



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

A mosaic consists of thousands of little stones. Some are blue, some are green, some are yellow, some are gold. When we bring our faces close to the mosaic, we can admire the beauty of each stone. But as we step back from it, we can see that all these little stones reveal to us a beautiful picture, telling a story none of these stones can tell by itself.

That is what our life in community is about. Each of us is like a little stone, but together we reveal the face of God to the world. Nobody can say, "I make God visible." But others who see us together can say, "They make God visible." Community is where humility and glory touch.

—Henri Nouwen
Bread for the Journey

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 26, 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

Community is first of all a quality of the heart. It grows from the spiritual knowledge that we are alive not for ourselves but for one another. Community is the fruit of our capacity to make the interests of others more important than our own.

—Henri Nouwen
Bread for the Journey

The Prelude “The Lord’s My Shepherd” Wright

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

*The Procession of the Easter Banner Ann Arrington Long

*The Processional Hymn No. 70 *HYMN TO JOY*
“God Is Love, Let Heaven Adore Him”

*The Litany of Praise Matt Thames

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Today is a new day.

People: New life is rising among us.

Leader: Today we are challenged to live fully in God's love.

People: **So we will greet one another in love and praise the God who uplifts each of us in grace.**

All: **Alleluia! Amen!**

— Sandra E. Graham
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

Matt Thames

The Greeting

Marty Harper

The Lessons

Acts 2:42-47
I Peter 2:19-25

Marty Harper

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

Revolutionary God, in raising Jesus Christ you loosed great energy, creating a new people who shared common life, witness, prayer, and belongings. Yet we confess that we are afraid to risk selves and goods in creating your new world. We are even afraid to pray honestly with one another. God, forgive us. Blow through us with the Spirit of your Christ. Give us new energy to build community, peace, and justice on earth. Amen.

—Ruth C. Duck
Touch Holiness

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. 240

ALLELUIA NO. 1

“Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks”

*The Offertory Prayer

Matt Thames

The Offertory

“Adagio”

Franck

*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

John 10:1-10

Scott Dickison

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Anthem

“Psalm 150”

Franck

Hallelujah!

Praise ye the Lord in his sanctuary;
praise ye the Lord in the firmament of his power.

Praise ye him for his mighty acts;
praise ye him according to his majesty.

Praise ye him with the sound of the trumpet;
praise ye him with the psaltery and harp.

Praise ye him with the timbrel and dance;
praise ye him with the organ and stringed instruments.

Praise ye him upon the loud cymbals;
praise ye him upon the high sounding cymbals.

Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord.
Yea, praise ye the Lord.

The Sermon

“Awe and Wonder”

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 Church is one body. But this one body has many parts. As it is, the parts are many but the body is one. Not everyone can be everything. Often we expect one member of the body to fulfill a task that belongs to others. But the hand cannot be asked to see nor the eye to hear.

Together we are Christ's body, each of us with a part to play in the whole. Let's be grateful for our limited but real part in the body.

—Henri Nouwen
Bread for the Journey

*The Recessional Hymn No. 708

DENNIS

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

*The Benediction

Scott Dickison

*The Postlude “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

Powell

**The congregation will please stand.*

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

Acts 2:42-47, page 886

I Peter 2:19-25, pages 984-985

John 10:1-10, page 872

Today is the Fourth 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.

———— 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

Misti Crisler is recovering at home.

Amy Finkelberg is recovering at home.

Julianne Summerford is in rehab at Methodist Rehab.

Richard Joiner is in rehab at Baptist in Madison.

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 29

TBA

May 7

Bryan Bridges

May 14

Skipper Jernigan

Meals on Wheels

Monday, April 27

Cooks:

Cathy Davis

Polly Watkins

Jean Welsh

Drivers:

Rt. 1: James Bethea & John

Dawson

Rt. 2: Cathy & Jeff Davis

———— ANNOUNCEMENTS ————

Congregational Meeting

Today

immediately following the worship service

Agenda

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

Baptist Distinctives: An Exploration of Denominational Relations

Tonight, 5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall

Northminster provides financial and leadership support to a variety of Baptist ministry partners. Tonight, we conclude our four-part series on the Denominational Relations Committee with a conversation featuring Diane McNary, who will share about the Encourager Church program of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Join us as we begin exploring this opportunity for Northminster.

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.

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.



Wednesday Night Supper

Wednesday, April 29

5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall

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

Menu: pork tenderloin, roasted potatoes,
roasted vegetables, roll and dessert

Servers: Sara Cox, Joe Rankin,
Sandi Rhoden and Carol Taff

Cashier: George Luter

Trivia Night

Sunday, May 3, 5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall

Join us for Northminster's Inaugural Trivia Night and put your knowledge to the test! You may sign up as an individual and be placed on a team or register as a group by listing your team members in advance. To sign up please call or email Neely at 601-982-4703 or neely@northminsterbaptist.org. Participants will compete for fun prizes—awarded for both trivia excellence and the most creative name.

Trivia themed refreshments will be provided.

We hope to see you there!

**Please join us as we celebrate the
59th Anniversary of Northminster Baptist Church**

Anniversary Potluck Dinner

Wednesday, May 6, 5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall

Bring your favorite side dish, salad or dessert to serve your family plus one more. Fried chicken and drinks will be provided.

Please bring serving utensils and
label your dishes and serving pieces.

Servers: Hilda Boteler, Gloria Montgomery,
Amy Moremen and Sandi Rhoden

Attention Graduates

(or parents of graduates)

We are seeking the names of those who are graduating this year from college, graduate school, law school, medical school, etc. Please call or email the church office at 601-982-4703 or neely@northminsterbaptist.org with degree and school information.

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, 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**](mailto: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

Join us tonight at 5:00 p.m. for dinner, games, fellowship and a lesson.

Senior Recognition and End-of-the-Year Party

Home of Leah & Tal Hendrix

Sunday, May 3, 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Come join us for pizza, crawfish, swimming & fun. Wear your swimsuit & bring a towel.

——— CHILDREN'S NEWS ———

Atrium & Four5Six

Today at 5:00 p.m.

We will meet for the final time this semester on Sunday, May 3.

Children's Worship Volunteer Schedule

- April 26: Chapel Coordinators—Megan Wylie & Hart Wylie
Firecrackers & Sparklers—Ramsey & Brian Long
- May 3: Firecracker—TBA
Sparklers—Leah & Tal Hendrix

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 26

- 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
- 11:30 a.m. Congregational Meeting
- 2:30 p.m. Mahjong, GH
- 5:00 p.m. Atrium & Four5Six
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Welcome, YH
- 5:30 p.m. Adult Studies, GH

Monday, April 27

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

Tuesday, April 28

- 1:00 p.m. Adult Connections, GH
- 5:30 p.m. Adult Ministries Cmte., L/CR
- 6:00 p.m. Women's Book Study, GH

Wednesday, April 29

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

Friday, May 1

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

Sunday, May 3

- 9:15 a.m. Mentor Program, L/CR
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service/Communion
- 5:00 p.m. Atrium & Four5Six
- 5:00 p.m. Youth end-of-the-year Party
- 5:30 p.m. Trivia Night, GH

MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

Every member a minister

The Deacon of the Week is Joe Rankin.

The Caregiving Chair for April is Guy Parker III.

The Caregiving Coordinator for April is Julie Wooley.

The Caregiver of the Week is Annette Hitt.

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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