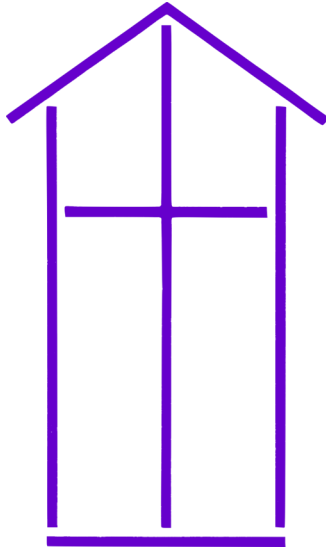




THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Where do we even start on the daily walk of restoration and awakening? We start where we are.

—Anne Lamott

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 22, 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

God's work is not man working for God; it is God's
own work, though often wrought through man's hands.

—Hudson Taylor

The Prelude “O Man, Bewail Thy Grievous Fall” Bach

The Call to Worship “Dona Nobis Pacem” Traditional
Dona nobis pacem — Grant us peace

*The Procession of the Lenten Banner Billy Dickison

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

*The Litany of Praise Monica Daniels

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Thanks be to God for the One who raised Lazarus.

People: Thanks be to God for Jesus and his friend, Lazarus.

Leader: O God of friendship and love,

**People: We thank you for this community of friends, united
through Christ.**

Leader: We praise you for the miracle of resurrection and
healing,

**People: Guide us in the work of restoring the world through
your love.**

All: **Help us mend the brokenness around us and within us, so that we all can be made whole. Amen.**

*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

Monica Daniels

The Greeting

Geoff Davidson

The Lessons

Ezekiel 37:1-14
Romans 8:6-11

Geoff Davidson

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

The grace of God is dangerous. It's lavish, excessive, outrageous, and scandalous. God's grace is ridiculously inclusive. Apparently God doesn't care who God loves. God is not very careful about the people God calls as friends or the people God calls God's church.

—Mike Yaconelli

The Confession

Jay Kieve

Leader: People of God, let us call to mind the faithfulness and mercy of God and confess our sins, first in the silence of our own hearts and then together.

Silence is kept

Leader: We have wounded your love.

People: **O God, heal us.**

Leader: We stumble in the darkness.

People: **Light of the world, transfigure us.**

Leader: We forget that we are your home.

People: **Spirit of God, dwell in us.**

Silence is kept

Leader: Lord our God,

All: 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. Amen.

The Assurance of Pardon

Leader: With the apostle Paul, we are convinced

All: That neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Leader: May the mercy of God forgive us, strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us safe in life eternal; through Jesus Christ, we pray.

All: Amen.

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Jay Kieve

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

Monica Daniels

The Offertory

“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”

Wood

*The Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Gospel John 11:1-45 Lesley Ratcliff

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Anthem “Lamb of God” German Chorale
arr. Coker

Lamb of God most holy! Who on the cross didst suffer,
Patient still and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer;
Our sins by Thee were taken, Or hope had us forsaken:
Have mercy on us, O Jesu. Amen.

Youth Ensemble

The Sermon “Let Him Go” Lesley Ratcliff

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

Believing in the resurrection does not just mean assenting to a dogma and noting a historical fact. It means participating in this creative act of God's Resurrection is not a consoling opium, soothing us with the promise of a better world in the hereafter. It is the energy for a rebirth of this life. The hope doesn't point to another world. It is focused on the redemption of this one.

—Jürgen Moltmann

*The Recessional Hymn No. 532 *SLANE*

“Be Thou My Vision”

*The Benediction Lesley Ratcliff

*The Postlude “O God Beyond All Praising” Lasky

**The congregation will please stand.*

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

Ezekiel 37:1-14, pages 704-705

Romans 8:6-11, page 919

John 11:1-45, pages 873-874

Today is the fifth Sunday in Lent. Lent is the season in which we anticipate Jesus' final trip to Jerusalem and the self-giving nature of love shown in his Passion and death. The season begins with Ash Wednesday and extends for forty weekdays through Saturday of Holy Week. Sundays are excluded from Lent, being regarded as feast days in the midst of the forty-day fast. Because Lent is the most strongly penitential season of the year, the liturgical color is purple.

Our Lenten banner is a visual symbol of Christ's sacrifice. The images of the cross, thorns, and spear remind us of his agony on our behalf. The pattern is broken, reminding us of the power of the cross, the disruption of evil, and a life broken for us. The purple recalls the penitential color of Lent and the red reminds us of sacrifice.

The banner was designed and made by a Northminster member.

In observance of the Lenten season, only candles and the Bible will be placed on the communion table, reminding us of this prayerful Lenten journey until the grace of Easter blooms again.

The Northminster Flower Committee

———— 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

Christian sympathy is extended to Mike Simmons on the death of his father, Fred Simmons.

Salena Fortenberry is in rehab at The Madison.

ONGOING CAREGIVING CONCERNS

Gorman Schaffer

Virginia Hamilton

Libby McGee

Carla Holt

Beth Israel Congregation

Sue Edwards

Lyllian McMullan

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

March 26:	Mike Peters
April 2:	Mitch Peters
April 9:	Joe Sims
April 16:	Neely McGinnis

Meals on Wheels

Monday, March 23

Cooks:	Drivers:
Becky Wooley	Rt. 1: Becky & Tim Frame
Ann Calhoon	Rt. 2: Zina & Steve Bass
Kelly Hicks	

Monday, April 6

Cooks:	Drivers:
Amanda Milam	Rt. 1: Susan & Charles O'Mara
Peggy Brady	Rt. 2: Pat & Mike Beall
Rebecca Starling	

Stewpot

March 23:	Laine & Bob Hardin
March 24:	Julianne & Jerry Summerford
March 25:	Mary & Chico Taylor
March 26:	Sunny Fowler & Bill Thompson

— ANNOUNCEMENTS —

Protection Policy Training

for all who volunteer with children, youth or vulnerable adults

Tonight, 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the Great Hall

Dinner and childcare provided.

Wednesday Night Supper

Wednesday, March 25

5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall

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

Menu: hamburger steak, mashed potatoes with gravy,
lima beans, roll and dessert

Servers: Jennifer Carter, Sara Cox,
Gloria Montgomery and Sandi Rhoden

Cashier: George Luter

Palm Cross Making and the Palm Sunday Processional

On **March 26 at 9:00 a.m.**, anyone who would like to help make Palm Crosses is invited to join the Flower Committee in the Great Hall. Please bring a pair of scissors. No previous experience required!

On **March 29** children are invited to participate in waving palms for the processional at the 10:30 worship service. Please meet in the children's area by 10:15 to line up.

The Northminster Choir presents The Seven Last Words of Christ

Sunday, March 29, 5:30 p.m.

Théodore Dubois (1837-1924) composed "The Seven Last Words of Christ" in 1867 for his choir in Paris. The work is scored for full orchestra, chorus and soloists, and contains eight movements. The work opens with a soprano solo that utilizes a traditional text sung at Tenebrae services: "O all you who pass by the way, attend and see if there be any sorrow like to my sorrow." The text originates from Lamentations 1:12, originally describing the destruction of Jerusalem, but heavily adapted in Christian tradition to depict the suffering of Christ on the cross or the sorrow of the Virgin Mary. It is the sorrow of Mary that Dubois points

toward. It acts as a meditation on the Passion, inviting believers to empathize with the intense grief of Christ.

Successive movements two through eight take one of Christ's final utterances and combine chorus and soloists into a dramatic narrative supported by full orchestra. Following the Seventh Word with its dramatic sudden darkness and earthquake, Dubois concludes his sacred cantata with a hymn-like setting of the medieval antiphon Adoramus Te, Christe. The contrast with the immediately preceding music and compelling drama of the Passion story provides a foretaste of the resurrection.

An Easter Tale
A Play by John Maxwell

Saturday, April 4 at 4:00 p.m.
Galloway United Methodist Church

This new play by renowned playwright and actor John Maxwell explores the disciples' spiritual and relational state in the hours between the crucifixion and the resurrection. Listen in on this upper room scene at this Easter Weekend performance.

Holy Week at Northminster
Monday, March 30 - Friday, April 3

Holy Week Meditation
Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Chapel

Maundy Thursday Service
7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

Good Friday Tenebrae
7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

Easter Sunday Services
April 5, 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Church-Wide Easter Breakfast
9:00 a.m. in the Great Hall
(during the Sunday School hour)

Servers: Sara Cox, Cade Montague,
Amy Moremen and Susan Phillips

Liturgy of the Light

A child-led worship service for all.

Sunday, April 12 at 5:30 p.m.

Lunch & Learn with Liz Brister

Tuesday, April 14

12:00 p.m. in the Great Hall

Cost: \$10.00

Liz Brister is president of Downtown Jackson Partners, an organization which works to enhance the quality of life for those who live, work and play in downtown Jackson. Liz will speak about DJP's current undertakings, and their goal to prove that downtown Jackson isn't just Mississippi's urban heart—it's a place worth falling in love with all over again. Please RSVP by April 10 to lesley@northminsterbaptist.org or 601-982-4703.

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. for donuts and good conversation.

Sunday Nights at the Youth House

We will meet not meet tonight. Join us next Sunday for dinner, games, fellowship and a lesson.

Homework Night

Wednesday, March 25 at 5:30 p.m.

Stewpot

Saturday, April 4

Liturgy of the Light

Sunday, April 12, 5:30 p.m.

Welcome Night

Sunday, April 19, 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.

CHILDREN'S NEWS

Atrium & Four5Six

will not meet tonight.

We will resume next Sunday at 5:00 p.m.

Children's Worship Volunteer Schedule

- March 22: Chapel Coordinators—Taylor & Justin Beard
Firecrackers & Sparklers—Ceejaye & Mitch Peters
- March 29: Firecrackers—Mary Hastings & Gray Samson
Sparklers—Sheri & Clint Moody
- April 5: 8:00 a.m. Service:
Firecrackers & Sparklers—Anna & Andy Frame
- April 5: 10:30 a.m. Service:
Firecrackers—Krysten & Jay Jernigan
Sparklers—Gates & Kyle Skene

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.

Children's Birthday Gathering

Tuesday, April 14, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

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

First—Sixth Grades

Guys vs Girls

Game Day

Sunday, April 19, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

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

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, March 22

- 8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion
- 9:15 a.m. The Great Hall Series, GH
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 5:00 p.m. Policy Protection Training

Monday, March 23

- 8:30 a.m. Caregiving, L/CR
- 10:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels

Tuesday, March 24

- 5:30 p.m. Adult Ministries Cmte., L/CR
- 5:30 p.m. Building Maintenance Cmte., GH

Wednesday, March 25

- 3:30 p.m. Insurance Cmte., L/CR
- 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper, GH
- 5:30 p.m. Youth Homework Night, YH
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Friday, March 27

- 6:00 p.m. Parents' Night Out
- 6:15 p.m. Beth Israel Shabbat Service

Saturday, March 28

- 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

THE CHURCH IN SERVICE-continued

Sunday, March 29

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion

9:15 a.m. The Great Hall Series, GH

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:15 a.m. The Palm Sunday Procession

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

11:30 a.m. Children's Ministries Cmte., NCC

5:00 p.m. Atrium & Four5Six

5:00 p.m. Youth Sunday Night

5:30 p.m. Choir Presentation, Sanctuary

6:45 p.m. Deacons' Meeting, L/CR

MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

Every member a minister

The Deacon of the Week is Charles O'Mara.

The Caregiving Chair for March is Susan O'Mara.

The Caregiving Coordinator for March is Jean Welsh.

The Caregiver of the Week is Jean Welsh.

The Liturgist for March is Elizabeth Quinn.

The flowers for March are provided by Leah Hendrix, Becky Frame, Kathryn Davis, Kandy Sims and Lisa Kelly.

The Usher Captain for March 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
Facilities Manager	Greer Gunter

Northminster Baptist Church
3955 Ridgewood Road
Jackson, MS 39211
601-982-4703
www.northminsterbaptist.org