show us Your mercy and loving kindness.

Leader: Lord, we strive to keep Your covenant.

People: Lord, we ask for Your forgiveness.

All: To You, O Lord, we lift up our souls.

—Psalm 25, *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 Alex Williams

The Greeting Scott Dickison

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
 Interim Youth Coordinator
 Minister of Music
 Organist
 Organist Emeritus
 Office Manager
 Financial Secretary
 Receptionist/Secretary
 Sexton

Scott Dickison
 Lesley Ratcliff
 Dabbs Massey
 Tim Coker
 Sheila Hess
 Billy Trotter
 Leslie Ward
 Sam South
 Jan Wilson/Neely Grimsley
 Lamenaïs Simeon

THE CHURCH IN SERVICE

Sunday, February 18

8:30 a.m.	Women return from retreat
9:15 a.m.	Chapel Communion
9:15 a.m.	Northminster Essentials, L/CR
10:30 a.m.	Sunday School
5:00 p.m.	Worship Service
	Preschool and Elementary Atrium and Four5Six
5:00 p.m.	Youth, YH
6:45 p.m.	Deacons' Meeting, L/CR

Monday, February 19

8:30 a.m.	Caregiving, L/CR
10:00 a.m.	Elementary Service Day
12:00 p.m.	All Ages Playdate

Tuesday, February 20

4:30 p.m.	Cancer Support, L/CR
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Wednesday, February 21

7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Studies
9:00 a.m.	Enneagram, Adult Ed. Bldg.
10:00 a.m.	Meals on Wheels
5:30 p.m.	Wednesday Night Supper
7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 22

5:15 p.m.	Youth Cmte. Meeting, YH
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Sunday, February 25

8:30 a.m.	Chapel Communion
9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
9:15 a.m.	Northminster Essentials, L/CR
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
5:00 p.m.	Preschool and Elementary Atrium and Four5Six
5:00 p.m.	Youth, YH
5:30 p.m.	Adult Studies, GH

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

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES LUNCHEON

March 3

Immediately Following Worship in the Great Hall

This will be a time to learn about why we do Children's Ministries the way we do Children's Ministries at Northminster, talk about upcoming Children's Ministries activities, and share our gratitude for those who lead our children in Sunday School and Sunday night activities.

This year, we will also be recognizing

Annette Hitt,

who has recently retired from her role as Sunday School Director, after more than 40 years of welcoming our children on Sunday mornings.

Children and their families, and all children's department teachers and their families are invited, as well as anyone who would like to learn more about Children's Ministries.

Please RSVP to Lesley Ratcliff at lesley@northminsterbaptist.org.

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## CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAY GATHERING

Tuesday, March 19

3:00-5:00 p.m.

Children who have a birthday in March are invited to stop by the Northminster Great Hall to enjoy an ice cream treat with Lesley.

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Palm Cross Making and the Palm Sunday Processional

On **March 20** at 9:00 a.m., anyone who would like to help make Palm Crosses is invited to join the Flower Committee in the Great Hall. Bring a pair of scissors. No previous experience required!

On **March 24**, children are invited to participate in waving palms for the processional at the 10:30 worship service. Please meet in the children's area by 10:15 to line up!

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## PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Friday, March 22

6:00-10:00 p.m.

You can make a reservation for your children (infant-6th grade) by calling the church office, **601-982-4703**, by **Wednesday, March 20**.

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

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Meals on Wheels needs volunteers

Meals on Wheels needs drivers and substitute drivers. Your participation will be greatly appreciated.

If you are interested, contact Steve Bass at 601-209-2436.

The Lessons

Genesis 9:8-17

I Peter 3:18-22

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

Forgiveness is crucial to human beings. Because we are human, we fall short and break promises. We can continue to live together as human beings only by living in forgiveness. We are able to forgive, not by being told to forgive, but by letting the Word of the crucified Christ be our word, "Your sins are forgiven."

—Andrew M. Weyermann

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Scott Dickison

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. 200 "Lord, Who Throughout These 40 Days" *NEW BRITAIN*

*The Offertory Prayer

Alex Williams

The Offertory

"What Wondrous Love Is This"

Wood

*The Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Gospel

Mark 1:9-15

Scott Dickison

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem

"My Eternal King"

Marshall

My God, I love Thee; not because I hope for heav'n thereby.
Nor yet because who love Thee not must die eternally.

Thou, O my Jesus, Thou didst me upon the cross embrace;
For me didst nails and spear, and manifold disgrace.

Why, then why, O blessed Jesus Christ. Should I not love Thee well?

Not for the hope of winning heav'n or of escaping hell;

Not with the hope of gaining aught, Not seeking a reward;

But as Thy self hast loved me, O ever loving Lord!

E'en so I love Thee, and will love, and in Thy praise will sing;

Solely because Thou art my God, and my Eternal King.

The Sermon "God of the Wilderness" 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

A true walk with God will do more to awaken awe, wonder, and amazement in your soul than would a century of travel through the sights of the earth.

—Author Unknown

*The Recessional Hymn No. 107 "Christ Be My Leader" SLANE

*The Benediction Scott Dickison

*The Postlude "Jubilate" Young

**The congregation will please stand.*

The Lectionary passages February 18 are found on the following pages in the pew Bible:

- Genesis 9:8-17 ~ pages 6-7
- Psalm 25:1-10 ~ page 436
- I Peter 3:18-22 ~ page 985
- Mark 1:9-15 ~ page 812

A Lenten Offering

The Worship and Music Committee offers this year's edition of "A Lenten Journey" as a gift to our congregation. We hope that the creative expressions and offerings by members and friends of Northminster will encourage and enhance meaningful daily worship and meditation throughout this season of preparation. Copies are available throughout the church for you to take and share.

ADULT STUDIES

5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall

Practices of the People

February 25, March 3 & March 17

In this series we'll explore a variety of Christian spiritual practices. Each of the pastors will lead a session, and during the final session we will invite members of our family of faith to share spiritual practices that have been meaningful to them.

Interfaith Spiritual Practices

April 7, April 14 & April 21

In this three part series, interfaith friends from our community will come and share the spiritual practices that make their faith meaningful.

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**WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER**

Wednesday, February 21

Supper in the Great Hall at 5:30 p.m.

Service in the sanctuary immediately after supper.

Cost: \$5 per child, \$8 per adult, \$25 per family

Servers: Gloria Montgomery, M'lee Williams, Sandi Rhoden, Anna Katherine Scott

Cashier: George Luter

Menu: chicken spaghetti, crunchy romaine toss, french bread caramel cake, carrot cake, iced tea

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MEALS ON WHEELS

Wednesday, February 21

Cooks

Cathy Davis
Judy Rankin
Sara Hays

Drivers

Rt. 1 Laine & Bob Hardin
Rt. 2 Rob Hill & Ryan McElveen

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**CHILDREN'S WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE**

**February 25**

**Chapel Coordinators**

Camille & Drew Snyder

**Firecrackers**

Amy & Matt Thames

**Sparklers**

Jane Claire & Nason Williams

**March 3**

**Firecrackers**

Morgan & Aaron Samuels

**Sparklers**

Caroline & Jack Nowell

## YOUTH NEWS

### Youth Sunday School

Join us at 9:15 a.m. There will be donuts and good conversation.

### Sunday Nights at the Youth House

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

### Save the Date

June 10-13. Youth trip to Smith Lake.

### Passport

July 13-17. Cost \$450. The youth will travel to Passport youth camp at Converse University in Spartanburg, SC. There are twelve spots available. To reserve your spot, email Dabbs at dabbs@northminsterbaptist.org.

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Dabbs Massey Announced as Interim Director of Youth

In the weeks since Major Treadway shared the news of his departure to serve as a senior minister, members of the Youth Ministries Committee and the Personnel Committee have met to discuss ways we can best support our youth as the search for a new Associate Pastor for Students begins. As a result of these conversations, we are happy to report that Dabbs Massey has agreed to serve in the position of interim Interim Youth Coordinator on a part-time basis. Dabbs' years of experience in working with our Northminster youth uniquely qualifies her to support this important work.

We welcome Dabbs to this temporary part-time role of service and support.

-Valerie Linn, Personnel Chair

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### **Search Committee Named for Associate Pastor for Students**

At a congregational meeting following worship last Sunday, the congregation elected a search committee to fill our Associate Pastor for Students position. Three at-large members were elected to join four members representing the deacons and committees for youth, children, and personnel. The committee is as follows:

- Carrie Blount, representative from youth committee
- Blakely Fender, representative from personnel committee
- Holly Wiggs, vice-chair of deacons
- Hart Wylie, representative from children's committee
- Smith Boykin
- Graham Eklund
- Clay Wooley

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BRUMFIELD HOUSE

February 22

Bryan Bridges

February 29

Kirk Sims

March 7

Cathy Davis

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

ONGOING CAREGIVING CONCERNS

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

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 in Lent.

Lent is the season in which we anticipate Jesus' final trip to Jerusalem and the self-giving nature of love shown in his Passion and death. The season begins with Ash Wednesday and extends for forty weekdays through Saturday of Holy Week. Sundays are excluded from Lent, being regarded as feast days in the midst of the forty-day fast. Because Lent is the most strongly penitential season of the year, the liturgical color is purple.

Our Lenten banner is a visual symbol of Christ's sacrifice. The images of the cross, thorns, and spear remind us of his agony on our behalf. The pattern is broken, reminding us of the power of the cross, the disruption of evil, and a life broken for us. The purple recalls the penitential color of Lent and the red reminds us of sacrifice.

The banner was designed and made by a Northminster member.

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- The Deacon of the Week is Eddie Mahaffey.
- The Caregiving Chair for February is Sarah Reynolds.
- The Caregiving Coordinator for February is Gail England.
- The Caregiver of the Week is Amy Finkelberg.
- The Liturgist for February is Rose Mary Porter.
- The Flowers for February are provided by Lisa Kelly, Kathryn Sams, Jane Claire Williams and Jill Buckley.
- The Usher Captain for February is Judy Rankin.

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Elementary Service Day + All Ages Playdate

Monday, February 19

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

First through sixth graders will meet at 10:00 a.m. for a service project. We will leave campus and return by noon. Children of all ages are invited to join in the Great Hall at noon for a playdate.