



## THE WORSHIP OF GOD

“The more that you read, the more things you will know.  
The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.”

—Dr. Seuss

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

**THE ACT OF WORSHIP**  
**The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**  
February 8, 2026  
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

“Use me, God. Show me how to take who I am, who I want to be, and what I can do, and use it for a purpose greater than myself.”

—Martin Luther King Jr.

The Prelude                      “Creator of the Stars of Night”                      Held

The Call to Worship              “O Be Joyful”                      Coker

O be joyful in God, all ye lands!  
Serve the Lord with gladness,  
O be joyful in God, all ye lands!  
and come before His presence with a song.

\*The Processional Hymn No. 317                      *OLD HUNDREDTH*  
“All People That on Earth Do Dwell”

\*The Litany of Praise                      Andrew Mahaffey

Leader:      The Lord be with you.

**People:      And also with you.**

Leader:      In this hour and during this growing time, let us  
focus on God’s love,

**People:      So that we may be able to grow in God's eyes in  
all that we do and all that we undertake,**

Leader:      In our singing, in our silence, in our reading and in  
our listening,

**People:**    **May our hearts be opened to feel the Spirit of God.**

**All:**        **Let us prepare ourselves for this hour of praise.**

\*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

Andrew Mahaffey

The Greeting

Chesley Quinn

The Lessons

Malachi 3:1-4  
Psalm 84

Celia Stribling

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE**

The Meditation of Confession

“We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future.”

—Franklin D. Roosevelt

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

Will Fender

The Morning Prayer and Lord’s Prayer

Will Fender

**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. 556

*ST. CATHERINE*

“Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me”

\*The Offertory Prayer Blaine Bridges

The Offertory “Allegro” Bach  
Evie Moremen, *piano*

\*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 2:22-40 Mary Laurel Boykin

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem “God Is Our Refuge and Strength” Pote  
Youth Ensemble

The Sermon Yates Elfert  
Cole Mahaffey

### 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

“Hear me when I call, God of my Righteousness, thou hast set me at liberty when I was in trouble; have mercy upon me and hearken unto my prayer.”

*—The Book of Common Prayer*

\*The Recessional Hymn No. 539 *HOUSTON*

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

\*The Benediction

Scott Dickison

\*The Postlude “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”

Callahan

*\*The congregation will please stand.*

This morning's scripture lessons were selected from those assigned to The Presentation of the Lord, a day in the Christian Year celebrated on February 2 each year, 40 days after Christmas, to mark when Jesus would have been presented at the Temple in accordance with Mosaic Law.

Malachi 3:1-4, page 778

Psalms 84, pages 472-473

Luke 2:22-40, page 833

Today is Northminster's annual Youth Sunday. We are grateful for our youth group members who have led us in worship, prepared liturgy and taught Sunday School.

Thanks be to God for our youth group members and for their leaders.

#### Youth Liturgists

Cover Meditation	Marlow Ratcliff
Meditation of Preparation	Marlow Ratcliff
Litany of Praise	Marlow Ratcliff
Meditation of Confession	Evie Moremen
Time of Response	Evie Moremen

**Today is the Fifth Sunday after Epiphany in Ordinary Time.** Epiphany celebrates the manifestation of God in Jesus Christ. The season after Epiphany continues that emphasis, calling attention to the words and deeds of Jesus' earthly ministry. Also known as "Growing Time," the liturgical color for the Sundays after Epiphany is green.

The rose on the altar is in celebration of the birth of Clay Vickery Coggin. The proud parents are Emily and Tyler Coggin.

## ————— 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

Congratulations to Emily and Tyler Coggin on the birth of their son, Clay Vickery Coggin. Clay is also welcomed by Lisa Kelly, Larkin and Sarah Kelly, and Ann Vickery.

### ONGOING CAREGIVING CONCERNS

Gorman Schaffer	Libby McGee	Virginia Hamilton
Carla Holt	Beth Israel Congregation	Sue Edwards

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**

February 12:	Mike Peters
February 19:	Charles O'Mara
February 26:	Bryan Bridges
March 5:	Bo Allen

### **Meals on Wheels**

Wednesday, February 18

<b>Cooks:</b>	<b>Drivers:</b>
Missy Caver	Rt. 1: Laine & Bob Hardin
Judy Rankin	Rt. 2: Rob Hill &
Helen Turner	Ryan McElveen

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Youth Sunday/Dessert Auction

Today

Youth lead worship and teach Sunday school, followed by a church-wide luncheon and dessert auction to raise money for our youth ministry.

\$10 per person \$30 max per family  
No reservation required

### Wednesday Night Supper

Wednesday, February 11

5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall

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

Menu: fried chicken, roasted potatoes,  
green beans, salad, rolls and dessert

Servers: Jennifer Carter, Amy Moremen,  
Susan Phillips and Judy Rankin

Cashier: George Luter

### ADULT STUDIES

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

#### **The Birth of Satan: the Biblical Roots of the Evil One and Why He Won't Go Away**

February 15, 22 and March 1, 8

Satan, Lucifer, Old Scratch, Beelzebub, the Prince of Darkness. His many names evince the way the devil has captured the popular imagination like few other biblical characters. Yet much of the character we recognize was developed apart from scripture. Over these four weeks, using T.J. Wray and Gregory Mobley's fascinating book, *The Birth of Satan: Tracing the Devil's Biblical Roots*, as our guide, we will distinguish what the bible actually says from what originates from other sources. Finally, we'll talk about how we make sense of evil in the world and how we might understand the character of the adversary today.

#### **Baptist Distinctives: An Exploration of Denominational Relations**

April 19, 26

Northminster provides financial and leadership support to a variety of Baptist ministry partners who work in four basic platforms, each related to a particular aspect of being Baptist: 1) Theological Education; 2) News and Advocacy; 3) Network Support and Faith Formation; and 4) Long-term Mission Support.

## **Northminster Trivia Night**

May 3

More details coming soon—but expect fellowship and fun at Northminster’s first Trivia Night, which will close out Adult Studies for the semester.

## **Northminster Essentials**

through Sunday, March 1

9:15-10:15 a.m.

Library (room opposite the main office)

If you are seeking to better understand the history and practices of the family of faith called Northminster, this is the course for you.

For questions or to sign up, please call the church office at 601-982-4703 or email Lesley at [lesley@northminsterbaptist.org](mailto:lesley@northminsterbaptist.org).

## **Mahjong Ministry**

### **Next Hand**

Sunday, February 15, at 2:30 p.m. in the Great Hall

We will also play on March 15, April 26 and May 17.

Join us for one, some or all of the dates.

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

## **The Great Hall Series**

The Great Hall Series is a new Sunday School offering that will meet in the Great Hall three to four times a year. These sessions are designed as short-term, stand-alone experiences open to anyone. On Great Hall Series Sundays, some Sunday School classes will meet as usual, while others will pause and participate in the Great Hall Series instead. This format allows flexibility for both classes and individuals while offering a shared learning opportunity at several points throughout the year. Our first offering will be Wendell Berry and the Sabbath Poetry of Lent.

### **Wendell Berry and the Sabbath Poetry of Lent**

Sundays, February 22-March 29

The word sabbath comes from the Hebrew word for “to stop,” and in practice involves the deliberate pause, or laying aside, of secondary concerns to make room for primary ones. This ancient biblical rhythm pro-

vides a beautiful backdrop for our observance of Lent, as we reorient our lives toward the cross and the miracle and mystery of resurrection. Over the Sundays of Lent, Scott will lead a special Lenten study, pairing scripture with the work of Wendell Berry, who has devoted many Sundays to writing “sabbath poetry,” reflecting on this holy ideal. Come join us for discussion, reflection, renewal, and breakfast!

### **Northminster Women’s Retreat**

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

#### **Unrushed: Finding Sacred Rest**

On this year’s retreat, we will explore the gift of sabbath as a sacred unhurried way of being. We’ll gather for a learning session on Saturday morning, vespers service and games on Saturday night, and a learning session and worship service mid-day on Sunday. The remaining time will be open for you to explore the gifts of sabbath. We’ll have optional sessions on walking the labyrinth, creating art, practicing gentle movement, and settling into quiet meditation, and you will be able to find whatever holy rhythm suits your needs. As always, we’ll laugh together, rest together, and savor plenty of good snacks along the way!

Cost: \$200 per person; \$250 for a single room  
(Cost should never keep someone from attending. If there is a need for a scholarship, please contact Lesley Ratcliff.)

Questions or to register? Contact Lesley Ratcliff at  
[lesley@northminsterbaptist.org](mailto:lesley@northminsterbaptist.org) or 601-927-0259.  
Please register by February 11.

### **Save the Date**

#### **Protection Policy Training**

for all who volunteer with children, youth or vulnerable adults  
Sunday, March 22, 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the Great Hall

————— **YOUTH NEWS** —————

**Youth Sunday School**

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

**Superbowl Party**

Tonight at 5:00 p.m. in the Youth House

**Stewminster Basketball**

Seventh and eighth grade boys from Northminster and Stewpot will meet to play basketball at Madison Methodist Church at 7:00 p.m., each Thursday through February 12, with playoffs to come.

**Spring Break Trip to Dauphin Island, AL**

March 8-11

Cost: \$200

Get away from the semester and join us at the beach! Space is limited, so reserve your spot online or in the church office.

————— **CHILDREN'S NEWS** —————

**Atrium & Four5Six**

will not meet tonight.  
We will resume Feb. 15.

**Children's Worship Volunteer Schedule**

- February 8: Chapel Coordinators—Elizabeth & Percy Quinn  
Firecrackers & Sparklers—Lida & Gregg  
Caraway
- February 15: Firecrackers—Blair & Ryder Taff  
Sparklers—Amanda & Trey Clark
- February 22: Firecrackers—Anne & Parker Snow  
Sparklers—Kelly & Josh Guyton
- March 1: Firecrackers—Lida & Gregg Caraway  
Sparklers—Miles & David Munn

**Children's Birthday Gathering**

Tuesday, February 10, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

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

**Parents' Night Out**

Friday, March 27, 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, March 25. Please remember to feed your children before they arrive or provide a brown-bag supper.

**Save the Date**

Bible Camp 2026

July 24-26





## **THE CHURCH IN SERVICE**

### **Sunday, February 8**

- 8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion
- 9:15 a.m. Northminster Essentials, L/CR
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service/Youth Sunday
- 11:30 a.m. Youth Dessert Auction & Luncheon
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Super Bowl Party, YH

### **Monday, February 9**

- 8:30 a.m. Caregiving, L/CR
- 5:30 p.m. Search Cmte. for Assoc. Pastor of  
Community & Mission, L/CR

### **Tuesday, February 10**

- 3:00 p.m. Children's Birthday Gathering, GH
- 5:30 p.m. Finance Cmte., L/CR
- 5:30 p.m. Adult Ministries Cmte., Room 204

### **Wednesday, February 11**

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

### **Thursday, February 12**

- 3:00 p.m. Building Maint. Sub-Committee, L/CR
- 7:00 p.m. Stewminster Basketball

### **Friday, February 13**

- 6:15 p.m. Beth Israel Shabbat Service, Sanctuary

### **Saturday, February 14**

- 9:00 a.m. Beth Israel Shabbat Service, Chapel
- 10:45 a.m. Beth Israel Torah Study, Chapel

## **THE CHURCH IN SERVICE-continued**

### **Sunday, February 15**

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion

9:15 a.m. Northminster Essentials, L/CR

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

11:30 a.m. Youth Ministries Cmte., YH

2:30 p.m. Mahjong, GH

4:00 p.m. Youth Ensemble Choir

5:00 p.m. Atrium & Four5Six

5:00 p.m. Youth Sunday Night, YH

5:30 p.m. Adult Studies, GH

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

The Deacon of the Week is Nancy Smith.

The Caregiving Chair for February is Annette Hitt.

The Caregiving Coordinators for February are Faye Barham  
and Helen Turner.

The Caregiver of the Week is Gail England.

The Liturgist for February is Holly Wiggs.

The Liturgists for today are Evie Moremen and Marlow Ratcliff..

The flowers for February are provided by Jill Buckley,

Kathryn Sams, Lesley Mosby and Lawana McLennan.

The Usher Captain for February 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

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