



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

You don't think your way into a new kind of living.
You live your way into a new kind of thinking.

—Henri Nouwen

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Third Sunday in Lent
March 3, 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 "Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness" Burton

The Meditation of Preparation

Prayer is sitting in silence until it silences us, choosing gratitude until we are grateful.
—Richard Rohr

The Call to Worship "Drop, Drop, Slow Tears" 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 Hallie McGinnis

*The Processional Hymn No. 52 "I Sing the Mighty Power of God" *ELLACOMBE*

*The Litany of Praise Eddie Mahaffey

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: May we reflect on God's hope and intention for creation.

People: May we seek to be the presence of Christ in the world.

Leader: May we faithfully struggle to understand truth.

All: May we seek to be the presence of Christ in the world. Amen.

*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 Eddie Mahaffey

The Greeting Lesley Ratcliff

The Lessons Psalm 19
I Corinthians 1:18-25

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
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
Lamenais Simeon

THE CHURCH IN SERVICE

Sunday, March 3

9:15 a.m. Northminster Essentials, L/CR
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service/Communion
11:30 a.m. Children's Ministries Luncheon, GH
5:00 p.m. Preschool and Elementary Atrium
and Four5Six
5:00 p.m. Youth, YH
5:30 p.m. Adult Studies, GH

Monday, March 4

8:30 a.m. Caregiving, L/CR
10:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels

Wednesday, March 6

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Studies
5:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper
6:00 p.m. UVA Glee Club Recital, Sanctuary
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, March 10

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

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

Easter Sunday Services
March 31, 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
Church-Wide Easter Breakfast

9:15 a.m. ~ Great Hall
(during the Sunday School hour)

Servers: Gloria Montgomery, Ann Calhoun, Cindy Reed,
Kathryn Davis, Hilda Boteler & George Luter

Enjoy a light breakfast, juice, milk and coffee as we fellowship with one another!

~~~~~

**MEALS ON WHEELS**

**Monday, March 4**

**Cooks**

Annette Hitt  
Kandy Sims  
Lisa Cobb

**Drivers**

Rt. 1 Becky & Tim Frame,  
Gayla Purvis  
Rt. 2 Bob Boteler

~~~~~

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.

~~~~~

**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.

~~~~~

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.

~~~~~

**STEW POT FOOD PANTRY**

**Monday, March 18**

Bob Boteler

**Tuesday, March 19**

Laine & Bob Hardin

**Wednesday, March 20**

Mary & Chico Taylor

**Thursday, March 21**

Sunny Fowler  
Jan McDonnieal-Wilson

**CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE**

The Meditation of Confession

Lord, on our purple path journey deepen our lives to better serve You and help us to reflect Your love to all within these walls and beyond.

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. 768 "I Come with Joy"

*DOVE OF PEACE*

\*The Offertory Prayer

Eddie Mahaffey

The Offertory

"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"

Wood

\*The Doxology

*OLD HUNDRETH*

**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

John 2:13-22

Scott Dickison

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem

"O Love"

Hagenberg

O Love, that will not let me go,  
I rest my weary soul in Thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe,  
That in thy ocean depths its flow  
may richer, fuller be.

O Joy, that seeks me through the pain,  
I cannot close my heart to thee;  
I trace the rainbow through the rain,  
and feel the promise is not vain,  
that morn shall tearless be.

O Love, that will not let me go,  
I rest my weary soul in thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe,  
and in thy ocean depths its flow  
that richer, fuller be.

The Sermon

"Foolish Wisdom"

Scott Dickison

**THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

The Call to the Table

Scott Dickison

The Communion Litany

Pastor: On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples and said, "Take, eat. This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

**People: Thanks be to God for the broken bread.**

Pastor: After supper, he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them and said, "Drink this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

**People: Thanks be to God for the cup.**

Pastor: Thanks be to God for the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus.

**All: Thanks be to God for the table of communion.**

The Bread

Worshippers will come forward by the center aisle. Receive the bread and, having received it, return to your seat by the outside aisle.

The Cup

Worshippers will be served the cup seated in the pews. Take the cup, a symbol of your willingness to receive the grace of God. Once all have been served, drink the cup together.

**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**

Give your hands to serve and your heart to love.

—Mother Teresa

\*The Recessional Hymn No. 354 "The Works of the Lord Are Created" *KREMSE*

\*The Benediction *Scott Dickison*

\*The Postlude "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" *Manz*

*\*The congregation will please stand.*

**The Lectionary passages March 3 are found on the following pages in the pew Bible:**

- Exodus 20:1-17 ~ page 58
- Psalm 19 ~ page 433
- I Corinthians 1:18-25 ~ page 926
- John 2:13-22 ~ page 863

**Musician for Today**

Veronica Parrales, *cello*

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES LUNCHEON**

**Today**

**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.

~~~~~

ADULT STUDIES

5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall

Practices of the People

Tonight & March 17

In this series we'll explore a variety of Christian spiritual practices from our own faith tradition. This week Scott Dickison will lead a session on Testimony as Spiritual Practice. The final session will be led by members of the congregation who will 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.

Adult Studies will also be livestreamed.

Please contact Lesley for the link at lesley@northminsterbaptist.org.

~~~~~

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER**

Wednesday, March 6

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: Mary Heard, Anna Katherine Scott, Sandi Rhoden, Cindy Reed

Cashier: George Luter

Menu: fried chicken, green salad, rice consommé, sweet & sour green beans, yeast rolls assorted desserts, and iced tea

## 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.

~~~~~  
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!

~~~~~  
**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.

~~~~~  
BRUMFIELD HOUSE

March 7

Cathy Davis

March 14

Elizabeth Boone

March 21

Dabbs Massey

March 28

Mike Peters

~~~~~  
**CHILDREN'S WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE**

**March 10**

**Chapel Coordinators**

Megan Wylie & Hart Wylie

**Firecrackers**

Rebecca & Brooks Vance

**Sparklers**

Melissa Robinson & Mike Kitchell

## 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 Laine and Bob Hardin on the death of Laine's daughter, Ashley Stack.

## 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 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 the third 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.

~~~~~  
The Deacon of the Week is Matt Kelly.

The Caregiving Chair for March is Susan O'Mara.

The Caregiving Coordinator for March is Steve Godbold.

The Caregiver of the Week is Sheila Nicholas.

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.

~~~~~  
**Communion and Children**

Communion Sundays are special times of worship at Northminster, and we want all our children to feel as included as possible. It has been a long-standing tradition at Northminster that each family will decide whether or not non-baptized children can receive Communion. Please know that children who have not yet been baptized and whose families decide that they need to wait to receive Communion can still come forward to receive a blessing from the deacons who are serving Communion. *To signify that they wish to receive the blessing but not Communion, these children simply need to cross their arms over their chests, as if in prayer, when they approach a deacon who is serving the bread.* Hopefully, this option will provide non-baptized children who do not partake in Communion a way to more fully participate in the worship life of our faith community. Jesus Christ said, "Let the little children come to me." Here at Northminster, our desire is to be as welcoming of children as is the Savior we follow.