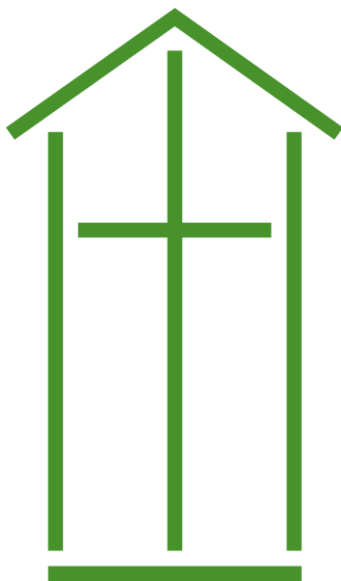




THE WORSHIP OF GOD

“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

—Matthew 22:36-40

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 4, 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

“‘Love your neighbor as yourself’ is part of the great commandment. The other way to say it is, ‘Love yourself as your neighbor.’”

—Frederick Buechner
Telling Secrets

The Prelude “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” Tucker

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. 701 BEECHER

“God Is Here!”

*The Litany of Praise Carrie Blount

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Come into this sacred space to worship God,

People: Whose teachings are perfect; whose directions are sure.

Leader: Come into this holy place to worship God,

People: **Whose standards are right; whose commandment is clear; whose judgments are true.**

Leader: Come – let us worship God.

All: **Let the words of our mouths and the whispering of our hearts be according to your will. Amen.**

—adapted from Psalm 19

*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

Carrie Blount

The Witness of Christian Baptism

Rhodes Massey
Mary Alden Ratcliff

The Baptismal Affirmation

In Unison

Rhodes and Mary Alden, we share in your joy today. Your profession of “Jesus Is Lord” has made you one with us and with all believers everywhere. May today mark the beginning of your journey toward both the molding of your life to Christ’s example and the discovery of your unique gifts for the betterment of the world in Christ’s service. We pledge to you our encouragement and all the resources of our congregation as you continue to grow in Christ. May the peace of God the Father, the fellowship of the Spirit, and the love of the Son be with you always.

The Greeting

Masyn Evans-Clements

The Lessons

Masyn Evans-Clements

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Psalm 19

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

There is nothing we want more, God, than to be who you want us to be; careful in all we do, joyful every day and thankful for the lives you have granted us. We wish nothing more than to be filled with your Holy Spirit in all we do and to share the kind of love you offer all. Forgive us when we fail. Help us do better. Amen.

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

Geoff Davidson

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Geoff Davidson

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. 768

DOVE OF PEACE

“I Come with Joy”

*The Offertory Prayer

Carrie Blount

The Offertory

“Child of the Light”

Coker

*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 21:33-46

Scott Dickison

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Anthem

“Sing a New Song”

Schütz

Amulet Strange, *flute*

Sing a new song to God the Lord,
Sing and give praise with one accord.
For His salvation He doth give,
That, through His mercy, we may live.

Worship the Lord in holiness,
Hymns of great joy to Him address.
Honor His works and bless His name,
His grace and truth to all proclaim.

Heaven above and earth below,
Ocean and field His glory show.
All of God's creatures sing His praise,
Let us now too our voices raise.

Glory and thanks to Him belong,
Honor Him evermore in song.

The Sermon

“Who God Is”

Scott Dickison

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Passing of the Peace

The Call to the Table

Lesley Ratcliff

The Communion Litany

Pastor: On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples and said, "Take, eat. This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

People: **Thanks be to God for the broken bread.**

Pastor: After supper, he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them and said, “Drink this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.”

People: **Thanks be to God for the cup.**

Pastor: Thanks be to God for the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus.

All: **Thanks be to God for the table of communion.**

The congregation is invited to come forward by the center aisle, receive the bread, dip it into the cup, and return to the pews by an outside aisle. Anyone preferring to receive a blessing should simply cross their arms over their chest as if in prayer, and the deacon will offer a blessing. A gluten-free option is available from the pastors at the communion table.

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

“God loves us exactly the way we are, and God loves us too much to let us stay exactly the way we are.”

—Anne Lamott
Traveling Mercies

*The Recessional Hymn No. 593

GIFT OF LOVE

“The Gift of Love”

*The Benediction

Scott Dickison

*The Postlude

Hobby

“Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds”

**The congregation will please stand.*

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

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20, page 58

Psalms 19, page 433

Matthew 21:33-46, page 803

Today is the Nineteenth 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.

ONGOING CAREGIVING CONCERNS

Gorman Schaffer
Carla Holt

Virginia Hamilton
Lillian McMullan

Beth Israel Congregation
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 8	Bo Allen
October 15	Sunny Fowler
October 22	TBA

Meals on Wheels

Monday, October 5

Cooks:

Peggy Brady
Rebecca Starling
Amanda Milam

Drivers:

Rt. 1: Amy Finkelberg & Nancy Smith
Rt. 2: Keith Davis & James Bethea

———— ANNOUNCEMENTS ————

Reception for Lesley Ratcliff

Today, in the Great Hall

Join us immediately following worship 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.

Blessing of the Animals

Today at 5:30 p.m.

Everyone is invited to bring their pet to the Northminster Amphitheater for a blessing on St. Francis Day at 5:30 p.m.

If your pet does not enjoy large groups of people and animals, you can bring a photo to be blessed.

We'll have a brief service of blessing then enjoy ice cream for the humans and treats for the pets!

(In the event of rain, this outdoor activity will be cancelled.)

Wednesday Night Supper

Wednesday, October 7

5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall

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

Menu: hamburger steak with gravy, mashed potatoes,
sweet peas, salad, roll and dessert

Servers: Hilda Boteler, Amy Moremen,
Judy Rankin and Carol Taff

Cashier: George Luter

FALL ADULT STUDIES

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."

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.



Book Buddies Needed at Spann Elementary School

Reading buddies are needed for one hour per week any time between 7:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. 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 Masyn Evans-Clements at masyn@northminsterbaptist.org or call the church office at 601-982-4703.

———— YOUTH NEWS ————

Youth Sunday School

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

Youth ReCreate Fall Retreat

Friday, November 6—Sunday, November 8

Come get away at Camp Wesley Pines with the Northminster Youth Ministry for a retreat focused on practicing Sabbath and renewal! The cost is \$35. We'll be wearing this year's youth shirt on Sunday of that week, so if your student doesn't have one, please contact Geoff. The deadline for registration is October 28.

2027 Youth Missions Trip: Registration Open!

Youth mission trip to Waco, TX, July 3-8 or 9, 2027. The cost is \$275, which includes a \$75 deposit.

———— CHILDREN'S NEWS ————

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 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 Saturday, November 7 and return in time for worship at Northminster on November 8. Registration is opening soon.

THE CHURCH IN SERVICE

Sunday, October 4

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

Monday, October 5

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

Tuesday, October 6

- 5:30 p.m. Adult Ministries Committee, L/CR

Wednesday, October 7

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

Friday, October 9

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

Saturday, October 10

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Workshop, GH

Sunday, October 11

- 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

MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

Every member a minister

The Deacon of the Week is Kelley Williams, Jr.
The Caregiving Chair for October is Guy Parker III.
The Caregiving Coordinator for October is Guy Parker III.
The Caregiver of the Week is Becky Parker.
The Liturgist for today is Shirley Sanders Foster.
The flowers for today are provided by Jane Claire Williams.
The Usher Captain for October 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 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

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