



## THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them,  
for they do not know what they do.”

—Luke 23:33

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

**THE ACT OF WORSHIP**  
**Reign of Christ Sunday**  
November 23, 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

Prayer...gives joy to the spirit, peace to the heart. I speak of prayer, not words. It is the longing for God, love too deep for words.

—Saint John Chrysostom

The Prelude                    “I’ve Got Peace Like a River”                    Walker

The Call to Worship                    “O Be Joyful”                    Coker

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands!  
Serve the Lord with gladness,  
And come before his presence with a song!

\*The Processional Hymn No. 127                    *SINE NOMINE*

“All Praise to Christ”  
(see insert)

\*The Litany of Praise                    Amanda Milam

Leader:    God is our refuge and strength.

**People:    A very present help in trouble.**

Leader:    Therefore, we will not fear,

**People:    Even though the earth be removed.**

Leader:    Come, behold the works of the Lord.

**All:        The Lord of hosts is with us.**

—Psalm 46, adapted

\*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 Milam
The Greeting		Geoff Davidson
The Lessons	Psalm 46 Colossians 1:11-20	Geoff Davidson

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

### CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

Look to your heart  
that flutters in and out like a moth.  
God is not indifferent to your need.  
You have a thousand prayers  
but God has one

—excerpt from “Not So. Not So”  
by Anne Sexton

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. 532		<i>SLANE</i>
	“Be Thou My Vision”	
*The Offertory Prayer		Amanda Milam
The Offertory	“We Praise You, O God”	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 23:33-43

Scott Dickison

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem

Coker

“Reign of Christ: When all our swords are made to till the earth”

When all our swords are made to till the earth,  
and every bomb is buried in the deep.  
When silence sings and words again are worth  
more than the tempered glass through which we see.

When map and territory bleed to one —  
a line in sand will always smear and slip—  
and we cannot deny what we’ve become,  
our mirrored face the very god we worship.

We’ll see the One who cast aside the throne,  
and set, instead, a table full and wide  
beyond our broken will or want to hide,  
and we will know as we are fully known.

The Sermon

“Be Still, Let Go”

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

“And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Highest;  
For you will go before the face of the Lord to prepare His ways,  
To give knowledge of salvation to His people  
By the remission of their sins,  
Through the tender mercy of our God,  
With which the Dayspring from on high has visited us;  
To give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death,  
To guide our feet into the way of peace.”

—Luke 1:76-79

\*The Recessional Hymn No. 262

*DARWALL*

“Rejoice, the Lord Is King”

\*The Benediction

Scott Dickison

\*The Postlude

“Rejoice, the Lord Is King”

Pethel

*\*The congregation will please stand.*

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

Psalm 46, page 450

Colossians 1:11-20, page 956

Luke 23:33-43, pages 859-860

**Today is Reign of Christ Sunday.** Known also as Christ the King Sunday, this Lord’s Day points to God’s ultimate victory and reign through Jesus Christ. Coming at the close of the Christian year, it also leads immediately into the beginning of the new Christian year as Advent begins next Sunday. The liturgical color is white, used on occasions which magnify the person and work of Jesus Christ.

## See the Christ!

This morning's anthem was written for Reign of Christ Sunday. Most often, anthems chosen for this last Sunday of the Christian year are celebratory in nature, but Scott Dickison's poem challenged me to an entirely different way of thinking about music for this Sunday. His text is a summary of what a full encounter with the lectionary texts of the Christian Year can mean for each individual and humankind collectively. Such yearly journeys can transform us in truly meaningful ways. The words, "We'll see the One who cast aside the throne," are used throughout as mantra, urging us to know more fully the life in Christ we have been called to claim.

Musically, the orchestra part reminds us of the deep, repetitive, yet slowly changing nature of life in the church. A *chaconne*, a chord progression repeated throughout, came to mind as a way to use the orchestra to convey this thought. The soloists give us the changing material exemplified in Jesus' ministry, while the choir's mantra reminds us of the daily work of the church, much of which is quite mundane. The repetitive nature of the mantra moves in tandem with the orchestra.

—Tim Coker

## ———— 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  
Carla Holt

Libby McGee  
Sue Edwards

Carolyn Aden  
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.

The church office will be closed Thursday, November 27  
and Friday, November 28 for Thanksgiving.  
For pastoral care needs, please call 601-980-1002.

## **Brumfield House**

November 27: Mike Peters  
December 4: Bo Allen  
December 11: Bryan Bridges  
December 18: Bill Thompson

## **Meals on Wheels**

Monday, November 24

Cooks:	Drivers:
Amy Moremen	Rt. 1: Jean & Kelley Williams
Peggy Brady	Rt. 2: Cathy & Jeff Davis

## ———— ANNOUNCEMENTS ————

### **Boarding Homes Project: An Advent Tradition**

Sunday, December 7, 1:00 p.m.  
Great Hall

For the last four decades Northminster has been delivering warm clothing, food and toiletries to the residents of the Personal Care Homes in Jackson.

Personal Care Homes are private homes for individuals with mental disabilities. These individuals do not qualify for state hospitalization, and many of the residents exchange their Social Security check for room and board, so there is no money available for any extras. Some are in quite difficult circumstances. All of them appreciate a thoughtful visit and gift. On Sunday, December 7, we will gather in the Great Hall and assemble all of our gifts into individual bags: a blanket, toiletries, warm socks, and cookies baked by you. We will then divide into teams and deliver the gifts to every personal care home resident in Jackson. Usually, we are finished by 3:30 p.m.

This is a wonderful intergenerational opportunity for the entire church family to participate in our community together.

You can help by

- Giving a generous financial contribution
- Showing up on Saturday, December 6, at 8:00 a.m. to help unpack and set up for Sunday
- Baking cookies and bringing them in individual gift bags to the Great Hall by Sunday, December 7, at 1:00 p.m.
- Showing up on Sunday, December 7, at 1:00 p.m. to assemble and deliver bags to boarding homes

## **Northminster Angel Tree**

The Angel Tree is currently in the stairwell foyer with names, ages, clothing sizes and wish lists from children in our community. If you want an angel and may not be present at the church during the time the names are on the tree, Megan will be happy to get an angel's information to you. You may also stop by the church to adopt an angel any time the church office is open. In addition, we have volunteers ready to shop for angels if you are unable to do so but would like to financially support an angel. Remember that more than one person and/or family can work together to provide gifts. Wednesday, December 10, is the last day to bring gifts. Please contact Megan Mayhan at 601-624-6701 or [meganmayhan@gmail.com](mailto:meganmayhan@gmail.com) with any questions.

## **Merry Mahjong**

Sunday, December 21, 2:30-4:30 p.m. in the Great Hall

The highest scorer at each table will take home a mahjong ornament.



Sign up here!

These events will be for folks who have learned the basics. If you haven't yet, please reach out to Lesley about a time to learn.

## **In-Home Communion**

In the spirit of Thanksgiving and as we draw near to the season of Advent, Northminster will begin offering in-home communion. If you or your loved one is not able to attend our worship service, please contact us to arrange a time when we can bring communion to you. If you are interested in sharing communion where you reside, contact Marty Harper by emailing [marty@northminsterbaptist.org](mailto:marty@northminsterbaptist.org) or by calling 601-954-4348.

## **Poinsettias**

If you would like to provide a poinsettia in the sanctuary in memory or in honor of someone, please complete a form and return it with \$10 for each plant ordered. You may order in different ways:

Use the insert included in today's order of worship or the one included in the order of worship on December 7, and return it in the offering plate. You can also stop by the church office to complete a form or send an email to [neely@northminsterbaptist.org](mailto:neely@northminsterbaptist.org).

Deadline to receive information is Monday, December 8.

## **Spann Kindergartners Sing Christmas Carols**

You are invited to join the Adopt-A-School Committee in listening to the Spann School kindergartners sing Christmas carols on Tuesday, December 17, at 11:00 a.m. in the Great Hall.

## **Stewpot Clothes Closet**

Stewpot is in need of men's clothing size 40 or lower, especially pants, shoes and belts. You can drop them off at Stewpot or bring them to the church office. Please contact Julie Wooley, [jjwooley12@gmail.com](mailto:jjwooley12@gmail.com) or Leslie Ward, [lward@northminsterbaptist.org](mailto:lward@northminsterbaptist.org) with any questions.

## **Northminster Women's Retreat**

Saturday, February 28—Sunday, March 1  
Eagle Ridge Conference Center, Raymond, MS

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## **YOUTH NEWS**

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### **Youth Sunday School**

Join us at 9:15 a.m. for donuts and good conversation.

### **Upcoming Dates**

#### **No Youth Activities Tonight**

Have a good Thanksgiving break and we'll see you next Sunday night.

#### **Stewpot**

Saturday, December 6

#### **Christmas Party**

Sunday, December 7, 5:00 p.m., YH

#### **Exams Homework Night with Pancakes!**

Wednesday, December 10, YH  
5:30-7:30 p.m.

#### **Christmas Caroling**

Sunday, December 14, 3:30 p.m.

————— **CHILDREN'S NEWS** —————

**Children's Worship Volunteer Schedule**

November 23: Firecrackers—Dana & Scott Wilson  
Sparklers—Courtney Denton

November 30: Chapel Coordinators—Hart Wylie &  
Megan Wylie  
Firecrackers—Caroline & Kirk Sims  
Sparklers—Laura & Patrick Taylor

**The Living Nativity**

Children in the Beginners, Firecrackers and Sparklers classes, as well as all first through sixth graders, are invited to participate in the Living Nativity, which is a part of the pre-service music for the Christmas Eve Service.

The rehearsal schedule is as follows:

November 30 from 9:00-9:30 a.m.

December 7 from 9:00-9:30 a.m.

December 14 from 9:00-9:30 a.m.

December 21 from 9:00-9:30 a.m.

December 24 at 4:30 p.m.

All rehearsals will be in the Choir Room, except for December 24, when we will meet in the Great Hall. Because rehearsal times are short, please be on time and attend as many rehearsals as possible.

We look forward to our children leading us in worship throughout the season of Advent!

**Children's Birthday Gathering**

Tuesday, December 2, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

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

**Parents' Night Out**

Friday, December 5, 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, December 3. Please remember to feed your children before they arrive or provide a brown-bag supper.

## **THE CHURCH IN SERVICE**

### **Sunday, November 23**

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

### **Monday, November 24**

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

10:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels

6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

### **Wednesday, November 26**

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

### **Thursday, November 27**

Church office is closed.

### **Friday, November 28**

Church office is closed.

### **Sunday, November 30**

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

4:00 p.m. Youth Choir Ensemble

5:00 p.m. Atrium, Four5Six

5:00 p.m. Youth, YH

**MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH**  
**Every member a minister**

The Deacon of the Week is Joe Rankin.  
The Caregiving Chair for November is Susan O'Mara.  
The Caregiving Coordinator for November is Guy Parker III.  
The Caregivers of the Week are Becky & Guy Parker.  
The Liturgist for November is Monica Daniels.  
The flowers for November are provided by Lisa Kelly,  
Kandy Sims, Becky Frame and Geri Smith.  
The Usher Captain for November 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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