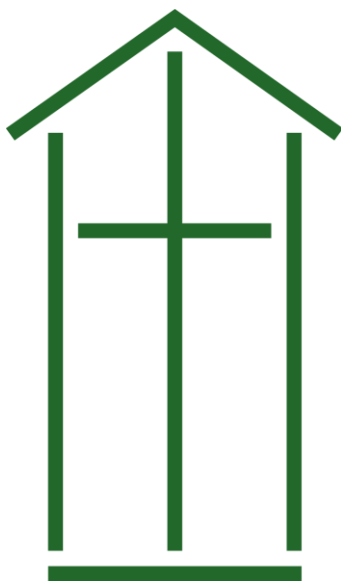




THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Is the Lord among us or not?

—Exodus 17:7

Don't forget to remember you're never alone,
No matter if you are up high or down low.
And as sure as the sun will keep rising above,
Don't forget to remember that you're dearly loved.

Let the whole earth remind you of what God has said,
From the moment you wake up 'til you go to bed.
Oh and even on days you forget what is true,
Don't forget to remember, God won't forget you!

—Ellie Holcomb

Don't Forget to Remember

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 27, 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

And so, with (or even without)
the hallowed whisper of heart-felt greetings,
we gather ourselves, and settle ourselves,
holding the consecrated stillness of each other
as we enter the Sacred Wonder we call Worship.

—AJF

The Prelude	“Aria on a Chaconne”	Martinson
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The Call to Worship	“O God, We Praise Thee”	Coker
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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. 20		<i>ODE TO JOY</i>
	“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”	

*The Litany of Praise		Lee Parrott
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Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Praise the Lord, who is our provider.

People: **The Lord is our hope. Our trust is in God.**

Leader: God brought us out of bondage and has made us free.

People: **The Lord is our hope. Our trust is in God.**

Leader: Glorious are the deeds of our God, and mighty are
God's acts.

People: **The Lord is our hope. Our trust is in God.**

All: **Let all people everywhere praise the Lord!**

—*Feasting on the Word Worship Companion Year A*, 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

Lee Parrott

The Greeting

Lesley Ratcliff

The Dedication of Children and Parents

John Gray Samson, Jr.

Son of Gray and Mary Hastings Samson

The Litany of Dedication

Lesley Ratcliff

Leader: We are here today to present John Gray to the church
and to dedicate him to God. Who brings this child for
this holy purpose?

Parents: ***We, his parents, bring this child to be dedicated to God.***

Leader: What can we affirm about this child?

People: **That he is made in the image of God and is a child of
God by creation.**

Leader: What will this child be told about his faith history?

People: **He will learn about Abraham and Sarah, the
grandparents of our faith; about Moses, who led our
ancestors out of bondage; and about Miriam, who sang
and danced a victory song of freedom; about the**

Jewish hope for a Messiah; about Jesus Christ the Savior; and about the history of the church as God's redemptive people in the world.

Leader: Who will raise this child in the faith, worship with him regularly, teach him to pray and lead him into a loving relationship with God?

Parents: ***We are the persons primarily responsible for this important work.***

Leader: Is anyone else to help with the guidance of this child?

People: **Yes, we too, will share in his growth, for he belongs to us as well.**

Leader: We trust that God will be with us in this awesome task.

People: **For God is faithful to us in all that we do.**

Leader: Amen.

The Presentation of the Child

Scott Dickison

The Lessons

Lesley Ratcliff

Exodus 17:1-7
Philippians 2:1-13

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

O my beloved, stiff-necked people!
I hear your griping and your grumbling,
the warring of your words.
I see into your secret hearts,
perceive your petty sins—
and the weighty ones, too.
But don't think for a moment that
these things make me love you any less.
No matter how many times you flail and falter and fall,
no matter how unworthy you think you are—

You are loved, loved, *loved*—
more than you could ever, possibly, imagine.

—AJF

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. 636

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

“If You Will Trust in God to Guide You”

*The Offertory Prayer

Lee Parrott

The Offertory “Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me”

Burkhardt

*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 21:23-32

Geoff Davidson

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

The Anthem	“Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God”	Mueller
	Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me.	
	Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit. Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.	
	Create in me a clean heart, O God.	

The Sermon	“When There Is No Water”	Scott Dickison
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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

Thoughts on Philippians 2:1-5

Please, Lord! Be of the same mind?
Have the same love?
Be in full accord?
Have you read the news?
Can't you see the discord and division everywhere?

.....

Forgive me, Lord.
Yes, I know you are eternal and all-knowing.
It's just that sometimes I like to conveniently forget.

.....

What's that?
You want me to ask the lady in the sundress

who's sitting two pews ahead
to serve at the soup kitchen with me?
But, Lord!
She doesn't look like me, think like me,
or (O the horror!) vote like me.

.....

Well, now you've gone to meddling, Lord.
Who knew humility would be so hard?

—AJF

*The Recessional Hymn No. 634

CWM RHONDDA

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

*The Benediction

Scott Dickison

*The Postlude

“Festive Trumpet Tune”

German

**The congregation will please stand.*

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

Exodus 17:1-7, page 56

Philippians 2:1-13, page 954

Matthew 21:23-32, pages 802-803

Today is the Eighteenth 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

October 1	Joe Sims
October 8	Bo Allen
October 15	Sunny Fowler
October 22	TBA
October 29	Skipper Jernigan
November 5	Kirk Sims

Meals on Wheels

Monday, September 28

Cooks:

Elizabeth Quinn

Kelly Hicks

Gail England

Drivers:

Rt. 1: James Bethea & John Dawson

Rt. 2: Cathy & Jeff Davis

Monday, October 5

Cooks:

Peggy Brady

Rebecca Starling

Amanda Milam

Drivers:

Rt. 1: Amy Finkelberg & Nancy Smith

Rt. 2: Keith Davis & James Bethea

Stewpot

September 28

Laine & Bob Hardin

September 29

Julianne & Jerry

Summerford

September 30

TBA

October 1

Sunny Fowler &

Jan McDonnieal

Wilson

———— ANNOUNCEMENTS ————

Community Book Study

Today, 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.

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.

While the deadline to sign up has passed, if you would still like to attend, please contact the church office at 601-982-4703.

Wednesday Night Supper

Wednesday, September 30

5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall

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

Menu: barbecue chicken, lima beans,
mac & cheese, salad, roll and dessert

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

Cashier: George Luter

Reception for Lesley Ratcliff

October 4, in the Great Hall following Worship

Join us immediately following worship next Sunday as we give thanks for Lesley Ratcliff and her 15 years of service at our church and send the entire Ratcliff family off to Hattiesburg with our blessing.

FALL ADULT STUDIES

Blessing of the Pets

Sunday, October 4

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

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.

**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 27: Firecrackers—Anne & Parker Snow
Sparklers—Kelly & Josh Guyton
- October 4: Chapel Coordinators—Lida & Gregg Caraway
Firecrackers & Sparklers—Miles & David Munn
- October 11: Firecrackers—Rebecca & Brooks Vance
Sparklers—Audrey Dickison & Matt Thames

Children's Sunday Night Activities

Tonight at 5:00 p.m.

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

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 enjoy 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 27

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

Monday, September 28

- 8:30 a.m. Caregiving, L/CR
- 10:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels
- 5:30 p.m. Wider Net Committee, L/CR

Tuesday, September 29

- 12:00 p.m. Lunch & Learn, GH
- 5:30 p.m. Missions Committee, L/CR

Wednesday, September 30

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

Friday, October 2

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

Sunday, October 4

- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service/Communion/Baptism
- 11:30 a.m. Reception for Lesley Ratcliff, GH
- 5:00 p.m. Atrium & Four5Six
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Sunday Night, YH
- 5:30 p.m. Blessing of the Animals

MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

Every member a minister

The Deacon of the Week is Bill Thompson.
The Caregiving Chair for September is Sarah Reynolds.
The Caregiving Coordinator for September is Gail England.
The Caregiver of the Week is Amanda Milam.
The Liturgist for today is Amy Finkelberg.
The flowers for today are provided by Kandy Sims.
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
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211
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