



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

We shall not cease from exploration, and the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time.

—T. S. Eliot
Four Quartets

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 14, 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

When we are lost in the woods, the sight of a signpost is a great matter. He who first sees it cries "Look!" The whole party gathers round and stares. But when we have found the road and are passing signposts every few miles, we shall not stop and stare. They will encourage us and we shall be grateful to the authority that set them up. But we shall not stop and stare, or not much; not on this road, though their pillars are of silver and their lettering of gold.

—C. S. Lewis
Surprised by Joy

The Prelude "Chorale Prelude on ROYAL OAK" Coker
Marlow Ratcliff and Mary Alden Ratcliff, *handbells*

The Call to Worship "O Be Joyful in the Lord" Yarrington
O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands!
Serve the Lord with gladness,
And come before his presence with a song!
Bless the Lord!

*The Processional Hymn No. 62 *ST. DENIO*
"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

*The Litany of Praise Rob Triplett
Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: We have come to worship God,

People: Who loved us before we were yet born,
Leader: Who knows us even better than we know ourselves,
People: Whose presence never leaves us,
Leader: And whose love for us never ceases.
People: This is our God.
All: Let us worship together!

—adapted from Psalm 139

*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

Rob Triplett

The Greeting

Geoff Davidson

The Lessons

Exodus 32:7-14
I Timothy 1:12-17

Geoff Davidson

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

Lord God of all Creation, we come to you from our storm-tossed lives to seek your peace; we come to you with our questions and uncertainties, our worries and anxieties; we come to you from our joy and our happiness – each emotion a kaleidoscope of our feeling in life’s changing patterns... We pray that from the grace we have received, what we say and what we do will enable those around us to glimpse the life of your Son – who calmed the storm with words which still echo down the centuries, ‘Peace be still’. Amen.

—Very Rev. John Christie

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

Scott Dickison

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. 502

NEW BRITAIN

“Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound”

*The Offertory Prayer

Rob Triplett

The Offertory “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Bish

*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 15:1-10

Scott Dickison

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Anthem

“Lord of the Small”

Forrest

Praise to the Lord of the small, broken things,
Who sees the poor sparrow that cannot take wing,
Who loves the lame child and the wretch in the street,
Who comforts their sorrows and washes their feet.

Praise to the Lord of the faint and afraid,
Who girds them with courage and lends them his aid;
He pours out His Spirit on vessels so weak
That the timid can serve and the silent can speak.

Praise to the Lord of the frail and the ill,
Who heals their afflictions or carries them til
Thy leave this tired frame and to paradise fly,
To never be sick and never to die.

Praise Him, O praise Him, all ye who yet live,
Who've been given so much and can so little give,
Our frail, lisping praise God will never despise;
He sees His dear children through mercy-filled eyes.

The Sermon

“Lost and Found”

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's lost is nothing to what's found, and all the death that ever was, set next to life, would scarcely fill a cup.

—Frederick Buechner, *Godric*

*The Recessional Hymn No. 556

ST. CATHERINE

“Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me”

*The Benediction

Scott Dickison

*The Postlude

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

Manz

**The congregation will please stand.*

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

Exodus 32:7-14, page 69

I Timothy 1:12-17, page 963

Luke 15:1-10, page 850

Today is the Fourteenth 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.

Annual Congregational Meeting

Today
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
Virginia Hamilton	Sue Edwards	Carla Holt

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 18: Blakely Fender

September 25: Jeff Wilson

October 2: Joe Sims

October 9: Bo Allen

October 16: Matt Kelly

Meals on Wheels

Wednesday, September 17

Cooks:	Rt. 1 Drivers:
Shari Culver	Nancy Smith & Amy Finkelberg
Carolyn McIntyre	Rt. 2 Drivers:
Leah Hendrix	Carol Taff & Beverly Raddin

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vespers

Tonight

5:30—6:30 p.m.

In tonight's vespers service, you will hear an original composition *Viriditas*, a collaboration by Scott Dickison and Tim Coker, composed for voice and cello. The term *viriditas* is Latin, meaning "greenness." It signifies vitality, fecundity, lushness, verdure, or growth. Additionally, it has both literal and metaphorical meanings, representing not only physical growth but also spiritual vigor and freshness, often associated with the divine. Hildegard of Bingen notably used this term to symbolize the "greening power of God" in her works, often as a reflection of the Divine Word or as an aspect of the divine nature. Further in Hildegard's understanding, *viriditas* is a metaphor for spiritual and physical health, visible in the Divine Word.

Wednesday Night Supper

Wednesday, September 17

5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall

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

Menu: sour cream chicken enchiladas,
salsa rice, pinto beans, salad & cornbread

Servers: Amy Moremen, Judy & Joe Rankin,
and Sandi Rhoden

Cashier: George Luter

Every Kind of Bird Bam

An afternoon of mahjong and fellowship in the Great Hall

Sunday, September 28

3:00 — 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.

To sign up, email Lesley@northminsterbaptist.org.

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 had 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.

Lunch & Learn with Mayor Horhn

Tuesday, October 7
12:00 p.m. in the Great Hall
Cost: \$10

John Horhn, mayor of Jackson, will join us for a lunch and learn. Come enjoy a delicious lunch and hear Mayor Horhn's vision for the city of Jackson.

Please RSVP to Lesley@northminsterbaptist.org or by calling the church office at 601-982-4703.

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

5:00-7:00 p.m.

Wednesday Nights

after supper in the Great Hall

Stewpot

Saturday, October 4

Halloween Party

Sunday, October 26

5:00 p.m., YH

ReCreate Fall Retreat

November 7—9

Camp Wesley Pines

Stewpot

Saturday, December 6

Christmas Party

Sunday, December 7

Christmas Caroling

Sunday, December 14

CHILDREN'S NEWS

Children's Worship Volunteer Schedule

September 14: Chapel Coordinators—Elizabeth & Percy Quinn

Firecrackers—TBA

Sparklers—Ceejaye & Mitch Peters

September 21: Firecrackers—Lucia & Samuel McCoy

Sparklers—TBA

Atrium & Four5Six

today 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, September 14

- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:30 a.m. Congregational Meeting
- 5:00 p.m. Atrium, Four5Six
- 5:00 p.m. Youth, YH
- 5:30 p.m. Adult Studies—Vespers Service

Monday, September 15

- 8:30 a.m. Caregiving, L/CR
- 5:30 p.m. Personnel Cmte., L/CR

Tuesday, September 16

- 2:00 p.m. Senior Adults Ministries Cmte., L/CR
- 3:00 p.m. Children's Birthday Gathering, GH
- 4:30 p.m. Cancer Support, L/CR

Wednesday, September 17

- 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
- 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper, GH
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, September 21

- 8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:15 a.m. Worship Class
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service/1st Grade Bible Presentation
- 11:30 a.m. Worship Class Lunch, GH
- 5:00 p.m. Atrium, Four5Six
- 5:00 p.m. Youth, YH
- 5:30 p.m. Adult Studies, GH
- 6:45 p.m. Deacons' Meeting, L/CR

MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH
Every member a minister

The Deacon of the Week is Cheryl Allen.
The Caregiving Chair for September is Susan O'Mara.
The Caregiving Coordinator for September is Steve Godbold.
The Caregiver of the Week is Faye Barham.
The Liturgist for today is Shirley Sanders Foster.
The Liturgists for September are Anne Guidry and
Shirley Sanders Foster.
The flowers for September are provided by Kathryn Sams,
Lisa Kelly and Kandy Sims.
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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