



NORTHMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

July 11, 2021

10:30am

GATHERING

Greeting

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

Prelude

Prelude in Classic Style
Tom Granum, guest organist

Gordon Young

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

The Lord calls us today to be people of justice and mercy.

Our worship is hollow if it focuses only on our own gratification.

The Lord asks that our words of hope become actions of peace.

Thanks be to God who challenges and calls us.

Let our ministry together bring peace and justice.

Let our lives reflect God's love and mercy. Amen.

*Hymn #772

Live into Hope

Live into hope of captives freed, of sight regained, the end of greed.
The oppressed shall be the first to see the year of God's own jubilee!

Live into hope! The blind shall see with insight and with clarity,
removing shades of pride and fear, a vision of our God brought near.

Live into hope of liberty, the right to speak, the right to be,
the right to have one's daily bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.

Live into hope of captives freed from chains of fear or want or greed.
God now proclaims our full release to faith and hope and joy and peace.

CONFESSING

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Gracious and loving God, open our hearts so that we are able to admit to you the fullness of our lives – that which is beautiful and good, and that which is hurtful and hateful.

We confess that we do not follow Jesus in all that we do.

We love with condition. We judge and condemn. We cast the first stone, and keep the logs in our own eyes. We do not turn to You as the source of our healing. Forgive us, we pray.

Forgive our sin, and empower us to be imitators of Christ in love and service. And hear now our silent prayers...

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Passing of the Peace

LISTENING

Announcements and Invitations

Prayers of Intercession

*Hymn #463

How Firm a Foundation

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go, the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie, my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose, I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture – Psalm 121

*Hymn #175

Seek Ye First

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek and you shall find;
knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

You shall not live by bread alone, but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God. Allelu, alleluia!

Scripture – Luke 18:1-8

Sermon

**SUMMER OF PARABLES:
The Judge v. The Widow**

Brandon Davis
summer intern

DEPARTING

*Hymn #647

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.

And now let the weak say, "We are strong"; let the poor say,
"We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!"

And now let the weak say, "We are strong"; let the poor say,
"We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!"
Give thanks. Give thanks.

*Affirmation of Faith — The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Benediction

*Response

Northumbria Community

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever he may send you. May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm. May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you. May he bring you home rejoicing, once again into our doors.

Postlude

How Firm a Foundation

Charles Callhan

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Information & Announcements

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 or by scanning the QR code to the right.



Student Pastor Intern

Brandon Davis is a third-year M. Div student at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA. Brandon is originally from Goldsboro, NC but spent the last 10 years in the western NC mountains. He received a BA in Religious Studies from Appalachian State in 2014. After graduating, he worked for a Presbyterian Church as a youth pastor from 2015 until 2020 in Banner Elk, NC. During his free time, Brandon enjoys playing disc golf, watching the New Orleans Saints and UNC basketball, and reading outside. He is really excited for the opportunity to join Northminster and Wayside for this summer internship! If you would like to send Brandon a welcome message or note of encouragement, his email address is brandondavis919@gmail.com and his cell phone is 828-773-3923

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

Sanctuary Flowers

Flowers this week have been given to the glory of God by Minor and Natalie Vernon in celebration of their June anniversary.

Lectionary Readings

July 11, 7th Sunday after Pentecost – 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19; Psalm 24; Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6:14-29

July 18, 8th Sunday after Pentecost – 2 Samuel 7:1-14a, Psalm 89:20-37; Ephesians 2:11-22; Mark 6:30-34

PRAYER CONCERNS

If you have a need or a request for prayer, please contact the church office.

Current Member Concerns: Ann R. Smith; Karen Jones; Jewel James; Ann Hall; Jane Ebey; John Hurst; Jon Geerlings; Kathy Wheeler; Fran Mayhew; Betty Barlow; Ricky Smith; Jack Gleaton; Donna Shuford; Frank Clark; Gail Rabai; Kathy McCord

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

Military Personnel Prayer List: Austin Riley; James C Watwood; Joshua Sulkers; Isaac Falkenstine

Bible Study with Brandon

The book of Jonah is one that is often read to young children, but rarely studied by adults. We tell the story of Jonah being swallowed by the whale but eventually he is spit out to live with God, but the story is so much more complex than that summary. This summer, join Brandon as we explore the fear, pride, fleeing, and pouting of Jonah on Wednesday evenings, 7 PM in the Fellowship Hall, from July 14 through August 4.

Youth

Just a reminder for the youth that we will have our lake day at the Fatkins' Saturday, July 17, beginning at noon with lunch and snacks provided. Please call or email the church office for their address or check the Realm directory. All you need to bring is your towel and your swimsuit! In the event of rain, we will meet at Pin Strikes Bowling at 4318 Sheraton Drive in Macon for some bowling fun, but that's only if the day is a complete washout. Saturday, July 31, the youth will meet at Amerson River Park for a float down the Ocmulgee River. Mark your calendars and come join us for a great time!

Church office closed July 12-14

Ministry assistant, Jennifer Whitehead will be on vacation Monday, July 12-Wednesday, July 14. The church will be closed these days and will reopen Thursday at 8:00am.

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: Kari Alderman; Emily Brown; Lynn Denny; Roland Hill; Jan Hirsh; Beau Kitchens; Melissa McDougald; Charlotte Nolan; Sandra Ridgeway; Minor Vernon

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: Thursday - Friday 8:00-1:00