



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Contemplation is a very dangerous activity. It not only brings us face to face with God, it brings us, as well, face to face with the world, face to face with the self; and then, of course, something must be done. Nothing stays the same once we have found the God within....We carry the whole world in our hearts: the oppression of all peoples, the suffering of our friends, the burdens of our enemies, the raping of the earth, the hunger of the starving, the joy of every laughing child.

—Sister Joan Chittister

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 20, 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

Let not the emphasis of hospitality lie in bed and board; but
let truth and love and honor and courtesy flow in all thy deeds.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

The Prelude “When Morning Gilds the Skies” Wood

The Spoken Call to Worship

*The Processional Hymn No. 612 *FOUNDATION*

“How Firm a Foundation”

*The Litany of Praise Amanda Clark

Leader: Blessed are the planners and schedulers and hosts with
open doors and full kitchens,

**People: for their gifts bring us together in good and hard
times.**

Leader: Blessed are the thinkers and dreamers—noses in books,
thoughts in the clouds—asking hard questions and
speaking difficult truths,

**People: for their gifts enrich our minds and turn our
thoughts towards new paths.**

Leader: Lord of party-planners and wallflowers, bookworms and
social butterflies,

People: we thank you for the diversity of humankind.

Leader: Help us all, O God, to share our varied gifts with the
world,

**All: brightening lives and sharpening minds, and all for
your love’s sake. 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

Amanda Clark

The Greeting

Lesley Ratcliff

The Lessons

Genesis 18:1-10a
Colossians 1:15-28

Lesley Ratcliff

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

Half an hour's meditation each day is essential, except when you are busy. Then a full hour is needed.

—Saint Francis de Sales

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

Geoff Davidson

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Geoff Davidson

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. 651

MARYTON

“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”

*The Offertory Prayer

Amanda Clark

The Offertory

“The Gift to Be Simple”

Wood

*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

Luke 10:38-42

Scott Dickison

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

The Anthem

“Spirit of God”

Neidlinger

Pam Steadman, *soprano*

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart,
Wean it from earth to joys that dwell above.
Lift me from weakness, mighty as Thou art,
Teach me to love Thee as I ought to love.

Refrain

*I ask no dream, no passing ecstasies,
No ceaseless dwelling in this veil of clay.
Just send thy loving thoughts thro' op'ning skies,
And take the dimness of my soul away.*

Teach me to feel that Thou art always nigh.
Teach me the struggles of the day to bear,
To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh;
Teach me the patience of unceasing pray'r.

Refrain

The Sermon

“The Better Part”

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

What we plant in the soil of contemplation, we shall reap in the harvest of action.

—Meister Eckhart

*The Recessional Hymn No. 648

ANGEL'S STORY

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”

*The Benediction

Scott Dickison

*The Postlude

“Tuba Tune”

Lang

**The congregation will please stand.*

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

Genesis 18:1-10a, page 12

Colossians 1:15-28, pages 956-957

Luke 10:38-42, page 845

Today is the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost. The Season after Pentecost celebrates the existence of the church and the presence of the Holy Spirit in the world. The liturgical color is green, symbolic of the church's growth and mission. The Tree of Life (Genesis 2:9, Revelation 22:1-2) which rises above the baptistry and is woven into our paraments, underscores this liturgical season's emphasis on the living, growing Kingdom of God.

— 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

Christian sympathy is extended to Shirley Geary on the death of her sister, Mary Jo Hester Patterson.

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

July 24:	Scott Wilson
July 31:	Kirk Sims
August 7:	Skipper Jernigan
August 14:	Mitch Peters

Meals on Wheels

Monday, July 28

Cooks:	Rt. 1 Drivers:
Jean Welsh	Julie & Dudley Wooley
Polly Watkins	Rt. 2 Drivers:
Cathy Davis	Marianna Field & Janet Holt

———— ANNOUNCEMENTS ————

HALF TRUTHS

A Summer Bible Study

Tuesdays at noon

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.

Half Truths Schedule

July 22: Love the Sinner, Hate the Sin
July 29: Beyond Platitudes, Clichés, and Half Truths

Summer Sunday School Soiree

July 27 & August 3 at 9:15 a.m.

All adults are invited to meet in the Great Hall during the Sunday School hour for a light breakfast, fellowship and a panel discussion.

On July 27, the panel will discuss the spiritual and community impact of Sunday School on their lives from childhood to the present day; and on August 3, the panel will discuss the current shape of Northminster’s Adult Sunday School classes, as well as the various topics and areas of interest available to Sunday School participants.

Backpack Blessing, Hymn Sing & Ice Cream Social

Sunday, August 17 at 5:30 p.m.

Come join us for a wonderful time of fellowship for all ages!

**Different. Distinctive. Daring:
After Christendom, Toward Beloved Community**

September 6-7

**Save the date for our Lecture Series featuring Corey D. B. Walker,
Dean of Wake Forest University School of Divinity**

Rev. Dr. Walker will join us for a public conversation and dinner on Saturday evening, will preach in our worship service on Sunday morning and will present a lecture over lunch on Sunday immediately following worship.

More details to follow.

————— **YOUTH NEWS** —————

Youth Sunday School

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

Upcoming Dates

Thursday, July 24: Swim Night at the Elferts, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 2: Stewpot

Sunday, August 3: Cookout at the Dickisons', 5:00-7:00 p.m.

————— **CHILDREN'S NEWS** —————

Children's Worship Volunteer Schedule

- July 20: Chapel Coordinator—Hart Wylie & Megan Wylie
Firecrackers—Rachel Royston
Sparklers—Dabbs & Jeffery Massey
- July 27: Chapel Coordinators—Anna & Andy Frame
Firecrackers—Jane Claire & Nason Williams
Sparklers—Neely & Michael McGinnis

Summer Sunday School

9:15-10:15 a.m.

Meet us in room 106 where we'll divide into groups for stories, games, bible skills and crafts.

We hope your children will join us!

Children's Birthday Gathering

Tuesday, July 29, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

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

THE CHURCH IN SERVICE

Sunday, July 20

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Monday, July 21

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

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

Tuesday, July 22

9:00 a.m. Elementary Service Day

11:00 a.m. Children's Playdate

12:00 p.m. Summer Bible Study, GH

Wednesday, July 23

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

Thursday, July 24

5:00 p.m. Youth Swim Night

5:00 p.m. Committee on Committees, L/CR

Sunday, July 27

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 Elizabeth Quinn.
The Caregiving Chair for July is Sunny Fowler.
The Caregiving Coordinator for July is Sarah Love.
The Caregiver of the Week is Brooks Elfert.
The Liturgist for today is Elizabeth Quinn.
The Liturgists for July are Amy Williams, Marty Kelly
and Elizabeth Quinn.
The flowers for July are provided by Kandy Sims,
Jennifer Stribling, Jill Buckley and Lisa Kelly.
The Usher Captain for July is Nancy Smith.

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

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