



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Believing in God is an intellectual position . . . *Believing* God is something else again. It is less a position than a journey, less a realization than a relationship. It doesn't leave you cold like believing the world is round. It stirs your blood like believing the world is a miracle Eternal life is not the result of *believing in*. It is the experience of *believing*.

—Frederick Buechner, *Beyond Words*

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Second Sunday of Easter
April 27, 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

God of Unexplained Mysteries and Unexpected Events, we rejoice in the good news of Easter. Good triumphs. There is healing salvation for all people of the earth. We have at hand a promise of peace the world cannot give. May the power of Christ's presence be so real to us here in worship that we are forever changed and made whole. Amen.

—Lavon Bayler, *Whispers of God*

The Prelude “That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright” Wood

The Call to Worship “Christ the Lord Hath Risen” Parker/Coker

Christ the Lord hath risen / From his three-day prison,
Meet it is to make merrie, / Jesus will our solace be. Alleluia.
Christ our victor Giant / Quells the foe defiant:
Let the ransomed People sing, / Glory to the Easter King. Alleluia.

*The Procession of the Easter Banner Sybil Frame

*The Processional Hymn No. 70 *HYMN TO JOY*

“God Is Love, Let Heaven Adore Him”

*The Litany of Praise Annette Hitt

Leader: Christ has risen!

People: Christ has risen indeed!

Leader: Hope is alive...

People: A new age is dawning.

Leader: Peace is alive...

People: Relationships blossom.
 Leader: Joy is alive...
People: Celebrations abound.
 Leader: Love is alive...
People: Redemption is gifted.
 Leader: The church is alive...
People: God's spirit is within us.
 Leader: God of creation, we offer our praises.
People: God of revelation, our understanding expands.
 Leader: God of resurrection, we celebrate your love.
All: God of life, we come now in worship.
 Alleluia! Amen.

—*Flames of the Spirit* (adapted)

*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

Annette Hitt

The Greeting

Lesley Ratcliff

The Lessons

Acts 5:27-32
 Psalm 150

Lesley Ratcliff

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

We come before you, O God, in Easter joy, seeking to be a people of the resurrection. Be known among us; grant us the assurance of your presence, your love, and your renewing power. Through your Word and Spirit, reveal to us your purpose in our lives.

—Ruth C. Duck, *Touch Holiness*

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

Marty Harper

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Marty Harper

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. 607

AZMON

“Immortal Love, Forever Full”

*The Offertory Prayer

Annette Hitt

The Offertory

“This Joyful Eastertide”

Burkhardt

*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 20:19-31

Scott Dickison

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Anthem

“Christ Is Now Risen”

Scott

Now the song is begun, for the battle is done,
And the victory won: now the foe is scattered:
Death's dark prison shattered:
Sing of joy, joy, joy; sing of joy, joy, joy;
And today raise the lay, Christ is now arisen!
They that followed in pain shall not follow to reign,
And the crown shall obtain;

They were sore assaulted, they shall be exalted:
Sing of joy, joy, joy; sing of joy, joy, joy;
Earth and skies bid it rise, Christ is now arisen!

For the foe nevermore can approach to that shore,
When the conflict is o'er;
There is joy supernal; there is peace eternal;
Sing of life, life, life; sing of life, life, life;
Earth and skies bid it rise, Christ is now arisen!

Then be brave, then be true, ye despised and ye few,
For the crown is for you: Christ, who went before you,
Spreads His buckler o'er you.

Sing of strength, strength, strength; sing of strength,
strength, strength;
Earth and skies bid it rise, Christ is now arisen!

Lo, the vict'ry is won, and the foe is scattered,
Death's dark prison shattered!

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, earth and skies bid it rise,
Christ is now arisen! Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
Hallelujah!

Come today raise the lay, Christ is now arisen!

The Sermon

“What They Got Right”

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

Creator Spirit, by whose aid
Th' world's foundations first were laid,
Come, visit ev'ry pious mind;
Come, pour thy joys on human kind;
From sin and sorrow set us free,
And make thy temples worthy Thee.

—John Dryden, “Veni, Creator Spiritus”
 (“Come, Creator Spirit”)

*The Recessional Hymn No. 610

AR HYD Y NOS

“Through the Love of God Our Savior”

*The Benediction

Scott Dickison

*The Postlude

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

Burkhardt

**The congregation will please stand.*

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

Acts 5:27-32, page 859

Psalm 150, page 508

John 20:19-31, page 883

The flowers in the narthex are given in celebration of the wedding of Darrell and Jackie Petrus Williams on April 26.

Today is the Second Sunday of Eastertide. Our Easter banner, overlaying the Lenten banner, is used to celebrate the Easter season and signify the triumph of Christ’s resurrection and power over death. It is used during Eastertide, the six Sundays following Easter.

The banner bears in gold-colored silk the essential symbol of Christianity, the cross, in its rays of glory, appropriate to the Easter season. Formerly a symbol of shame, the cross has been transformed into the ultimate symbol of hope and salvation for all humankind. The seasonal color for Easter is white, and the background color of the banner can be interpreted as white fractured into many of pure white’s components. The banner’s pale colors represent the purity and divinity of Christ. In the background are the rays of glory of the cross. The rays leading from the cross remind us of a power that rises above defeat, a power that radiates forth affecting the lives it touches. Symbolically, the entire banner overlaps a banner of purple, the color for Lent. This juxtaposition reminds us of the historical connection of the two seasons—Lent and Easter—but leaves no doubt as to the successor.

The banner was designed and made by a Northminster member.

————— **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	Virginia Hamilton
Carla Holt		

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.

Brumfield House

May 1:	Bryan Bridges
May 8:	Skipper Jernigan
May 15:	Holly Wiggs
May 22:	Scott Wilson

Meals on Wheels

Monday, April 28

Cooks:	Rt. 1 Drivers:
Jean Welsh	Luke Dove & Bob Hardin
Cathy Davis	Rt. 2 Drivers:
Polly Watkins	Keith Davis & Steve Bass

————— **ANNOUNCEMENTS** —————

Liturgy of the Light

Today at 5:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Everyone is invited to attend this worship service which centers on the Christ candle, celebrates Eastertide, and is led by our children. A reception in the courtyard follows the service. This service will conclude Adult Studies offerings for the spring.

Spann Hygiene Heroes Drive

Spann Elementary, our adopt-a-school partner, is collecting hygiene products to help their students through the summer. If you would like to contribute, please drop supplies in one of the boxes marked “Spann Hygiene Heroes” by May 1. These boxes are located under the stairs to the balcony and at the entrance to the Children’s area. The following supplies are needed:

Soap (bars or liquid)	Tissues and Wet Wipes
Shampoo and Conditioner	Combs and Brushes
Toothpaste and Toothbrushes	Laundry Detergent
Deodorant	Dish Soap
Hand Sanitizers	Towels

Wednesday Night Supper

Wednesday, April 30

5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall

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

Menu: sliced pork loin, potato gratin,
field peas, green salad, rolls and cake

Servers: Sara Cox, Cade Montague, Susan Phillips and Gayla Purvis

Cashier: George Luter

Please join us as we celebrate the 58th Anniversary of Northminster Baptist Church

Anniversary Potluck Dinner

Wednesday, May 7 at 5:30 p.m.

Northminster Sunday School Class Focusing on Social and Moral Issues

A new Sunday School class is beginning at Northminster! Bob Boteler and Charles Parrott will be leading this class which will meet in Room 204 beginning April 27 at 9:15 a.m. The purpose of this class is to create a space for discussion, through dialogue rather than debate, of social and moral issues. The goal of the class is to arrive at appropriate “hands and feet” responses, both for individuals and the church, based on the teachings of Christ. The class will seek to address these questions with curiosity, courage and compassion, realizing that at the heart of every social and moral issue there are persons seeking to determine the appropriate Christian response. If you have questions, please contact Bob Boteler at 601-618-1678.

————— **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 today at 5:00 p.m. for dinner, games, fellowship and a lesson.

Upcoming Dates

Senior Recognition: Sunday, May 4

End of Year Party: Sunday, May 4

Welcome Geoff!

We will have a cookout at the Youth House on Sunday, May 18 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. to welcome Geoff and his wife Elizabeth. More information to come.

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 deadline has passed to sign up, but there are still spots available. The cost of \$450 is due by May 8. 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

will meet for the final time this year on Sunday, May 4 at 5:00 p.m.

Children's Worship Volunteer Schedule

- April 27: Chapel Coordinators—Mary Ellen & Jeff Stancill
Firecrackers—Amy & Matt Thames
Sparklers—Leah & Tal Hendrix
- May 4: Firecrackers—Dana & Scott Wilson
Sparklers—Laura & Patrick Taylor
- May 11: Firecrackers—Olivia & Keith Studdard
Sparklers—Caroline & Kirk Sims
- May 18: Chapel Coordinators—Elizabeth & Percy Quinn
Firecrackers—Amanda & Trey Clark
Sparklers—Kim & Kyle Watson

Children's Birthday Gathering

Thursday, May 8, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

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

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, 601-982-4703, by Wednesday, May 7. Please remember to feed your children before they arrive, or provide a brown-bag supper.

Save the Date!

Children's Bible Camp
July 11th—13th

Contact Sandra Triplett at sandratriplett23@gmail.com or 601-278-3817.

THE CHURCH IN SERVICE

Sunday, April 27

- 8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion
- 9:00 a.m. Mentor Program, L/CR
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 4:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Light Practice
- 5:00 p.m. Youth, YH
- 5:30 p.m. Liturgy of the Light
- 6:15 p.m. Reception, Courtyard
- 6:45 p.m. Deacons' Meeting, L/CR

Monday, April 28

- 8:30 a.m. Caregiving, L/CR
- 10:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels
- 5:30 p.m. Wider Net Committee, L/CR

Tuesday, April 29

- 5:30 p.m. Committee on Committees, L/CR

Wednesday, April 30

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

Sunday, May 4

- Senior Recognition
- 9:00 a.m. Mentor Program, L/CR
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service/Communion
- 5:00 p.m. Atrium, Four5Six
- 5:00 p.m. Youth End-of-Year Party, YH

MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH
Every member a minister

The Deacon of the Week is Will Walker.
The Caregiving Chair for April is Sarah Reynolds.
The Caregiving Coordinator for April is Gail England.
The Caregiving Chair for May is Annette Hitt.
The Caregiving Coordinators for May are Jean Welsh and
Susie Friou.
The Caregiver of the Week is Shari Culver.
The Liturgist for April is Holly Wiggs.
The Liturgist for May is Amy Williams.
The flowers for April are provided by Jill Buckley, Lisa Kelly
and Geri Smith.
The flowers for May are provided by Lesley Mosby,
Kathryn Sams, Kathryn Davis and Kandy Sims.
The Usher Captain for April is Keith Davis.
The Usher Captain for May 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
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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