



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

As long as you are proud you cannot know God. A proud man is always looking down on things and people; and, of course, as long as you are looking down you cannot see something that is above you.

—C.S. Lewis
Mere Christianity

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

People: The moon and the stars and the far-flung galaxies,

Leader: The mountains and plains, the lakes and streams,

People: The birds of the air, the fishes of the seas, all creatures on the earth,

All: All are wonders and mysteries. How great are your works, O Lord!

—An improvisation on Psalm 92:1-5

*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

Anne Brawley

The Greeting

Lesley Ratcliff

The Lessons

Proverbs 25:6-7
Psalm 112

Lesley Ratcliff

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

We are distracted by our egos, our need for attention, recognition, and power. May we focus on others, listen--really listen--as a gift of attention and comfort as Mary, the sister of Martha, provided to Jesus. May we show that others' concerns are as important if not more important than our own. We humbly pray.

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. 697

ST. PETER

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

*The Offertory Prayer

Anne Brawley

The Offertory

“Aria”

White

*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 14:1, 7-14

Scott Dickison

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Anthem

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

Trenney

I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain:

*In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.*

I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path,
and show me the way to the Father.

Refrain

The Sermon

Scott Dickison

“Are We Not of Interest to Each Other?”

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

Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.

—John Wesley

*The Recessional Hymn No. 701

BEECHER

“God Is Here!”

*The Benediction

Scott Dickison

*The Postlude

“Prelude in Classic Style”

Young

**The congregation will please stand.*

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

Proverbs 25:6-7, page 530

Psalm 112, pages 490-491

Luke 14:1, 7-14, page 849

Today is the Twelfth 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.

The flowers for today are given in memory of Roger Friou by his family.

Ars Poetica #100: I Believe

By Elizabeth Alexander

Poetry, I tell my students,
is idiosyncratic. Poetry

is where we are ourselves
(though Sterling Brown said

“Every ‘I’ is a dramatic ‘I’”),
digging in the clam flats

for the shell that snaps,
emptying the proverbial pocketbook.

Poetry is what you find
in the dirt in the corner,

overhear on the bus, God
in the details, the only way

to get from here to there.
Poetry (and now my voice is rising)

is not all love, love, love,
and I’m sorry the dog died.

Poetry (here I hear myself loudest)
is the human voice,

and are we not of interest to each other?

Annual Congregational Meeting

September 14
immediately following the worship service

Agenda:

I. Election of Deacons

Deacon Nominees

Sunny Fowler	Rob Hill	George Luter
Neely McGinnis	Nancy Smith	Kelley Williams, Jr.

Pursuant to our bylaws, at the annual meeting, any member of the congregation may nominate another qualified member, provided that prior to the time of nomination, the person being nominated shall have consented to the nomination and agreed to serve faithfully if elected.

II. Long-Range Plan Update—Church Communications

III. Building Maintenance Update

————— **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
Carla Holt	Sue Edwards	Virginia Hamilton

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

September 4	Mike Peters
September 11	Scott Wilson
September 18	Blakely Fender
September 25	Jeff Wilson
October 2	Joe Sims

Meals on Wheels

Monday, September 1

Cooks:	Rt. 1 Drivers:
Annette Hitt	Jean & Kelly Williams
Peggy Brady	Rt. 2 Drivers:
	Cathy & Jeff Davis

Bags of Groceries for Neighbors in Need

We have experienced an uptick in benevolence calls to the church asking for assistance with groceries. We need your help to pre-fill bags of food to have on hand in the office. Each brown paper grocery bag should be filled with the items below (or something close). Bags can be dropped off at the main office.

- 1 jar of creamy peanut butter
- 1 jar of jelly
- 1 package of individual apple sauce cups
- 1 can of beans
- 2-4 packages of EasyMac
- 1 box of spaghetti
- 1 jar of spaghetti sauce
- 4 cans of tuna or chicken
- 1 box of granola bars
- 1 box of cereal
- 1 can of soup
- 1 box of crackers
- 1 can opener

————— **ANNOUNCEMENTS** —————

**The Annual Church-Wide
Labor Day Potluck**

Today
Lunch in the Great Hall following worship

The Fellowship Committee will provide meat and drinks. Please bring your favorite side dish, salad or dessert to serve your family, plus one more. Please bring serving utensils, and label your dishes and serving pieces.

Wednesday Night Supper

Wednesday, September 3
5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall
Cost: \$5 per child, \$10 per adult, \$25 per family

Menu: red beans & rice with smoked pork,
salad, french bread and cake

Servers: Amy Moremen, Judy & Joe Rankin,
& Sandi Rhoden
Cashier: George Luter

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

Register now 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.

Dinner and Public Conversation
Saturday, September 6
6:00-8:00 p.m.

Lunch and Lecture
Sunday, September 7
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.



Register using the QR code or by calling
the church office at 601-982-4703.

Every Kind of Bird Bam

An afternoon of mahjong and fellowship in the Great Hall

Sunday, September 28

3:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

If you already know how to play, we'll seat you with others at your level. If you'd like to learn, we'll have a table with teachers.

Come join the fun!

Adult Studies

Sundays at 5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall

Beloved Community with Andy Andrews

September 21 and 28

Andy Andrews is the Diocesan Missioner for Becoming Beloved Communities and Congregational Vitality for the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi. Building on the conversations we will have with Corey Walker during "Different, Distinctive, Daring: After Christendom, Toward Beloved Community," Andy will lead us in further exploration of being a beloved community.

Bible Study with Scott

October 5, 12, 19 and 26

The Book of Psalms is found at the literal center of our Bibles. For God's people through the generations, the Psalms have also been at our spiritual center. Using the first part of Ellen Davis's beautiful book *Getting Involved with God: Rediscovering the Old Testament* as our guide, we will explore what the Psalms teach us about the full range of acceptable speech to God: praise and thanksgiving, but also lament and even curses (!).

A Theology of Death and Dying

November 9 and 16

On November 9, Scott will lead us in a study of the theology of dying and how that influences our funeral practices at Northminster. On November 16, we'll discuss funeral services at Northminster, giving you an opportunity to consider what might be important to you regarding your own funeral and how you can record that with the church.

Save the date!
Northminster Cares
Senior Adult Conference on Dementia

Thursday, November 6, 2025
9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Featured speakers
Dr. Kim Tarver
Ashley Parker

Registration opens in September.

———— **YOUTH NEWS** ————

Youth Sunday School

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

Upcoming Dates

Youth Sunday Nights resume:
Sunday, September 7
5:00-7:00 p.m.

————— **CHILDREN'S NEWS** —————

Children's Worship Volunteer Schedule

- August 31: Firecrackers—Kim & Kyle Watson
Sparklers—Miles & David Munn
- September 7: Firecrackers—Lida & Gregg Caraway
Sparklers—Amanda & Trey Clark
- September 14: Chapel Coordinators—Elizabeth & Percy Quinn
Firecrackers—Anne & Parker Snow
Sparklers—Kelly & Josh Guyton
- September 21: Firecrackers—Lucia & Samuel McCoy
Sparklers—TBA

Parents' Night Out

Friday, September 12, 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, September 10. Please remember to feed your children before they arrive, or provide a brown-bag supper.

We will also have Parents' Night Out on November 14 and December 5.

Atrium & Four5Six

will resume Sunday, September 14 at 5:00 p.m.

Children's Birthday Gathering

Tuesday, September 16, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

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

THE CHURCH IN SERVICE

Sunday, August 31

9:30 a.m. Chapel Communion

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

11:30 a.m. Labor Day Potluck, GH

Monday, September 1

The church office is closed.

10:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels

Tuesday, September 2

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

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

Wednesday, September 3

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

5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper, GH

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 4

5:30 p.m. Safety Cmte., L/CR

Saturday, September 6

6:00 p.m. Dinner & Public Conversation, GH

Sunday, September 7

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service/Communion

11:30 a.m. Lunch & Lecture, GH

5:00 p.m. Youth, YH

MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH
Every member a minister

The Deacon of the Week is Holly Wiggs.
The Caregiving Chair for August is Sarah Reynolds.
The Caregiving Coordinator for August is Gail England.
The Caregiving Chair for September is Susan O'Mara.
The Caregiving Coordinator for September is Steve Godbold.
The Caregiver of the Week is Gail England.
The Liturgist for today is Jeanne Cook.
The Liturgists for August are Pam Steadman and Jeanne Cook.
The Liturgists for September are Anne Guidry and Shirley Foster.
The flowers for August are provided by Lesley Mosby, Lisa Kelly, Kandy Sims and Kathryn Davis.
The flowers for September are provided by Kathryn Sams, Lisa Kelly and Kandy Sims.
The Usher Captain for August is Matt Kelly.
The Usher Captain for September is Judy Rankin.

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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