



NORTHMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

All Saint's Day
November 1, 2020
10:30am

GATHERING

Welcome

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

Prelude

Brethren, We Have Met to Worship
Susan Van Wick, French Horn

arr. Stan Pethel

Call to Worship - based on Psalm 34

I will bless the Lord at all times.

God's praise will continually be in my mouth.

**Our souls makes their boast in the Lord;
let the humble hear and be glad.**

O magnify the Lord with me,
and let us exalt God's good name together.

**We sought the Lord, and God answered us,
and delivered us from all our fears.**

Look to God, and be radiant;
so your faces shall never be cast down.

**Our poor souls cried, and were heard by the Lord,
and were saved from every trouble.**

The angels of the Lord encamp
around those who trust God, and delivers them.

**O taste and see that the Lord is good;
blessed are those who take refuge in God.**

O worship the Lord, you God's holy ones,
for those who worship God have no want.

**Even the young suffer want and hunger,
but those who seek the Lord lack no good blessing.**

Morning Prayer

*Hymn #612

We Praise You, O God

We praise you, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor; in grate - ful de -
 We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers and moth - ers; through tri - al and
 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer and glad - ly our
 vo - tion our trib - ute we bring. We lay it be - fore you; we kneel and a -
 tem - pest our guide you have been. When per - ils o're - take us, you will not for -
 songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise. With you, Lord, be - side us, your strong arm will
 dore you; we bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.
 sake us, and with your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.
 guide us. To you, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

Call to Confession

Confession

**Eternal God, in every age and season
 you have raised up men and women to live and die in faith.
 Forgive our indifference to your loving will.
 You have called us to speak, but we have been silent.
 You have called us to do what is just, but we have been fearful.
 Have mercy on us, your often faithless servants.
 Keep before us faithful people for us to follow
 so that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,
 we may grow in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,
 to the praise of your holy name.
 Hear our prayers ...**

[silent prayers]

Assurance of Mercy

*Response #627

I Love You, Lord

I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice to wor - ship you; O my soul, re - joice.
 Take joy, my King, in what you hear; may it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear.

*Signs of Peace

Announcements and Reminders

LISTENING

Prayers of Intercession

Lord's Prayer

INFORMATION

Welcome to our guests!

Whether you are sharing in the worship of God with us for the first time, visiting with family or friends, or returning for a visit to your home church, we welcome you today in the name of Jesus. Please share some contact information with us so we can follow up with you and make a place for you in our weekly fellowship. You may email our church office at admin@northminstermacon.org.

Pastoral Care

Pastor Ralph welcomes and encourages opportunities to share in fellowship, pastoral conversation, and spiritual discernment. He keeps office hours most mornings at the church, but is always available by appointment. You are always welcome to call or text at 478-250-3355 or to reach out by email: pastorhawkins@northminstermacon.org

Lectionary Readings

Nov. 1, All Saint's Day – Revelation 7:9-17; Psalm 34:1-10, 22; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12

Nov. 8, 23rd Sunday after Pentecost – Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25; Psalm 78:1-7; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

PRAYER CONCERNS

If you have a need or a request for prayer, please contact the church office at 477-6646, or you could join us at our prayer group that meets the third Thursday of the month at 10:00 AM in Room 108.

Current Member Concerns: Ann R. Smith; Karen Jones; Jewel James; Ann Hall; Jane Ebey; John Hurst; John Geerlings; Grace Goodwin; Mary Ann Ellis; Kathy Wheeler; Andy Weaver; Shelby Duffy

Current Friends and Family Concerns: Margaret Yawn; Donna Carole Kitchens; Nelda Crow; Kirk Knox

Military Personnel Prayer List: Austin Riley; T. Wright Goodwin, IV; James C. Watwood; Joshua Sulkers

Small Group Get-Togethers

Everyone is invited to join one of our fall small group get-togethers. These are being hosted in both virtual and in-person formats with the goal of making sure everyone can be included. Please see the schedule below and contact Jennifer in the church office at 478-477-6646 or admin@northminstermacon.org to reserve a spot.

- Monday, November 2, 7:00pm via Zoom (Host: Emily Brown)
- Tuesday, November 3, 7:00pm via Conference Call (Host: Emily Brown)
- Wednesday, November 4, 7:30pm via Zoom (Host: Al Fatkin)
- Thursday, November 5, 4:30pm at Northminster (Host: Emily Brown)
- Sunday, November 8, 4:30pm at Jeanne Roddenberry's
- Wednesday, November 11, 5:30pm at Northminster (Host: Emily Brown)

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Our calling at Northminster is to make disciples, to grow in faith together, and to serve others in Christ.

CONGREGATION: Ministers of the Good News

SESSION of Ruling Elders: Sam Alderman, III; Boyd Ellison; Judy Hill; Ricky Smith; Ann Weaver
Emily Brown; Beau Kitchens; Lynn Denny; Charlotte Nolan; Sandra Ridgeway

RALPH HAWKINS, Pastor and Teaching Elder PAUL EVANS, Parish Associate
SANDRA SMITH, Music Director KAREN JONES, Clerk of Session
BENJAMIN GAIL, Sexton JENNIFER WHITEHEAD, Ministry Assistant

Office hours this week: Mon-Fri 9:00-1:00

WWW.NORTHMINSTERMACON.ORG

478-477-6646

565 WIMBISH RD. MACON, GA 31210



FOODIE FUNDRAISER

FOODIEFUNDRAISER.ORG

THIS RESTAURANT IS PARTICIPATING IN

4TH ANNUAL FOODIE FUNDRAISER – GIVING BACK

BENEFITING LOAVES & FISHES MINISTRY OF MACON

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2020

EAT OUT TO FIGHT POVERTY

PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS

- Bonefish Grill
- Bossa Novas
- Brasserie Circa
- Dawson's Kitchen
- Downtown Grill
- El Sombrero (Forsyth Rd)
- Fall Line Brewing Co.
- Fatty's Pizza
- Fish N' Pig
- Greek Corner Pizza
- The Grey Goose Player's Club
- Ingleside Village Pizza
- Jag's Pizzeria & Pub
- Jim Shaw's Seafood Grill
- Just Tap'd
- Kudzu Seafood Company
- Longhorn Steakhouse
- Miramar
- Ocmulgee Brewpub
- Oliver's Corner Bistro
- Parish on Cherry
- Piedmont Brewery and Kitchen
- S&S Cafeterias
- Texas Border Grill
- Your Pie
- Zaxby's



SUPPORT OUR LOCAL RESTAURANTS AS WE FIGHT POVERTY AND HUNGER IN MIDDLE GA.

This year, we're asking YOU to dine-in or take-out on November 5, 2020 to support our participating restaurants who have been hit so hard by the Covid-19 crisis. We also encourage you to make a donation to Loaves & Fishes when you pick up your food or online at

FOODIEFUNDRAISER.ORG

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS WHO HAVE MADE THIS EVENT POSSIBLE

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- Three Rivers Home Health

PATRONS

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- Grist Law Firm
- L.E. Schwartz & Sons, Inc.
- MidSouth Community FCU

- Signature Dentistry of Macon
- Beall Financial Planning, Inc.
- Skin Care Physicians of Georgia
- Vicki Coker Williams

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Monday Morning

I'm not saying that I have this all together, that I have it made. But I am well on my way, reaching out for Christ, who has so wondrously reached out for me. Friends, don't get me wrong: By no means do I count myself an expert in all of this, but I've got my eye on the goal, where God is beckoning us onward—to Jesus. I'm off and running, and I'm not turning back.

So let's keep focused on that goal, those of us who want everything God has for us. If any of you have something else in mind, something less than total commitment, God will clear your blurred vision—you'll see it yet! Now that we're on the right track, let's stay on it. Stick with me, friends. Keep track of those you see running this same course, headed for this same goal. There are many out there taking other paths, choosing other goals, and trying to get you to go along with them. I've warned you of them many times; sadly, I'm having to do it again. All they want is easy street. They hate Christ's Cross. But easy street is a dead-end street. Those who live there make their bellies their gods; belches are their praise; all they can think of is their appetites.

But there's far more to life for us. We're citizens of high heaven! We're waiting the arrival of the Savior, the Master, Jesus Christ, who will transform our earthy bodies into glorious bodies like his own. He'll make us beautiful and whole with the same powerful skill by which he is putting everything as it should be, under and around him.

Philippians 3:12-21, The Message

We beg you, Lord, to help and defend us. Deliver the oppressed, pity the insignificant, raise the fallen, show yourself to the needy, heal the sick, bring back those of your people who have gone astray, feed the hungry, lift up the weak, take off the prisoners' chains. May every nation come to know that you alone are God, that Jesus Christ is your Child, that we are your people, the sheep that you pasture.

Clement of Rome, 1st century

Politics is the process of making decisions amid diverse opinions. It involves conversation, calm deliberation, self-discipline, the capacity to listen to other points of view and balance valid but competing ideas and interests.

David Brooks, 2015

“Jesus is Lord” (Romans 10:9) was proclaimed by the early church, as their most concise creedal statement. No one ever told me this was a political and subversive statement, until I learned a bit of Bible history. To say “Jesus is Lord!” was testing and provoking the Roman pledge of allegiance that every Roman citizen had to proclaim when they raised their hand to the imperial insignia and shouted, “Caesar is Lord!” Early Christians were quite aware that their “citizenship” was in a new universal kingdom, announced by Jesus (Philippians 3:20), and that the kingdoms of this world were not their primary loyalty systems. How did we manage to lose that? And what price have we paid for it?

Jesus showed no undue loyalty either to his Jewish religion nor to his Roman-occupied Jewish country; instead, he radically critiqued both of them, and in that he revealed and warned against the idolatrous relationships that most people have with their country and their religion. It has allowed us to justify violence in almost every form and to ignore much of the central teaching of Jesus.

Richard Rohr, from *Spiral of Violence: The World, the Flesh, and the Devil*

God’s redeeming work in Jesus Christ embraces the whole of human life: social and cultural, economic and political, scientific and technological, individual and corporate. It includes the natural environment as exploited and despoiled by sin. It is the will of God that the divine purpose for human life shall be fulfilled under the rule of Christ and all evil be banished from creation.

Biblical visions and images of the rule of Christ, such as a heavenly city, the household of God, a new heaven and earth, a marriage feast, and an unending day culminate in the image of the kingdom. The kingdom represents God’s triumph over all that resists the divine will and disrupts God’s creation. Already God’s reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in all people and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption.

With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God.

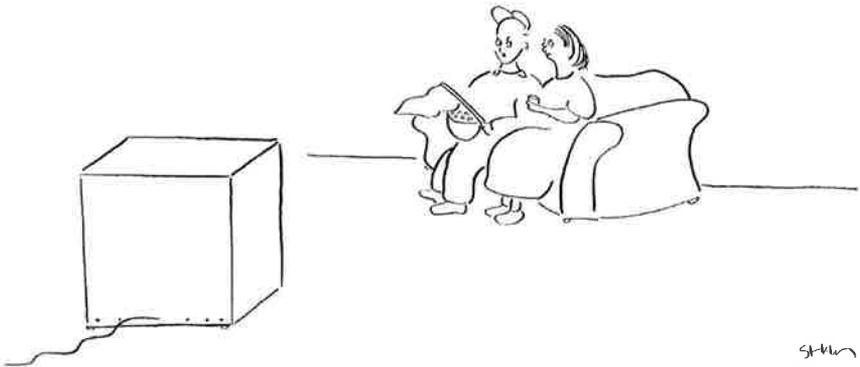
Presbyterian Confession of 1967

God sends the church in the power of the Holy Spirit to share with Christ in establishing God's just, peaceable, and loving rule in the world. God's reconciliation in Jesus Christ is the ground of justice and peace. The church in worship proclaims, receives, and enacts reconciliation in Jesus Christ and commits itself to strive for justice and peace in its own life and in the world.

Justice is the order God sets in human life for fair and honest dealing and for giving rights to those who have no power to claim rights for themselves. The biblical vision of doing justice calls for

- a. dealing honestly in personal and public business,
- b. exercising power for the common good,
- c. supporting people who seek the dignity, freedom, and respect that they have been denied,
- d. working for fair laws and just administration of the law,
- e. welcoming the stranger in the land,
- f. seeking to overcome the disparity between rich and poor,
- g. bearing witness against political oppression and exploitation,
- h. redressing wrongs against individuals, groups, and peoples in the church, in this nation, and in the whole world.

"Worship and the Ministry of the Church in the World"
Presbyterian *Directory for Worship*



"They should make the election best of seven."

It's a world of confusion, Lord:
we are muddled in our thinking;
we are mixed in our emotions;
we are inconsistent in our actions.

It's a world of lies, Lord:
we deceive ourselves about our motives and intentions;
we mislead others with double-speak and spin;
we exploit you as an agent of social control and repression.

It's a world of greed, Lord:
we worship the idol of the market;
we honour the false prophets of profit;
we reduce people to punters and nations to debt.

It's a world of violence, Lord:
we deploy the technology of terror to protect our own interests;
we invest our children in the business of bloodshed;
we justify war as first strike, last resort, or final solution.

It's a world of vengeance, Lord:
we allow the wounds of history to fester;
we refuse the healing of memories;
we betray the living out of mistaken loyalty to the dead.

Oh Lord,
in this world of confusion, make us a people of clarity;
in this world of lies, make us a people of integrity;
in this world of greed, make us a people of generosity;
in this world of violence, make us a people of peace;
in this world of vengeance, make us a people of mercy:
in the name of Christ:
Amen.

Kim Fabricius