



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Wild winter winds depart
in a final, dying howl.
Blackbird returns, a red-winged
oracle of spring,
announcing new life and renewed light,
shimmering with possibilities
of ever-circling Hope.

—Richard Bachtold
from “Red-Winged Blackbird”

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 11, 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

....Open my eyes to the moments of resurrection that surround me every day. There is always something rising, opening to new life, budding and blossoming, forgiving and transforming. Teach me to live awake that I may recognize the renaissance being celebrated in my midst at every moment. Make me a disciple of joy. Amen.

—Macrina Wiederkehr
The Flowing of Grace Now

The Prelude “O God Beyond All Praising” Holst

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 Mary Phillips Beard

*The Processional Hymn No. 43 *EIN' FESTE BURG*

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

*The Litany of Praise Jason Greener

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: The Lord is our shepherd; we need nothing else.

People: We are overwhelmed by the goodness of God!

Leader: The Lord leads us to pastures of peace, refreshing us and strengthening our souls.

People: We are overwhelmed by the goodness of God!

Leader: Even in times of trial and tribulation, we will not despair, for God is there with us.

People: We are overwhelmed by the goodness of God!

All: The Lord is our shepherd; surely goodness and mercy will follow us all of our days, and we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever!

—an improvisation on Psalm 23

*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

Jason Greener

The Greeting

Lesley Ratcliff

The Lessons

Acts 9:36-43
Revelation 7:9-17

Lesley Ratcliff

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

My faith is tested many times a day, and more times than I'd like to confess, I'm unable to keep the banner for faith aloft.... I begin to doubt God and God's love. I fall so miserably into the chasm of disbelief that I cry out in despair. Then the Spirit lifts me up again, and once more I am secured in faith. I don't know how it happens, save when I cry out earnestly I am answered immediately and am returned to faithfulness. I am once again filled with Spirit and firmly planted on solid ground.

—Maya Angelou

Wouldn't Take Nothing for My Journey Now

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. 743

ITALIAN HYMN

“Christ for the World! We Sing”

*The Offertory Prayer

Jason Greener

The Offertory

“Let All Things Now Living”

Callahan

*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 10:22-30

Scott Dickison

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Anthem “If Then You Have Been Raised with Christ”

Costello

Jorge Diez, *clarinet*
Davan Sagara, *trumpet*

If then you have been raised with Christ,
look not to earthen things,
For Christ's own death has saved your life
from sin and death's sharp sting.
Set hearts and minds on things above,

on Christ who reigns on high.
In Christ your life will be revealed
and with him you will rise.

As chosen ones, beloved by God,
put on the clothes of grace:
compassion, kindness, patience, love,
forgiveness in Christ's name.
And may your hearts be filled with peace,
in perfect harmony.
Be thankful as Christ's word takes root;
in him you are set free.

With gratitude for all good gifts,
sing psalms and hymns and songs.
In word or deed, do everything
in Christ, whose name is strong.
All glory to the Trinity,
the Father and the Son,
and glory to the Spirit blest.
All praise the three in One!

The Sermon "You Will Know It Is the Church" 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

So, friends, every day do something that won't compute....
Give your approval to all you cannot understand....
Ask the questions that have no answers....
Put your faith in two inches of humus that will build under
the trees every thousand years....
Laugh....
Be joyful though you have considered all the facts....
Practice resurrection.

—Wendell Berry
from "Manifesto: The Mad Farmer Liberation Front"

*The Recessional Hymn No. 92

DIADEMATA

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

*The Benediction

Scott Dickison

*The Postlude “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Manz

**The congregation will please stand.*

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

Acts 9:36-43, page 894

Revelation 7:9-17, page 999

John 10:22-30, page 873

Today is the Fourth 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.

The flowers for today are given in celebration of Cole and Ellie Wells Collins wedding yesterday.

———— 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

Congratulations to Cole and Ellie Wells Collins on the occasion of their marriage May 10.

Congratulations to Dr. Austin and Amanda Murff Carroll on the occasion of their marriage on April 12.

ONGOING CAREGIVING CONCERNS

Gorman Schaffer

Libby McGee

Carolyn Aden

Carla Holt

Sue Edwards

Virginia Hamilton

Susan Palmer Amaro

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

May 15: Holly Wiggs

May 22: Scott Wilson

May 29: TBA

June 5: Mike Peters

Meals on Wheels

Wednesday, May 21

Cooks:	Rt. 1 Drivers:
Carolyn McIntyre	Beverly & Tim Lawrence
Leah Hendrix	Rt. 2 Drivers:
Shari Culver	Carol Taff & Beverly Raddin

———— ANNOUNCEMENTS ————

HALF TRUTHS

A Summer Bible Study

Tuesdays at noon, beginning June 10

Lunch: \$10

“Everything happens for a reason.” “God helps those who help themselves.” We have all heard these familiar sayings, and perhaps even leaned upon them in times of crisis or confusion. While these bits of wisdom and others like them can provide comfort amid difficulty, do they share the full wisdom of scripture and care of our God? Using noted pastor and theologian Adam Hamilton’s book *Half Truths* as an outline, we’ll gather on Tuesdays this summer in the Great Hall over a light lunch to explore these sayings to find the truths within and beyond them.

Congratulations to our College and University Graduates

John B. Wooley	Masters of Psychology, Teachers College at Columbia University
Kimberly Blount	English major with minors in Chemistry and Biology, Wake Forest University
Rosemary Hicks	Associate’s Degree, Jones Community College
Katie Pace	Bachelor of Arts, Elementary Education, University of Mississippi
Ella Jane Simmons	Bachelor of Arts, Journalism, University of Mississippi
Hawthorne Cleveland	Bachelor of Science, Chemistry, with a minor in Biology, University of Alabama
Katie White	Bachelor of Science, Human Environmental Services, University of Alabama
Betsy Van Meter	Bachelor of Arts, Health Sciences, Hendrix College

Sarah Beth Greener	Bachelor of Business Administration, Accounting and Bachelor of Arts, French, Southern Methodist University
Madeleine Wiggs	Master of Science in History of Art, Theory and Display, University of Edinburgh
Noel Wiggs	Master of Taxation and Data Analytics, Patterson School of Accountancy, University of Mississippi
Kelsey Mayhan	Master of Taxation and Data Analytics, University of Mississippi

We are seeking the names of those who are graduating this year from college, graduate school, law school, medical school, etc.

Please call or email the church office at 601-982-4703 or neely@northminsterbaptist.org with degree and school information.

————— **YOUTH NEWS** —————

Youth Sunday School

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

Welcome Geoff!

We will have a cookout at the Youth House on Sunday, May 18, from 5:00-6:30 p.m. to welcome Geoff and his wife Elizabeth. All youth and parents are invited to come.

————— **CHILDREN'S NEWS** —————

Children's Worship Volunteer Schedule

- 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
- May 25: Firecrackers—Anne & Parker Snow
Sparklers—Kelly & Josh Guyton

Splash Day

Sunday, June 1, 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Children and their families will gather in the backyard at Northminster for water slides, splash pools and sprinkler fun!

Bring your swimsuit, towels and sunscreen,
and we'll provide a snack supper.

Questions? Contact Lesley at lesley@northminsterbaptist.org.

Children's Birthday Gathering

June 3

3:00-5:00 p.m.

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

Under Construction!

Children's Bible Camp
July 11-13

Register here:



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

Sunday School

The last day of regular Sunday School is May 18. We will not have Sunday School on May 25. We will begin Summer Sunday School on June 1!

THE CHURCH IN SERVICE

Sunday, May 11

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Monday, May 12

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

Wednesday, May 14

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study, L/CR

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, May 18

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service/Mentor Sunday

5:00 p.m. Welcome Geoff!, YH

6:45 p.m. Deacons' Meeting, L/CR

MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH
Every member a minister

The Deacon of the Week is Dudley Wooley.
The Caregiving Chair for May is Annette Hitt.
The Caregiving Coordinators for May are Jean Welsh and
Susie Friou.
The Caregivers of the Week are Sarah Love and
Patricia McClure.
The Liturgist for May is Amy Williams.
The flowers for May are provided by Lesley Mosby,
Kathryn Sams, Kathryn Davis and Kandy Sims.
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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