

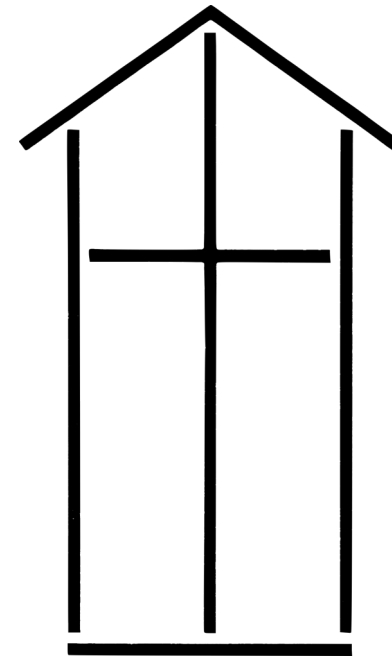
MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH
Every member a minister

The Deacon of the Week is Cheryl Allen.
The Caregiving Chair for January is Annette Hitt.
The Caregiving Coordinator for January is Steve Godbold.
The Caregivers of the Week are Melissa and Steve Godbold.
The Liturgist for January is Amanda Milam.
The flowers for January are provided by Jennifer Stribling and
Jane Claire Williams.
The Usher Captain for January is Dawn Warrington.

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

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



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

They did not know his name but still they sought him,
They came from elsewhere but still they found;
In temples they found those who sold and bought him,
But in the filthy stable, hallowed ground.
Their courage gives our questing hearts a voice
To seek, to find, to worship, to rejoice.

—Malcolm Guite
from “A Sonnet for Epiphany”

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Second Sunday after Christmas
January 5, 2025
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 Meditation of Preparation

What is the knocking?
What is the knocking at the door in the night?
It is somebody wants to do us harm.

No, no, it is the three strange angels.
Admit them, admit them.

—D.H. Lawrence
“Song of a Man Who Has Come Through”

The Prelude “From Heaven Above to Earth I Come” Haan

The Spoken Call to Worship Scott Dickison

*The Christmas Banner Ann Arrington Long

*The Processional Hymn No. 181 *DIX*
“As with Gladness Men of Old”

*The Litany of Praise Lisa Strum

Leader: Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem!

People: Praise your God, O Zion!

Leader: For God strengthens the bars of your gates;

People: God strengthens your children within you.

Leader: God grants peace within your borders;

People: God fills you with the finest of wheat.

All: God speaks to Jacob, God’s statutes and ordinances to Israel.

—Psalm 147, adapted

THE CHURCH IN SERVICE

Sunday, January 5

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

4:15 p.m. Youth Twelfth-Night Bonfire, YH

Monday, January 6

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

10:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels

Wednesday, January 8

7:00 a.m. Men’s Bible Study, L/CR

5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper, GH

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 9

5:30 p.m. Adult Ministries Cmte., L/CR

Friday, January 10

6:00 p.m. Parents’ Night Out

Sunday, January 12

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

11:45 a.m. Youth Ministries Cmte., YH

5:00 p.m. Atrium, Four5Six

5:00 p.m. Youth, YH

5:30 p.m. Baptism of the Lord Vesper Service

6:45 p.m. Deacons’ Meeting, L/CR

Stewpot

Saturday, February 1 at 9:30 a.m.

Meet in the Great Hall kitchen, where we will prepare a meal to be served at Stewpot. We will go out to lunch when we finish.

Youth Sunday/Dessert Auction

Sunday, February 9, immediately after worship

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

CHILDREN'S NEWS

Children's Worship Volunteer Schedule

- January 5: Firecrackers—Caroline & Kirk Sims
Sparklers—Leah & Tal Hendrix
- January 12: Firecrackers—Olivia & Keith Studdard
Sparklers—Caroline & Kirk Sims

Parents' Night Out

Friday, January 10, 6:00-10:00 p.m.

You can make a reservation for your children (infant—sixth grade) by calling the church office at 601-982-4703 by Wednesday, January 8. Please remember to feed your children before they arrive or provide a brown-bag supper. We will also have Parents' Night Out on February 7, March 28 and May 9.

Preschool Atrium, Elementary Atrium and Four5Six

Resume Sunday, January 12 at 5:00 p.m.

Children's Birthday Gathering

Thursday, January 16, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Children whose birthdays are in January are invited to stop by the Great Hall to enjoy an ice cream treat with Lesley.

*The Gloria Patri

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

Lisa Strum

The Greeting

Scott Dickison

The Lessons

Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 147:12-20

Scott Dickison

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

Therefore the righteous plundered the ungodly;
They sang hymns, O Lord, to your holy name,
And praised with one accord your defending hand;
For wisdom opened the mouths of those who were mute,
And made the tongues of infants speak clearly.

—Wisdom of Solomon 10:20-21

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

Lesley Ratcliff

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. 186

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

“Wise Men, They Came to Look”

*The Offertory Prayer

Lisa Strum

The Offertory “How Lovely Shines the Morning Star” Manz

*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 John 1:1-9 Lesley Ratcliff

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

The Anthem “I Will Sing New Songs of Gladness” Dvořák
Jack Edwards, *bass*

THE INSTALLATION AND ORDINATION OF DEACONS

The Presentation of the Candidates for Installation

Blakely Fender, Charles O’Mara, Mike Peters,
Elizabeth Quinn, Geri Smith, Wilson Stribling

The Charge to the Candidates Scott Dickison

Pastor: Blakely, Charles, Mike, Elizabeth, Geri and Wilson,
you have been turned to by your family of faith to
serve the church in a special way. Do you trust in
Jesus Christ as head of the church? Do you accept
the meaning and power of the biblical witness in
your lives? And do you believe that the Christian
church has a mission relevant to the needs and
challenges of our time?

Deacons: Yes, we do.

Pastor: Will you seek to serve the church with energy,
intelligence, imagination, love, tolerance, and good
humor?

Deacons: Yes, we will.

Northminster Women’s Retreat 2025

Friday, January 24 – Sunday, January 26
Eagle Ridge Conference Center – Raymond, MS

The Soil of Sorrow

To know loss and sorrow is to be human, and to be human is to seek community and love. On this year’s retreat, we will explore how we support ourselves and others through sorrow and loss, and how we deepen our connections with one another as we till the soil of sorrow to see what might bloom there. We’ll share song and stories by the fire, participate in art and writing, and engage in embodied activity. As is our women’s retreat way, we’ll laugh and play games and have lots of good snacks, too!

Cost: \$225 per person; \$300 for a single room
The deadline to register is January 10.

Cost should never keep someone from attending. If there is a need for a scholarship, please contact Lesley Ratcliff.

Questions? Contact Lesley Ratcliff at lesley@northminsterbaptist.org or 601-927-0259.

———— YOUTH NEWS ————

Youth Sunday School

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

Twelfth-Night Bonfire

Today at 4:15 p.m. If you have a tree that you are throwing out and we can use it for the bonfire, please contact Dabbs at 601-668-2554. We will need 8-10 trees. At the bonfire we will focus our attention on what we would leave behind in this new year and what we would take with us. We’ll have supper and s’mores! Meet at the youth house at 4:15 to caravan to the bonfire in Flowood. All college students who are home for Christmas and any former youth who are in town are welcome and encouraged to join us.

Sunday Nights at the Youth House

We will start back at 5:00 p.m. on January 12 for supper, games, fellowship and a lesson.

————— ANNOUNCEMENTS —————

Baptism of the Lord Vesper Service

Sunday, January 12
5:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

If you are interested in receiving baptism at this service, please contact one of the pastors.

Northminster Essentials

Sunday, January 19, through Sunday, March 2
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, this is the course for you.

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

Adult Studies

5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall

January 19: The Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany Cycle
January 26: The Lent, Easter, and Pentecost Cycle

Living the Story: A History of the Liturgical Calendar

The Christian Year, also known as the Liturgical Calendar, shapes the common life of congregations across the globe, helping us to keep time by the story of our faith. Yet, like so much of Christian theology and practice, this calendar developed over a number of years and comes to us as a synthesis of traditions that emerged all across the Christian world. Over these two weeks, we will take a closer look at the development of the two major cycles that anchor our year, discussing how and why they formed and where we might find meaning within them.

The Charge to the Congregation

Scott Dickison

Pastor: Do you, members of Northminster Baptist Church, accept these new deacons to lead us in the work of Christ?

People: **Yes, we do.**

Pastor: Do you promise to support them with your encouragement, prayers, and Christian love?

People: **Yes, we do.**

Pastor: Please join your hearts and voices in the church's prayer for these deacons:

Unison: **Almighty God, in every time you have chosen servants to speak your word and lead your people. We thank you for these whom you have called to serve in our midst. Grant them the necessary gifts to do the work. Make them wise and faithful, humble and prophetic, patient and persevering, glad to be what they are and expecting much from their life of service in the church. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.**

The Laying on of Hands

Blakely Fender
Charles O'Mara
Elizabeth Quinn
Geri Smith

The Pronouncement

Scott Dickison

Pastor: Blakely, Charles, Elizabeth and Geri, you are now deacons. Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of Christ, giving thanks to God. Claim your ministry. Rejoice in the work you have been given. Lead us into the future with hope. Amen.

The Presentation of Towels and Certificates

Holly Wiggs

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

No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main.

—John Donne from “Meditation XVII”

*The Recessional Hymn No. 190 *ST. GEORGE’S, WINDSOR*
“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”

*The Benediction Scott Dickison

*The Postlude “As with Gladness Men of Old” Burkhardt

**The congregation will please stand.*

The scriptures for today are found on the following pages in the pew Bible:

Isaiah 60:1-6, page 602
Psalm 147:12-20, pages 507-508
John 1:1-9, page 862

Today is the Second Sunday after Christmas. We are in the midst of Christmastide, 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. Today, however, the church is dressed in red, the liturgical color for ordinations and installations.

The Christmas Banner reminds us of God’s presence bursting into the world and of the Christmas star which led shepherds and kings to the holy infant. On the banner we find familiar figures of the cradle scene. The banner’s purple background reminds us of royalty and the color of Advent while the rough textures and earthen colors draw our attention to the humble beginnings of the son of God. The banner was designed and made by a Northminster member.

Today our musician is Ausra Jasineviciute, *viola*.

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.

ONGOING CAREGIVING CONCERNS

Gorman Schaffer	Libby McGee	Carolyn Aden
Tom Starling	Sue Edwards	R.W. McCarley
Carla Holt	Virginia Hamilton	

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.

Pastoral Care Number

To alert the ministers of a pastoral care need, please call 601-980-1002.

Brumfield House

January 9:	Jeff Wilson
January 16:	Holly Wiggs
January 23:	Skipper Jernigan
January 30:	Kirk Sims

Meals on Wheels

Monday, January 6

Cooks:	Rt. 1 Drivers:
Peggy Brady	Gayla & John Purvis
Rebecca Starling	Rt. 2 Drivers:
Amanda Milam	Pat & Mike Beall