



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

In whispers soft and light as air,
Grace dances, unseen, everywhere.
In gentle words and tender care,
In silent moments, grace is there.

In morning light and evening's grace,
In nature's arms, a warm embrace.
In kindness shown without a trace,
In quietude, grace finds its place.

In fleeting smiles, in stars above,
In acts of unrequited love,
In all that's pure, in dreams we chase,
In life's ballet, grace moves with grace.

—Anonymous

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 30, 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

I do not understand the mystery of grace, only that it meets us where we are and does not leave us where it found us.

—Anne Lamott

The Prelude Chorale Prelude on “Hyfrydol and St. Anne” Coker

The Call to Worship “Drop, Drop, Slow Tears” Gibbons

Drop, drop slow tears, and bathe those beauteous 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 Ann Arrington Long

*The Processional Hymn No. 77 *LOBE DEN HERREN*

“Praise to the Lord”

*The Litany of Praise Chesley Quinn

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: The Lord's unfailing love surrounds all who trust in
God.

People: Lord, we confess our transgressions.

**All: Lord, we thank you for your grace-filled presence
and our undeserved forgiveness. Amen.**

*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

Chesley Quinn

The Greeting

Scott Dickison

The Lessons

Psalm 32
II Corinthians 5:16-21

Scott Dickison

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

Loving God, I come before your throne of forgiveness and mercy.
Grant me a humble heart and help me amend my ways, through
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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 trespass-
es, 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. 502

NEW BRITAIN

“Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound”

*The Offertory Prayer

Chesley Quinn

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

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Lesley Ratcliff

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Anthem

“God So Loved the World”

Stainer

God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son,
that who so believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world,
but that the world through Him might be saved.

The Sermon

“A Man Had Two Sons”

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

Forgiveness says you are given another chance to make a new beginning.

—Desmond Tutu

*The Recessional Hymn No. 507

FINLANDIA

“I Then Shall Live”

*The Benediction

Scott Dickison

*The Postlude

“Largo”

Handel

**The congregation will please stand.*

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

Psalm 32, page 440

II Corinthians 5:16-21, page 940

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32, pages 850-851

Today is the fourth 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.

In observance of the Lenten season, only candles and the Bible will be placed on the communion table, reminding us of this prayerful Lenten journey, until the grace of Easter blooms again.

————— **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
Linda McGehee	Sue Edwards	
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

April 3:	Mitch Peters
April 10:	Joe Sims
April 17:	Charles O'Mara
April 24:	TBA

Meals on Wheels

Monday, April 7

Cooks:	Rt. 1 Drivers:
Amanda Milam	Jean & Kelley Williams
Peggy Brady	Rt. 2 Drivers:
Rebecca Starling	Cathy & Jeff Davis

————— ANNOUNCEMENTS —————

We Need to Talk

A new play by John Maxwell

Join us today at 5:00 p.m. in the Great Hall for a dramatic reading of a new play by noted playwright and actor John Maxwell.

We Need to Talk explores the story of Abraham and Sarah from the book of Genesis, lifting up the mystery of call, the risks of following, and the complexities of human and divine relationships. The reading will last roughly two hours, with a short intermission. There will be a brief Q and A with John and the actors following.

Easter Lilies

If you would like to order an Easter lily for the sanctuary on Easter Sunday as a memorial or in honor of someone, please fill out the information form inside the bulletin and drop off at the church office or e-mail neely@northminsterbaptist.org.

The names will be listed in the order of worship on Easter Sunday, April 20. The cost per lily is \$10. **Please submit all names by Monday, April 7.**

Wednesday Night Supper

Wednesday, April 2

5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall

Cost: \$5 per child, \$10 per adult, \$25 per family

Menu: fried chicken, potatoes, green beans, salad & cake

Servers: Sara Cox, Gloria Montgomery, Susan Phillips & Sandi Rhoden

Cashier: George Luter

Around the Table Sign Ups

Join a small group of Northminsterites for dinner and conversation! Sign up for the dates that you would like to participate, and the pastors will assign participants to the host homes. Hosts will provide the main dish and will be in touch to coordinate sides and dessert.

Saturday, April 12

Deadline to register is April 4.

If you'd like to sign up to participate, please email or call the church office or fill out the google form here:

<https://forms.gle/zhhTFx7U7yfNm7fS8>

Liturgy of the Light

Sunday, April 27, 5:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Everyone is invited to attend this worship service which is centered on the Christ candle, celebrates Eastertide, and is led by our children. A reception in the courtyard follows the service. This service will wrap up Adult Studies opportunities for the fall.

A Lenten Offering

The Worship and Music Committee offers *A Lenten Journey 2025* daily devotional guide for meditation and reflection during this season of Lent. We hope that the creative expressions and offerings by members and friends of Northminster will encourage and enhance your personal worship during this season of spiritual preparation. Copies are available throughout the church for you to take and share.

———— **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

Join us tonight at 5:00 p.m. for dinner, games, fellowship and a lesson.

Upcoming Dates

Stewpot: Saturday, April 5
No Youth Group: Sunday, April 20
Senior Recognition: Sunday, May 4
End of Year Party: Sunday, May 4

Passport

The youth group will travel to Passport Camp at Converse University in Spartanburg, SC, June 21-27. Rising seventh graders can attend either PassportKids or Passport Youth. The packet of information has been posted on the youth Group Me. If you need it sent directly to you, please reach out to Dabbs. The cost of \$450 is due by May 8. To sign up, please pay the \$100 deposit and fill out the information sheet by April 10. The deposit can be paid online or in the church office. Cost should never keep someone from attending. If there is a need for a scholarship, please contact Scott Dickison.

———— CHILDREN’S NEWS ————

Preschool Atrium, Elementary Atrium and Four5Six

Tonight at 5:00 p.m.

Children’s Worship Volunteer Schedule

- March 30: Firecrackers—Neely & Michael McGinnis
Sparklers—Jane Claire & Nason Williams
- April 6: Firecrackers—Dabbs & Jeffery Massey
Sparklers—Ramsey & Brian Long
- April 13: Firecrackers—Mary Kathryn & Bo Allen
Sparklers—Blair & Ryder Taff

Guys vs. Girls Game Day

Sunday, April 6, 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Please contact lesley@northminsterbaptist.org to sign up.

PassportKids! Camp Registration

Children who have completed third through sixth grades are invited to Passport Camp! We will be going to Berea College in Berea, KY, June 16-20.

If your child would like to attend, please contact lesley@northminsterbaptist.org, or 601-982-4703.
Deadline to register is April 1.

Parents' Night Out

Friday, May 9, 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, May 7. Please remember to feed your children before they arrive or provide a brown-bag supper.

THE CHURCH IN SERVICE

Sunday, March 30

- 8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion
- 9:00 a.m. Mentor Program, GH
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:30 a.m. Mentor Program Luncheon, GH
- 5:00 p.m. Atrium, Four5Six
- 5:00 p.m. Youth, YH
- 5:00 p.m. John Maxwell Reading, GH

Monday, March 31

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

Wednesday, April 2

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study, L/CR
- 1:30 p.m. Senior Adult Ministries Cmte., L/CR
- 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper, GH
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, April 5

- 9:00 a.m. Youth Stewpot

Sunday, April 6

- 9:00 a.m. Mentor Program, L/CR
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service/Communion
- 3:30 p.m. Guys vs. Girls Game Day
- 5:00 p.m. Supper, GH
- 5:30 p.m. Atrium, Four5Six
- 5:30 p.m. Youth, YH
- 5:30 p.m. Vespers, Sanctuary

MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH
Every member a minister

The Deacon of the Week is Geri Smith.
The Caregiving Chair for March is Susan O'Mara.
The Caregiving Coordinators for March are Faye Barham and Kathryn Davis.
The Caregiving Chair for April is Sarah Reynolds.
The Caregiving Coordinator for April is Gail England.
The Caregiver of the Week is Susan O'Mara.
The Liturgist for March is Joe Rankin.
The Liturgist for April is Holly Wiggs.
The flowers for March are provided by Lawana McLennan, Lesley Mosby, Geri Smith, Kandy Sims and Becky Frame.
The flowers for April are provided by Jill Buckley, Lisa Kelly and Geri Smith.
The Usher Captain for March is Nancy Smith.
The Usher Captain for April is Keith Davis.

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
Associate Pastor for Senior Adults	Marty Harper
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

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