



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

In God's field of the world, are we cultivating the seeds given to sow, nourishing the tender plants, helping them, strengthening them to withstand the effect of weeds, devoting our efforts to positive actions? Or are we working to destroy the weeds but also damaging or ruining what is good along the way?

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
 July 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

Good and evil exist side by side in society. We are called to navigate this complex reality with discernment, seeking the truth and striving to live out our faith in a world that is not always aligned with God's will. Our task is to remain faithful, persevering in prayer, and allowing God to work in our lives and in the world around us.

—Adam Eichelberger

The Prelude “How Great Thou Art” Linker

The Spoken Call to Worship Geoff Davidson

*The Processional Hymn No. 612 *FOUNDATION*
 “How Firm a Foundation”

*The Litany of Praise Sterling Massey

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lord, you have searched us and known us. You know us when we sit down and when we rise up.

People: You know our thoughts and are acquainted with all our ways. Even before a word is on our tongue, you know it altogether.

Leader: You formed our inner being and knit us together in our mothers' wombs. You know us well.

All: **We praise you, great God, for you are fearful and wonderful! Marvelous are your works!**

—Psalm 139:1-4, 13-14, 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

Sterling Massey

The Greeting

Geoff Davidson

The Lessons

Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24
Romans 8:12-25

Geoff Davidson

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

God of compassion and justice, you know best the accomplishments and sins of our lives. You are the mirror of our lives, for by facing you we see ourselves more clearly. May the sight of our true faces humble us and encourage us to be doers of your word, not merely hearers of it. Stay our hands from throwing stones of condemnation so that we might be cleansed from sin. Amen.

—M. Enid Watson, *Touch of Holiness*

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

Scott Dickison

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. 502

NEW BRITAIN

“Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound”

*The Offertory Prayer

Sterling Massey

The Offertory

“Morning Has Broken”

Pethel

*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

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Scott Dickison

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Anthem “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” Jackson
Pam Steadman, *soprano*

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart,
wean it from earth, to joys that dwell above;
lift me from weakness, mighty as thou art,
teach me to love thee as I ought to love.

I ask no dream, no passing ecstasies,
no ceaseless dwelling in this veil of clay;
just send thy loving thoughts thro’ op’ning skies,
and take the dimness of my soul away.

Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh;
teach me the struggles of the day to bear,
to check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh;
teach me the patience of unceasing pray’r.

The Sermon “Wheat and Weeds” 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

Scripture says, “All have sinned and fallen short of God’s glory” (Romans 3:23). Yet I do not lose hope! The Bible reminds us of God’s faithful people who, though imperfect, made themselves available to do God’s work. Moses, Noah, Rahab, Peter, and Paul – none of them was perfect. Their examples remind me that even though I’m imperfect, I can still share God’s love with the world and serve faithfully.

— Deborah L. Ormay, *The Upper Room*

*The Recessional Hymn No. 648

ANGEL'S STORY

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”

*The Benediction

Scott Dickison

*The Postlude

Weber

“All Creatures, Worship God Most High!”

**The congregation will please stand.*

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

Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24, pages 503-504

Romans 8:12-25, page 919

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43, pages 794-795

Today is the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost. The season after Pentecost celebrates the existence of the church and the presence of the Holy Spirit in the world. The liturgical color is green, symbolic of the church's growth and mission. The Tree of Life (Genesis 2:9, Revelation 22:1-2), which rises above the baptistry and is woven into our paraments, underscores this liturgical season's emphasis on the living, growing Kingdom of God.

———— 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

Troy Browning is recovering after surgery.

Kitty Rushing is in rehab at Highland Home.

ONGOING CAREGIVING CONCERNS

Gorman Schaffer	Virginia Hamilton	Libby McGee
Carla Holt	Lyllian McMullan	Sue Edwards
Richard Poole	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

July 23	Scott Wilson
July 30	Kirk Sims
August 6	Skipper Jernigan
August 13	Mitch Peters
August 20	Elizabeth Boone

Meals on Wheels

Monday, July 27

Cooks:

Jean Welsh
Cathy Davis
Polly Watkins

Drivers:

Rt. 1: Luke Dove & Bob Hardin
Rt. 2: Keith Davis & James Bethea

Monday, August 3

Cooks:

Polly Bourne
Jim Blackwood
Becky Wooley

Drivers:

Rt. 1: Julie & Dudley Wooley
Rt. 2: Marianna Field & Janet Holt

———— ANNOUNCEMENTS ————

GREAT HALL SERIES: A Sampling of Sunday School

July 26

The Great Hall Series offers short-term, stand-alone presentations during the Sunday School hour that are open to all. During these sessions, some Sunday School classes will meet as usual, while others will pause to join the group in the Great Hall. On July 26, representatives from all our Adult Sunday School classes will gather for a panel discussion and question-and-answer session. Whether you are looking for a class for the first time, considering a change or simply curious about what happens in other Sunday School classes, this series offers an opportunity to learn more about the many ways Northminster studies, questions and grows together through Sunday School.

Backpack Blessing, Hymn Sing & Ice Cream Social

Sunday, August 9 at 5:30 p.m.

Come join us for a wonderful time of fellowship for all ages!

Short Stories by Jesus

A Summer Bible Study

Tuesdays at noon in the Great Hall

Lunch: \$10

July 21: The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

July 28: The Laborers in the Vineyard

Connection Event

Music and the Mind:

Using Music to Support Brain Health

Tuesday, August 25

1:00 p.m. in the Great Hall

Come join us for Music and the Mind Connection Event. This presentation will introduce key research findings on music and brain health. Participants will then explore mindful ways to engage with music and develop listening habits that research suggests may support overall mental well-being. Facilitator will be Dr. Tim Coker, Northminster Minister of Music.

This Connection Event is sponsored by the Senior Adult Committee but is open to all ages. Light refreshments will be provided.

For more information contact Marty Harper at
marty@northminsterbaptist.org

———— YOUTH NEWS ————

Youth Sunday School

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

Swim Night & Missions Sharing at the Elferts'

Today, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

2026-27 Youth T-Shirts for Sale

\$17

Youth volunteering with Northminster Bible Camp

July 24-26

———— CHILDREN'S NEWS ————

Children's Worship Volunteer Schedule

- July 19: Chapel Coordinators—Taylor & Justin Beard
Firecrackers & Sparklers—Sophia Royston
- July 26: Bible Camp

Children's Birthday Gathering

Tuesday, July 21, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

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

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? Contact Sandra Triplett at
sandratriplett23@gmail.com or 601-278-3817.

Promotion Sunday

August 9

School is getting in gear and so are we! On August 9, children will be promoted to their next grade level in Sunday School. Children will receive a postcard with the name of their Sunday School class before Promotion Sunday, when they will be greeted at the desk in the Children's Department and walked to their new classrooms. We hope to see you there!

THE CHURCH IN SERVICE

Sunday, July 19

- 8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion
- 9:15 a.m. Great Hall Series
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:30 a.m. Committee on Committees, GH
- 5:00 p.m. Swim Night & Missions Sharing

Monday, July 20

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

Tuesday, July 21

- 12:00 p.m. Bible Study, GH
- 3:00 p.m. Children's Birthday Gathering, GH
- 4:30 p.m. Cancer Support, L/CR

Wednesday, July 22

- 8:30 a.m. Enneagram, Adult Ed. Building

Thursday, July 23

- 2:00 p.m. Senior Adult Ministries, Cmte., L/CR

Friday, July 24

- 5:30 p.m. Bible Camp
- 6:15 p.m. Beth Israel Shabbat Service

Saturday, July 25

- 9:00 a.m. Bible Camp

Sunday, July 26

- 8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion
- 9:00 a.m. Bible Camp
- 9:15 a.m. Great Hall Series
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

Every member a minister

The Deacon of the Week is Charles O'Mara.
The Caregiving Chair for July is Susan O'Mara.
The Caregiving Coordinator for July is Kathryn Davis.
The Caregiver of the Week is Julie Wooley.
The Liturgist for today is Jeanne Cook.
The Liturgists for July are Pam Steadman and Jeanne Cook.
The flowers for today are provided by Jane Claire Williams.
The Usher Captain for July is Matt Kelly.

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

Northminster Baptist Church
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