



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

God of Eastertide –
of blazing bonfires and familiar gestures,
of serious questions and tears and laughter,
of conversations on the road –

come close to us as we walk,
as we warm ourselves,
as we dance in firelight,
as we share stories and food.

Bless us as we celebrate your rising in us,
closer to us than breathing,
life-giving as fire and bread.

—Ruth Burgess, *Fire & Bread*

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Third Sunday of Easter
April 19, 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

Lord, in this sacred place
where even the stones speak of your name,
help me to be still and know
that I am enfolded in your love.

—Peter Millar, *An Iona Prayer Book*

The Prelude “That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright” Pethel

The Call to Worship “Christ Is Risen. Alleluia!” Coker
Christ is risen. Alleluia!

*The Procession of the Easter Banner Mary Alden Ratcliff

*The Processional Hymn No. 16 DUKE STREET
“Give to Our God Immortal Praise”

*The Litany of Praise Marlow Ratcliff

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: The disciples met the risen Christ as they went about
their daily tasks-eating, fishing, preparing a meal.

**People: We have gathered because we too want to know the
presence of Jesus among us.**

Leader: We gather around his table to know Jesus in the breaking of bread.

People: **We will return to the world, seeking to know and to make known the presence of Jesus.**

All: **Glory be to God, Creator, Christ, and Spirit of life, in whom we live and move and have our being.**

—Ruth C. Duck, *Flames of the Spirit*

*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

Marlow Ratcliff

The Greeting

Lesley Ratcliff

The Lessons

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
I Peter 1:17-23

Lesley Ratcliff

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

God, we confess that there are many hours when we are not mindful of your presence. We give up the comfort and avoid the challenge that come from your Word and Spirit. Forgive us and restore the joy of knowing you. May Christ be known among us in the breaking of bread.

—Ruth C. Duck, *Touch Holiness*

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

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. 240

ALLELUIA NO. 1

“Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks”

*The Offertory Prayer

Marlow Ratcliff

The Offertory

Bach

“In Death's Strong Grasp the Saviour Lay”

*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 24:13-35

Scott Dickison

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Anthem

“O Sons and Daughters of the King”

Sjolund

O sons and daughters of the King,
Whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing,
Today the grave has lost its sting: Alleluia!

On this most holy day of days
To God your hearts and voices raise
In songs of joy and shouts of praise: Alleluia!

And we the holy Church unite,
As evermore is just and right,
In glory to the King of light. Alleluia!

O sons and daughters of the King,
Whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing,
Today the grave has lost its sting: Alleluia!

The Sermon

“The Breaking of Bread”

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

The sacred moments, the moments of miracle, are often the everyday moments, the moments which, if we do not look with more than our eyes or listen with more than our ears reveal only . . . a gardener, a stranger coming down the road behind us, a meal like any other meal. But if we look with our hearts, if we listen with all our being and imagination . . . what we may see is Jesus.

—Frederick Buechner

*The Recessional Hymn No. 251

MACCABEUS

“Thine Is Thy Glory”

*The Benediction

Scott Dickison

**The congregation will please stand.*

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

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19, pages 491-492

I Peter 1:17-23, pages 983-984

Luke 24:13-35, pages 860-861

Today is the Third Sunday of Eastertide. Our Easter banner, overlaying the Lenten banner, is used to celebrate the Easter season and signify the triumph of Christ’s resurrection and power over death. It is used during Eastertide, the six Sundays following Easter.

The banner bears in gold-colored silk the essential symbol of Christianity, the cross, in its rays of glory, appropriate to the Easter season. Formerly a symbol of shame, the cross has been transformed into the ultimate symbol of hope and salvation for all humankind. The seasonal color for Easter is white, and the background color of the banner can be interpreted as white fractured into many of pure white’s components. The banner’s pale colors represent the purity and divinity of Christ. In the background are the rays of glory of the cross. The rays leading from the cross remind us of a power that rises above defeat, a power that radiates forth affecting the lives it touches. Symbolically, the entire banner overlaps a banner of purple, the color for Lent. This juxtaposition reminds us of the historical connection of the two seasons—Lent and Easter—but leaves no doubt as to the successor.

The banner was designed and made by a Northminster member.

Summer Kitchen
by Donald Hall

In June's high light she stood at the sink
 With a glass of wine,
And listened for the bobolink,
And crushed garlic in late sunshine.

I watched her cooking, from my chair.
 She pressed her lips
Together, reached for kitchenware,
And tasted sauce from her fingertips.

"It's ready now. Come on," she said.
 "You light the candle."
We ate, and talked, and went to bed,
And slept. It was a miracle.

———— 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

Richard Joiner is hospitalized at Baptist.
Julianne Summerford is hospitalized at St. Dominic.
Salena Fortenberry is in rehab at Highland Home.

ONGOING CAREGIVING CONCERNS

Gorman Schafer	Virginia Hamilton	Libby McGee
Carla Holt	Lyllian McMullan	Sue Edwards
Martha Quarles	Beth Israel Congregation	

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

April 22	Jeff Wilson
April 29	TBA
May 7	Bryan Bridges

Meals on Wheels

Monday, April 27

Cooks:	Drivers:
Cathy Davis	Rt. 1: James Bethea & John
Polly Watkins	Dawson
Jean Welsh	Rt. 2: Cathy & Jeff Davis

———— ANNOUNCEMENTS ————

Wednesday Night Supper

Wednesday, April 22

5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall

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

Menu: chicken and broccoli casserole, salad, roll and dessert

Servers: Cade Montague, Amy Moremen,

Judy Rankin and John Tingle

Cashier: George Luter

Women's Book Study

*The Meaning of Mary Magdalene:
Discovering the Woman at the Heart of Christianity*

By Cynthia Bourgeault

Tuesdays through May 5
6:00-8:00 p.m.

Supper will be provided for \$10 per person. Call or email Lesley at 601-982-4703 or lesley@northminsterbaptist.org with questions.

Bibles for Rising Seventh Graders

As our seniors prepare to leave, our sixth graders become part of our youth ministry. Our tradition has been to have members of the congregation honor each new youth with a Bible to use throughout their years at Northminster. The Bibles cost \$30 each. If you are interested in honoring one of these students with a Bible, please contact the church office at 601-982-4703 or neely@northminsterbaptist.org.

This year's new Youth Ministry Members:

Amelia Champion
Brielle Dahl
Billy Dickison
Blair Ely
Sybil Frame
Ann Arrington Long
Evans Maxwell
Jimmy O'Beirne
Adella Quinn
Caroline Samuels
Sarah Jane Selby
Evelyn Sims
Ellen Ruth Stancill
Baron Vance
Sadie Veazey

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, April 26
immediately following the worship service

Agenda

- Recommendation from the Finance Committee on allocating the 2025 budget surplus
- Election of members to serve on the Committee on Committees

Register Now!

Gardening Connection

Tuesday, April 28, 1:00-3:00 p.m. in the Great Hall

The Senior Adult Ministries Committee invites people of all ages to a floral and garden event featuring Emily Grohovsky of Cedar Hill Gardens and church member Kandy Sims of Everyday Gardener. This interactive event will include learning about raised gardens, flower beds and landscaping.

Emily is the founder and owner of Cedar Hill Gardens in Madison. She consults, designs and builds beautiful turnkey kitchen gardens, and in 2024 she appeared on HGTV's Home Town.

Kandy is a retired art teacher from Jackson Academy and serves as historian for The Garden Club of Jackson. She is known for creating beautiful floral arrangements.

For more information, please contact Marty at
marty@northminsterbaptist.org.

Register by emailing Neely at neely@northminsterbaptist.org or using the QR code below.



A Reminder from the Deacon Nominating Committee

Nomination forms for the 2027 Deacon Board are due to the church office by Friday, May 1.

If you have questions, please feel free to call or email Amy Finkelberg, Chair of the Deacon Nominating Committee.

601-954-5393
amyfinkelberg@outlook.com

Facilities Repairs and Maintenance

To help us keep our facilities in good condition, please email facilities@northminsterbaptist.org if you notice anything that needs repair or maintenance—no matter how big or small.

Greer Gunter, Northminster's Facilities Manager, and the Building Maintenance Committee will use these emails to log requests, follow up on them, and identify any recurring problems so they can be addressed efficiently.

———— YOUTH NEWS ————

Youth Sunday School

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

Sunday Nights at the Youth House

We will meet at 5:00 tonight for dinner, games, fellowship and a lesson.

Welcome Night

Tonight at 5:00 p.m.

Senior Recognition and End-of-the-Year Party

Sunday, May 3

Youth Passport Missions

June 28-July 3

Registration is now open for our time of fun and service together in Harrisonburg, VA. Cost: \$300 with a \$75 deposit to reserve your spot by April 19. Cost should never keep someone from attending. If there is a need for a scholarship, please contact Geoff Davidson.

———— CHILDREN'S NEWS ————

First—Sixth Grades

Guys vs Girls

Game Day

Today, 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Contact Lesley at lesley@northminsterbaptist.org to sign up.

Atrium & Four5Six

Today at 5:00 p.m.

Children's Worship Volunteer Schedule

- April 19: Firecrackers—Neely & Michael McGinnis
Sparklers— Sophia & Rachel Royston
- April 26: Chapel Coordinators—Megan Wylie & Hart Wylie
Firecrackers & Sparklers— Ramsey & Brian Long

Children's Birthday Gathering

Tuesday, May 5, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

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

Parents' Night Out

Friday, May 15, 6:00 -10:00 p.m.

You can make a reservation for your children (infant-6th grade) by calling the church office, 601-982-4703, by Wednesday, May 13. Please remember to feed your children before they arrive or provide a brown-bag supper.

Save the Date

Crowded Table

Children's Bible Camp 2026

July 24-26

Friday 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:00-11:30 a.m.

Questions? Please contact Sandra Triplett,
sandratriplett23@gmail.com or 601-278-3817.

THE CHURCH IN SERVICE

Sunday, April 19

- 8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion
- 9:15 a.m. Mentor Program, L/CR
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 3:30 p.m. Guys vs. Girls Game Day
- 5:00 p.m. Atrium & Four5Six
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Welcome, YH
- 5:30 p.m. Adult Studies, GH
- 6:45 p.m. Deacons' Meeting, L/CR

Monday, April 20

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

Tuesday, April 21

- 4:30 p.m. Cancer Support, L/CR
- 5:00 p.m. Legacy Giving Cmte., Room 204
- 6:00 p.m. Women's Book Studies, GH

Wednesday, April 22

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

Friday, April 24

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

Sunday, April 26

- 8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion
- 9:00 a.m. Mentor Program, L/CR
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:30 a.m. Congregational Meeting
- 2:30 p.m. Mahjong, GH
- 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 Elizabeth Quinn.

The Caregiving Chair for April is Guy Parker III.

The Caregiving Coordinator for April is Julie Wooley.

The Caregiver of the Week is Becky Parker.

The Liturgist for April is Gray Jackson.

The flowers for April are provided by Lisa Kelly, Kathryn Sams, Geri Smith and Jane Claire Williams.

The Usher Captain for April is Keith Davis.

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
Facilities Manager	Greer Gunter

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