



NORTHMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

July 25, 2021

10:30am

GATHERING

Greeting

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

Prelude

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing
Generation Fusion Trio

arr. Sharon Wilson

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship – based on Hymn 620

Praise, our souls, the King of heaven;
to God's feet our tribute of love we bring.

**Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
evermore God's good praises we sing.**

Praise God for such grace and favor
to God's people in their life's distress.

**We praise God still the same as ever.
God is slow to chide, and swift to bless.**

Alleluia! Alleluia!

We praise the everlasting King.

*Hymn #620

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to his feet your tribute bring; ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
evermore his praises sing: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favor to his people in distress; praise him still the same as ever, slow to chide,
and swift to bless: Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like, he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows; in his hands he gently bears us, rescues
us from all our foes. Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely yet his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him; you behold him face to face. Sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all
in time and space: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

CONFESSING

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Dear Jesus,
it is hard sometimes to forgive people
when they hurt us or hurt our friends.**

**We want to strike back—
and sometimes we do.**

**But you teach us to love our enemies
and to work for healing justice
no matter what they do.**

**Forgive us, Lord Jesus,
when we do not forgive others.
Help us to understand why people hurt others,
and let our hearts be filled with love for all you love.**

Hear now our prayers ...

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Passing of the Peace

LISTENING

Announcements and Invitations

Prayers of Intercession and Lord's Prayer

Hymn #819

Be Still My Soul

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side. Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.
Leave to thy God to order and provide, who through all changes faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake to guide the future surely as the past.
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake; all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know his voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on when we shall be forever with the Lord;
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture – Matthew 5:1-13

Interlude

Bist Du Bei Mir

arr. Sharon Wilson

Scripture – Matthew 18:23-35

Sermon

SUMMER OF PARABLES: The unforgiving servant

DEPARTING

*Hymn #837

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms;
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.
Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, leaning on the everlasting arms;
O how bright the path grows from day to day, leaning on the everlasting arms.
Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms;
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting arms.
Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

*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

Hornpipe

arr. Sherry Lewis

Special thanks to **Generation Fusion Trio** for leading our music today

Pat McCall, violin

Kyla Gwyn, violin

Spencer Brewer, cello

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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.



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 Jan Hirsh in loving memory of her parents, James and Lavenia Kimbell.

Lectionary Readings

July 25, 9th Sunday after Pentecost – 2 Samuel 11:1-15, Psalm 14; Ephesians 3:14-21; John 6:1-21

August 1, 10th Sunday after Pentecost – 2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a; Psalm 51:1-12; Ephesians 4:1-16; John 6:24-35

PRAYER CONCERNS

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

Current Member Concerns: Ann R. Smith; Jewel James; Jane Ebey; Jon Geerlings; Kathy Wheeler; Betty Barlow; Jack Gleaton; Donna Shuford

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

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 through August 4.

Flint River Presbytery continues: Wellness In Your Wiser Years

Tomorrow, **July 26th at 2pm via Zoom**, Flint River Presbytery will host another session in the series, "Wellness In Your Wiser Years," for "Prevention Tips for Staying Healthy." Taught by TWO doctors, Lynn Denny and Sandra Zornes, we will learn how to stay OUT of the doctor's office altogether! Email Elizabeth Cantrell at ecantrell@flintriverpresbytery.org to register.

Youth

Inviting all youth to mark your calendars for Saturday, July 31st for a float down the river at Amerson River Park. Time is to be announced.

Backpack Ministry

Volunteers needed to deliver food items to Rosa Taylor 1-2 times a month. Some of our volunteers have been helping for several years, and we'd love to see some new faces in this ministry. Please contact Suzann Smith if you can help. 478-718-1021 or rcswws4850@gmail.com

Reception for Benjamin Gail – August 1st

Sunday, August 1st, immediately following the worship service, we invite you to join us for a reception honoring Benjamin Gail and his nearly 12 years of service to Northminster. You should have received or will be soon receiving a letter with details about Benjamin's plans for his future. Monetary gifts will also be collected for Benjamin.

Train Day – October 9th

You're invited to join us Saturday, October 9th, for a train tour in Nashville, GA. We will depart Northminster at 9:30am via chartered bus and return around 5pm. Please bring a picnic lunch; drinks and ice will be provided. Registration deadline is September 30th. The cost is \$25 for 1 person, \$45 for 2, \$60 for 3 or \$80 for 4. Details for the registration process will begin in August.

Women's Retreat – November 12-13

All women, ages 13 and wiser, are invited to come and bring a friend, mother, daughter, or other female family member to our fall women's retreat. Author and pastor, Lisa Hickman, will be our guest speaker for this even which will be held Friday from 6pm-8:30pm and Saturday from 9am-2pm at Northminster. Registration will begin in August and run through November 7th. Early registration (by Oct. 1st) is \$20 per person. Regular registration (after Oct. 1st) is \$25 per person.

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: Monday - Friday 8:00-1:00