



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

I keep going. I don't want to leave gifts buried, words unsaid, work undone. I don't want comfort to choke out calling. I want to wring everything out of this life while I still have breath. The real loss isn't losing. It's never living the life I was meant to live.

—Robert St. John

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 20, 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

This sacred space invites us to see our Lord in all the faces gathered and in the beauty that surrounds us. Here we listen to His voice in spoken, careful words of comfort, instruction and inspiration. And it is here we embrace Him as Mystery with ethereal music and meaningful silence transporting us to God's presence.

The Prelude “My Song Is Love Unknown” Williams

The Call to Worship “O God, We Praise Thee” Coker

O God, we praise thee, now the night is over;
active and watchful, stand we all before thee;
singing, we offer prayer and meditation;
thus, we adore thee. Amen.

*The Processional Hymn No. 95 *CORONATION*
“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

*The Litany of Praise Marlow Ratcliff

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: We are not citizens of this world trying to make our
way to heaven;

People: We are citizens of heaven trying to make our way through this world.

Leader: We live as those who are on a journey home;

People: A home we know will have the lights on, the door open and our Father waiting for us when we arrive.

Leader: That means, in all adversity, our worship of God is joyful,

People: Our life is hopeful,

Leader: Our future is secure.

People: There is nothing we can lose on earth that can rob us of the treasures God has given us,

Leader: And will give us.

All: We lift our voices in praise and thanksgiving to our generous Lord!

—The Lindisfarne Gospel
as quoted in
The Anglican Digest

*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

Exodus 16:2-15
Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45

Lesley Ratcliff

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

Am I willing to let go of gratuitous cynicism, nursed resentments, dispiriting bitterness and the kind of negativity that leaches away my energy and gives me nothing in return? Help me, forgiving Father, help me find awareness, desire, and strength for the letting go.

—Carl McColman, adapted

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

Masyn Evans-Clements

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Masyn Evans-Clements

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. 115

CRUSADER'S HYMN

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

*The Offertory Prayer

Marlow Ratcliff

The Offertory

"In the Bulb There Is a Flower"

Trotter

*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 20:1-16

Geoff Davidson

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Anthem

“I Will Arise”

Parker

Refrain:

I will arise and go to Jesus,

He will embrace me in His arms.

In the arms of my dear Saviour,

Oh! There are ten thousand charms.

Teach me some melodious sonnet

Sung by flaming tongues above.

Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it,

Mount of Thy redeeming love.

Come, thou fount of ev'ry blessing,

Tune my heart to sing Thy grace.

Streams of mercy never ceasing,

Call for songs of loudest praise.

Refrain

The Sermon

“Bread for Today”

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

Live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

—Philippians 1:27a

*The Recessional Hymn No. 578 *BEACH SPRING*

“Come, All Christians, Be Committed”

*The Benediction *Scott Dickison*

*The Postlude “Give to Our God Immortal Praise” *Hatton*

**The congregation will please stand.*

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

Exodus 16:2-15, page 55

Psalms 105:1-6, 37-45, pages 484-485

Matthew 20:1-16, page 801

Today is the Seventeenth 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

Chico Taylor is hospitalized at UMMC.

ONGOING CAREGIVING CONCERNS

Gorman Schaffer

Virginia Hamilton

Beth Israel Congregation

Carla Holt

Lyllian McMullan

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

September 24

Jeff Wilson

October 1

Joe Sims

October 8

Bo Allen

October 15

Sunny Fowler

Meals on Wheels

Monday, September 28

Cooks:

Ann Calhoon
Kelly Hicks
Gail England

Drivers:

Rt. 1: James Bethea & John Dawson
Rt. 2: Cathy & Jeff Davis

Stewpot

September 28
September 29
September 30
October 1

Laine & Bob Hardin
Julianne & Jerry Summerford
Mary & Chico Taylor
Sunny Fowler &
Jan McDonnieal Wilson

———— ANNOUNCEMENTS ————

Community Book Study

Tuesday, September 22

11:45 a.m.—1:00 p.m. in the Great Hall
(lunch provided)

Sunday, September 27, 4:30 p.m. at Mt. Helm Baptist Church

Join us for a community book study of theologian Howard Thurman's classic work, *Jesus and the Disinherited*, hosted in partnership with Mt. Helm Baptist Church.

Wednesday Night Supper

Wednesday, September 23

5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall

Cost: \$5 per child, \$8 per adult, \$25 per family

Menu: pork tenderloin, garlic & herb rice,
roasted veggies, salad, roll and dessert

Servers: Sara Cox, Joe Rankin, Sandi Rhoden and John Tingle

Cashier: George Luter

Lunch and Learn with Richie Burnette

Tuesday, September 29 at noon in the Great Hall

Lunch: \$10

Join us for our next Lunch and Learn as Richie Burnette—a Mississippi raconteur and storyteller, and Brooks Elfert’s father—presents **“No Jesus, No Elvis.”**

Richie will explore the often-overlooked Christian roots of American music, tracing the influence of the church on artists such as Elvis Presley, B. B. King, Faith Hill, and many others. He’ll also share a few musical performances along the way. Whether you’re a music lover, history buff, or simply curious, this promises to be a fascinating presentation.

We’ll enjoy lunch together, followed by Richie’s presentation and time for questions.

Please RSVP by **September 22** using the QR Code below.



FALL ADULT STUDIES

FED TALKS: Faith, Experience and Discovery

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

Join us for a TED-style talk featuring members of our church sharing stories, questions, and discoveries from their lives of faith. Tonight’s talk is “What I See Differently Now.” Come listen, learn, and be inspired by the faith and experiences of people in our own community.

Blessing of the Pets

Sunday, October 4

Everyone is invited to bring their pets to the amphitheater for a blessing of the pets on St. Francis Day. We’ll have a brief service of blessing and enjoy ice cream and pup cups. More details to follow!

The Poetry of Ordinary Time

Sundays, October 11, 18 & 25

Join us these weeks in October as we pair poems with the scriptures and themes of Ordinary Time, or as we speak of it here at Northminster, "The Growing Season."

Northminster Hits: Musical Bingo Night

Sunday, November 8

We're kicking off a night of fellowship and fun with music, friendly competition, and a chance to see just how well you know your favorite songs. More details coming soon, but start thinking about who you want on your team.

Book Buddies Needed at Spann Elementary School

Reading buddies are needed for one hour per week any time between 7:30 and 1:30 on Monday through Friday. Volunteers will spend 30 minutes each with two children listening to them read and asking reading comprehension questions. Reading buddies can also bring in a favorite book to read to the children. To volunteer, contact Lesley Ratcliff at lesley@northminsterbaptist.org or call the church office.

Registration Now Open
Senior Adult Conference
Scam Awareness and Prevention

Tuesday, November 10
9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Featured Speakers
FBI Investigator
Better Business Bureau Fraud Department

Please register by using the QR code below.



———— 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

Students, join us at 5:00 p.m. for dinner, fun, and growing together in our faith. Adults, talk to Geoff about how you can help make this another great semester.

Save the Dates

Youth mission trip to Waco, TX, July 3-8 or 9, 2027. Now accepting registrations! Cost: \$275, including a \$75 deposit.

For those interested in 2027 Passport June 19-25, a \$100 deposit is due by September 29. Final cost TBD. No Passport registrations will be accepted after this date.

———— CHILDREN'S NEWS ————

Children's Worship Volunteer Schedule

September 20: Chapel Coordinators—Neely McGinnis
Firecrackers & Sparklers—Mary Hastings
& Gray Samson

September 27: Firecrackers—Anne & Parker Snow
Sparklers—Kelly & Josh Guyton

Children's Sunday Night Activities

Tonight at 5:00 p.m.

Our Preschool and Elementary Atriums and Four5Six meet in the Children's Area.

Children's Birthday Gathering

Tuesday, September 22, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

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

Save the Date!

Children's Retreat

November 7-8

Children in third through sixth grade are invited to our annual Fall Retreat. This year we will be exploring the theme "God's Story, Our Hands" through the stories of Moses. We'll play games, have Bible study, do a ropes course, and have a bonfire. We will leave at 8:00 a.m. on November 7 and return in time for worship at Northminster on November 8. Registration is opening soon.

THE CHURCH IN SERVICE

Sunday, September 20

- 8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 5:00 p.m. Atrium & Four5Six
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Sunday Night, YH
- 5:30 p.m. Fall Adult Studies, GH
- 6:45 p.m. Deacons' Meeting, L/CR
- 8:00 p.m. Beth Israel Yom Kippur Service

Monday, September 21

- 8:30 a.m. Caregiving, L/CR
- 10:15 a.m. Beth Israel Yom Kippur Service,
Sanctuary
- 6:15 p.m. Beth Israel Yom Kippur Meal, GH

Tuesday, September 22

- 11:45 a.m. Book Study with Mt. Helm, GH
- 3:00 p.m. Children's Birthday Gathering, GH

Wednesday, September 23

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

Friday, September 25

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

Sunday, September 27

- 8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service/Baby Dedication
- 11:30 a.m. Children's Ministries Committee
- 4:30 p.m. Book Study with Mt. Helm at Mt. Helm
- 5:00 p.m. Atrium & Four5Six
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Sunday Night, YH

MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

Every member a minister

The Deacon of the Week is Wilson Stribling.
The Caregiving Chair for September is Sarah Reynolds.
The Caregiving Coordinator for September is Gail England.
The Caregiver of the Week is Ann Calhoon.
The Liturgist for today is Anne Brawley.
The flowers for today are provided by Lisa Kelly.
The Usher Captain for September is Judy Rankin.

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 Community and Missions	Masyn Evans-Clements
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	Leonard Wilson

Northminster Baptist Church
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