



## THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Heavy

That time I thought  
I could not go  
any closer to grief  
without dying

I went closer,  
and I did not die.  
Surely God  
had his hand in this,

as well as friends.  
Still, I was bent,  
and my laughter,  
as the poet said,

was nowhere to be found.  
Then said my friend Daniel  
(brave even among lions),  
“It is not the weight you carry

but how you carry it—  
books, bricks, grief—  
it’s all in the way  
you embrace it, balance it, carry it

when you cannot, and would not,  
put it down.”  
So I went practicing.  
Have you noticed?

Have you heard  
the laughter  
that comes, now and again,  
out of my startled mouth?

How I linger  
to admire, admire, admire  
the things of this world  
that are kind, and maybe

also troubled—  
roses in the wind,  
the sea geese on the steep waves,  
a love to which there is no reply?

—Mary Oliver

*NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH  
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211*

**THE ACT OF WORSHIP**  
**Palm/Passion Sunday**  
March 24, 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 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" Pethel

The Meditation of Preparation

What is "extraordinary"?

It is the love of Jesus Christ himself, love that goes to the cross in suffering obedience.  
—Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Call to Worship "Enter the Holy Gates" Saint-Saens

Enter the holy gates with adoration,  
Bring the Lord an offering in the holy place.

Let heav'n rejoice, and let earth ring out praises.  
Let all exult at the face of the Lord, for he comes, Alleluia.

\*The Palm Procession

\*The Procession of the Lenten Banner Sterling Massey

\*The Processional Hymn No. 203 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" *ELLACOMBE*

\*The Litany of Praise Joe D. Rankin

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, who is good; whose steadfast love endures forever.

**People: Hosanna to God, Hosanna in the highest.**

Leader: Let Israel say, "God's love endures forever."

**All: "Hosanna to God, Hosanna in the highest."**

\*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 Joe D. Rankin

The Greeting Lesley Ratcliff

The Lessons Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29  
Philippians 2:5-11

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

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

**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           |
| Interim Youth Coordinator                | Dabbs Massey              |
| 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, March 24**

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| 8:30 a.m.  | Chapel Communion                             |
| 9:15 a.m.  | Sunday School                                |
| 10:00 a.m. | Palm Sunday Processional                     |
| 10:30 a.m. | Worship Service                              |
| 11:30 a.m. | Children's Ministries Cmte., NCC             |
| 5:00 p.m.  | Preschool and Elementary Atrium and Four5Six |
| 5:00 p.m.  | Youth, YH                                    |
| 5:30 p.m.  | Choir Presentation: Rutter's "Requiem"       |

**Monday, March 25**

|            |                                  |
|------------|----------------------------------|
| 8:30 a.m.  | Stations of the Cross, Sanctuary |
| 8:30 a.m.  | Caregiving, L/CR                 |
| 10:00 a.m. | Meals on Wheels                  |
| 12:00 p.m. | Communion, Sanctuary             |
| 5:30 p.m.  | Wider Net Cmte., L/CR            |

**Tuesday, March 26**

|            |                                  |
|------------|----------------------------------|
| 8:30 a.m.  | Stations of the Cross, Sanctuary |
| 12:00 p.m. | Communion, Sanctuary             |
| 5:30 p.m.  | Building Maintenance Cmte., L/CR |

**Wednesday, March 27**

|            |                                  |
|------------|----------------------------------|
| 7:00 a.m.  | Men's Bible Study, L/CR          |
| 8:30 a.m.  | Stations of the Cross, Sanctuary |
| 12:00 p.m. | Communion, Sanctuary             |
| 7:00 p.m.  | Choir Rehearsal                  |

**Thursday, March 28**

|           |                                    |
|-----------|------------------------------------|
| 8:30 a.m. | Stations of the Cross, Sanctuary   |
| 9:00 a.m. | Mathathon at Spann                 |
| 7:00 p.m. | Maundy Thursday Service, Sanctuary |

**Friday, March 29**

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 8:30 a.m. | Stations of the Cross, Sanctuary        |
| 7:00 p.m. | Good Friday Tenebrae Service, Sanctuary |

**Sunday, March 31**

|            |                      |
|------------|----------------------|
| 8:00 a.m.  | Worship Service      |
| 8:30 a.m.  | Chapel Communion     |
| 9:00 a.m.  | Easter Breakfast, GH |
| 10:30 a.m. | Worship Service      |

**CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE**

The Meditation of Confession

So, I am praying while not knowing how to pray. I am resting while feeling restless, at peace while tempted, safe while still anxious, surrounded by a cloud of Light while still in darkness, in love while still doubting.

—Henri Nouwen

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. 212 "What Wondrous Love Is This" *WONDROUS LOVE*

\*The Offertory Prayer Joe D. Rankin

The Offertory "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" Hustad

\*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 11:1-11 Lesley Ratcliff

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" Martin

When I survey the wondrous cross  
 on which the Prince of glory died,  
 my richest gain I count but loss,  
 and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
 save in the death of Christ, my God!  
 All the vain things that charm me most,  
 I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,  
 sorrow and love flow mingled down!  
 Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
 or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
 that were a present far too small;  
 love, so amazing, so divine,  
 demands my soul, my life, my all! *Amen!*

The Sermon "Two Parades" 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**

Holiness comes wrapped in the ordinary. There are burning bushes all around us. Every tree is full of angels. Hidden beauty is waiting in every crumb. Life wants to lead you from crumbs to angels, but this can happen only if you are willing to unwrap the ordinary by staying with it long enough to harvest its treasure.

—Macrina Wiederkehr, *A Tree Full of Angels*

A Sabbatical Blessing for Lesley Ratcliff

Leader: Lesley, we pray God’s blessings over you as you prepare to leave for this sabbatical time of renewal.

**People: As you journey, we ask God to guide you in all you do.**

Lesley: God’s peace be with you as I leave to renew my spirit, my ministry, my life.

**People: May you experience the gift of spiritual growth on your sabbatical.**

Lesley: I pray this gift for you, also.

**People: We send you off with our blessing.**

Leader: Spirit of God, descend upon our hearts. Renew Lesley for ministry through this time set aside for reflection and recreation, the refreshment of a break from daily tasks and routine after twelve years of ministry among us, the excitement of new learning and new direction. Grace her with your presence and keep her steadfast in faith while we are gone separated from one another. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

\*The Recessional Hymn No. 224 “Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know” *HENDON*

\*The Benediction *Scott Dickison*

\*The Postlude “Fugue on Kyrie” *Couperin*

*\*The congregation will please stand.*

**The Lectionary passages March 24 are found on the following pages in the pew Bible:**

- Isaiah 50:4-9a ~ page 594
- Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29 ~ pages 492-493
- Philippians 2:5-11 ~ page 954
- Mark 11:1-11 ~ page 823

**ADULT STUDIES**

5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall

**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.

**Adult Studies will also be on Zoom.**

**Please contact Lesley for the link at [lesley@northminsterbaptist.org](mailto:lesley@northminsterbaptist.org).**

**Ramadan Dinner**

St. Andrew’s and Northminster Baptist Church, in cooperation with Dialogue Institute Mississippi, are co-sponsoring a Ramadan dinner in observance of the Islamic Holy Month of Ramadan.

April 9, 2024

St. Andrew’s Parish Hall  
305 E. Capitol Street

Program starts at 6:45 p.m.  
Dinner begins at 7:30 p.m.

Dinner will be catered by Aladdin’s Restaurant.

Contact and RSVP Ben Garrott [bgarrott@standrews.ms](mailto:bgarrott@standrews.ms)

Security provided. Parking in garage or on the street.

**MEALS ON WHEELS**

**Monday, March 25**

**Cooks**

Ann Calhoon  
Kelly Hicks  
Gail England

**Drivers**

Rt. 1 Jean & Kelley Williams  
Rt. 2 TBA

**Monday, April 1**

**Cooks**

Peggy Brady  
Rebecca Starling  
Amanda Milam

**Drivers**

Rt. 1 Luke Dove & Bob Hardin  
Rt. 2 Keith Davis & Michael Grantham

**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.

**PASTORAL CARE NUMBER**

**601-980-1002**

**Please remember to bring flowers for the flowering of the cross on Easter Sunday.**

**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**

We will meet at 5:00 tonight for dinner, games, fellowship and a lesson.

**Youth Lake Trip**

The youth group (this includes rising 7th graders) will travel to Smith Lake, AL June 10-13. Deposit is \$50 due by May 6 and the total cost is \$150 due by June 5th. Please email Dabbs at dabbs@northminsterbaptist.org to reserve your spot.

**Passport**

The youth will travel to Passport Youth camp at Converse University in Spartanburg, SC. Rising 7th graders can go to PassportKids OR Passport Youth. Deposit is \$100 due by April 1 and the total cost is \$450 due by May 1. Please contact Dabbs at dabbs@northminsterbaptist.org to reserve your spot.

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**Easter Egg Hunt and Picnic**

**Wednesday, April 3  
5:30-7:00 p.m.**

**Servers:** Cade Montague, June Rankin, George Luter, Sandi Rhoden, Mary Heard & Joe D. Rankin

Everyone is invited to join us for the annual Easter Egg Hunt in the Youth House backyard!

Preschool and elementary aged children can bring their baskets and will hunt for eggs at 5:45 p.m.

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**BRUMFIELD HOUSE**

**March 28**

Mike Peters

**April 4**

Mitch Peters

**April 11**

Joe Sims

**April 18**

Dudley Wooley

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**CHILDREN’S WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE**

**March 31 - Easter**

**For 8:00 a.m. service**

**Firecrackers & Sparklers**

Judy Gregory

**For 10:30 a.m. service**

**Firecrackers**

Audrey Dickison & Brock Ratcliff

**Sparklers**

Elizabeth & Percy Quinn

**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 Laura, Patrick, May and Annabeth Taylor on the death of Laura’s mother, Anne Smith.

**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     | Carla Holt        |                   |

Martha Quarles, mother of Lori Quarles

Remember those in military service: Milton Greenwood and Ryan McCarley.

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 Palm/Passion Sunday**, the day commemorating our Lord’s triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Palm Sunday stands at the beginning of Holy Week, the seven-day period preceding Easter which recalls the Passion of Jesus. Today is also the final Sunday in the season of Lent. 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 Joe D. Rankin.

The Caregiving Chair for March is Susan O’Mara.

The Caregiving Coordinator for March is Steve Godbold.

The Caregiver of the Week is Sunny Fowler.

The Liturgist for March is Joe D. Rankin.

The Flowers for March are provided by Becky Frame, Kandy Sims, Geri Smith and Lisa Kelly.

The Usher Captain for March is Nancy Smith.

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**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.