



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

I have understood that love is wonderful, marvelous,
staggering, and it can be hard but really great.

—Lucy Suggs

***NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211***

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 18, 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 made the flowers below our feet. God made the birds that wonder above us in the sky. God made you and me. How are we not to love one another as God has shown generous love to us?

The Prelude “The God of Abraham Praise” Page

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 Ann Mabry Hendrix

*The Processional Hymn No. 108 *MADRID*

“Come Christians, Join to Sing”

*The Litany of Praise Mary Phillips Beard

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Thank you, God, for teaching us how to love.

People: Help us to follow your commandment to love one another,

All: So that all people will see the love of God through us.

*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

Vaughn Strum

The Greeting

Hallie McGinnis

The Lessons

Acts 11:1-18
Revelation 21:1-6

Iyanu Carson

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE MENTOR PROGRAM

The Litany of Blessing

Lesley Ratcliff

Pastor: The young people before us today are at a turning point in their lives. They are leaving the path of childhood and entering the path of young adulthood.

Sixth Graders: We are ready for the journey.

Mentors: As representatives of your family of faith, we are faithful witnesses of your journey, and we seek to encourage and support you.

Congregation and Mentors:

Your family of faith will be with you every step of the way. May our presence remind you of God's love for you and God's call upon your lives.

Sixth Graders: We will remember and be true to God's love and calling.

Congregation and Mentors:

May God continue to bless your journey as you seek God's path. May God grant us all the grace, vision, and strength to walk in the light of Christ's love.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

Some things I cannot change, but 'til I try I'll never know.

—Elphaba

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. 557

SCOTT

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

*The Offertory Prayer

Ann Mabry Hendrix

The Offertory “Love Consecrates the Humblest Act”

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 13:31-35

Mary Phillips Beard

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Anthem

“Lauda anima”

Andrews

Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven

Daniel Kim, *conducting*

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to His feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore His praises sing:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King!

Father-like, He tends and spares us; well our feeble frame He knows;
In His hands He gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely yet His mercy flows.

Angels in the height adore Him! Ye behold Him face to face;
Saints triumphant bow before Him! Gathered in from every race.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace! Amen.

The Sermon

“A New Commandment”

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

As you go from this place and to all your other places, know that an unwavering love and eternal light will always be with us and wherever we may be, it shall never let us go. Amen.

*The Recessional Hymn No. 593

GIFT OF LOVE

“The Gift of Love”

*The Benediction

Scott Dickison

*The Postlude

“Finale”

Powell

**The congregation will please stand.*

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

Acts 11:1-18, page 895

Revelation 21:1-6, pages 1007-1008

John 13:31-35, page 877

Today is the Fifth 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 rose on the altar is in celebration of the birth of Logan Christopher Hedglin. The proud parents are Andrew and Morgan Hedglin.

Mentor Sunday

For six Sunday mornings, the sixth graders and their adult mentors have explored some of the basic tenets of our faith, including topics such as worship, baptism, communion, youth discipleship, prayer, and other-mindedness. These conversations have been guided by lay leaders and our pastoral staff.

The adult mentors listed below have served as witnesses and have represented this community of faith as these sixth graders have prepared for their graduation from the children's department to the youth house. This Sunday the sixth graders have prepared our liturgy and led us in worship. This is a Sunday to celebrate and bless our sixth graders.

Sixth Graders

Mary Phillips Beard
Iyanu Carson
Ann Mabry Hendrix
Hallie McGinnis
Vaughn Strum

Mentors

Mary Ellen Stancill
Susie Friou
Audrey Dickison
Brooks Elfert
Gregg Caraway

Cover Meditation offered by Hallie McGinnis
Meditation of Preparation written by Iyanu Carson
Litany of Praise offered by Mary Phillips Beard
Meditation of Confession offered by Ann Mabry Hendrix
Time of response written by Vaughn Strum

————— 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 Andrew and Morgan Hedglin on the birth of their son, Logan Christopher Hedglin. Logan is also joined by his brother Luke; his grandparents, Kay and John Hedglin; and his uncles, Christopher and Daniel Hedglin, and their families.

ONGOING CAREGIVING CONCERNS

Gorman Schaffer	Libby McGee	Carolyn Aden
Carla Holt	Sue Edwards	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

May 22: Scott Wilson
May 29: TBA
June 5: Mike Peters
June 12: Jeff Wilson

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 ————

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, Patterson School of Accountancy, University of Mississippi
Sophia Royston	M.D., University of Mississippi Medical School
Laurel Lackey Branch	Fellowship in Interventional Endoscopy, University of California San Diego

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.

Pastors' Benevolence Fund

One of the clearest ways we impact our community as a church every week is through direct assistance to those in need through our Pastors' Benevolence Fund. This account, entirely funded by gifts from our members, has already provided nearly \$54,000 in relief this year, in the form of utility bills, school supplies, temporary housing, transportation, and many other essential needs.

After such an active start to the year, this account is depleted. As we enter the summer months and families adjust to their children being home from school, we anticipate an increase in requests. Please consider donating to this fund, either through the church's online payment portal or by writing a check to the church designated to "pastors' benevolence."

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.

————— **YOUTH NEWS** —————

Welcome Geoff!

We will have a cookout at the Youth House today 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 25: Firecrackers—Anne & Parker Snow
 Sparklers—Kelly & Josh Guyton

Sunday School

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

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.

Under Construction!

Children's Bible Camp
July 11-13

Register here:



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

THE CHURCH IN SERVICE

Sunday, May 18

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

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

11:30 a.m. Mentor Luncheon

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

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

Monday, May 19

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

Tuesday, May 20

4:00 p.m. Cancer Support, L/CR

Wednesday, May 21

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

8:30 a.m. Enneagram, Adult Ed. Bldg.

10:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, May 25

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH
Every member a minister

The Deacon of the Week is Mary Ellen Stancill.
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 Guy Parker III and
Kathryn Davis.
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 Students	Geoff Davidson
Associate Pastor for Senior Adults	Marty Harper
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