

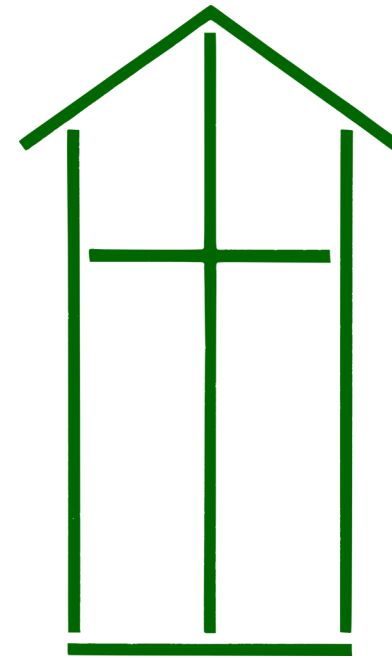
MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH
Every member a minister

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 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

Northminster Baptist Church
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Jackson, MS 39211
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www.northminsterbaptist.org



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

VESPERS
September 14, 2025
Five-thirty o'clock

The Prelude "Chorale Prelude on NEW BRITAIN" Coker

The Welcome

*The Opening Sentences

Leader: My soul waits for the Lord,

People: More than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning.

Leader: Out of the depths I have cried to You.

People: O Lord, hear my voice.

Leader: With my whole heart I want to praise You.

People: O Lord, hear my voice.

Leader: If you, Lord, should mark iniquities:

People: Who could stand? Who could stand?

Leader: I will wait for the Lord, my soul waits,

All: And in God's word do I hope.

—Psalm 130

*The Hymn No. 45

NETTLETON

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

The Prayer of Confession

Dear friends in Christ, let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept

Lord, You have always given
bread for the coming day;
**and though I am poor,
today I believe.**

Score

An Evening Prayer

The musical score is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a measure number (1, 4, 7) at the beginning. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The lyrics are as follows:

1 All praise to the Lord, me, from whom I have received my life, and I will give thanks to you, O Lord, my God, forever and ever. Amen.

4 All praise to the Lord, me, from whom I have received my life, and I will give thanks to you, O Lord, my God, forever and ever. Amen.

7 All praise to the Lord, me, from whom I have received my life, and I will give thanks to you, O Lord, my God, forever and ever. Amen.

You are the help and hope of your people. We pray for the church in all places, that we may be one.

(open prayers)

In your mercy,

Lord, hear our prayer.

All the nations belong to you. We pray for the world, that your reign may come and your will be done on earth.

(open prayers)

In your mercy,

Lord, hear our prayer.

We offer you other concerns we carry in our hearts.

(open prayers)

In your mercy,

Lord, hear our prayer.

Hungry Christ, your body is broken in the rocky soil of human vengeance. Lovingly tend and till us, that we may, at this day's dying, entrust ourselves into the hands of the Merciful One, praying as you taught us, saying,

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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*The Hymn

“An Evening Prayer”

*The Benediction

Keep watch, dear Lord,
with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary; bless the dying; soothe the suffering; pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.

*The Postlude

“Toccata in F”

Buxtehude

*The congregation will please stand.

The scriptures for this evening are found
On the following pages of the pew Bible:

Psalm 1, page 424

Matthew 13:1-9, 24-33, pages 794-795

Lord, You have always given strength for the coming day;
and though I am weak, today I believe.

Lord, You have always given peace for the coming day;
and though of anxious heart, today I believe.

Lord, You have always kept me safe in trials;
and now, tried as I am, today I believe.

Lord, You have always marked the road for the coming day;
and though it may be hidden, today I believe.

Lord, You have always lightened this darkness of mine;
and though the night is here, today I believe.

Lord, You have always spoken when time was ripe;
and though you be silent now, today I believe.

Silence is kept

Lord our God,

**in our sin we have avoided your call.
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.
Have mercy on us;
deliver us from judgment;
bind up our wounds and revive us;
in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

—Hosea 6

The Assurance of Pardon

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled with us through Christ.

—II Corinthians 5

May the God of love

**forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by the Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The Lesson

Psalm 1

1 Happy are those

who do not follow the advice of the wicked
or take the path that sinners tread
or sit in the seat of scoffers,

**2 but their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and on his law they meditate day and night.**

3 They are like trees

planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season,
and their leaves do not wither.

In all that they do, they prosper.

**4 The wicked are not so
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous,

**6 for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.**

Musical Mediation

Coker

“Chorale Variations on DOVE OF PEACE”

The Gospel

Matthew 13:1-9, 24-33

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. 2 Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. 3 And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. 5 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. 6 But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. 7 Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. 8 Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. 9 If you have ears, [a] hear!”

24 He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, 25 but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the

wheat and then went away. 26 So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. 27 And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ 28 He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ 29 But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. 30 Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

31 He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; 32 it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

33 He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with[a] three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord,

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Meditation

The Musical Response

Coker

“Viriditas”

Cheryl Coker, *soprano*

Mert Ozkhan, *cello*

The Intercessions

The Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought,

But that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.

Sheltering God, we pour out our hearts before you, because you are a refuge for us. In your mercy,

Lord, hear our prayer.

You lead us with your light and truth. We pray for ourselves and those dear to us.

(open prayers)

In your mercy,

Lord, hear our prayer.

You provide for the poor and the stranger. We pray for our community and for our neighbors.

(open prayers)

In your mercy,

Lord, hear our prayer.