



NORTHMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

September 5, 2021

10:30am

GATHERING

Greeting

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

Prelude

America the Beautiful

arr. Anna Laura Page

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship — based on Hymn 246

Christ our friend is alive!

Let all Christians here sing!

His cross stands empty to the sky.

Let all our streets and homes ring with praises.

Love, drowned in death, will never again die.

Women and men, in age and youth,

can feel God's Spirit and hear God's call.

We find the way, the life, the truth

in Jesus. He has been freed for all!

Christ is alive, and comes to bring

good news to this and every age,

till earth and sky and ocean ring

with joy, with justice, with love and praise!

*Hymn #246

Christ Is Alive!

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.
Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now, and touching every place and time.
In every insult, rift, and war where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died.
Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.
Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love and praise.

CONFESSING

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Risen Jesus,
our Lord and our Friend,
we celebrate your victory
over all our sin and death.**

**In your dying, you aligned yourself with us.
In your rising, you have destroyed the power of death.**

**Forgive us for living life lying down,
trapped in old habits and new hangups,
fearful and borrowing worry from tomorrow,
laid low by the defeated powers of this world.**

**Free us for joyful service,
lift us up for resurrection living,
point us again in the direction of the living God.**

Hear now our prayers of confession ...

Assurance of Forgiveness

Response to Forgiveness #627

I Love You, Lord

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

*Passing of the Peace

LISTENING

Announcements and Invitations

Mission Challenge: Raise the Roof for Loaves & Fishes

Hymn #250

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise:
butterflies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season, something God along can see.

There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody; there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me. From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity; in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity. In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

Prayer for Healing and Illumination

Scripture – James 1:19-27

Sermon in Music

Be Thou My Vision
Rebecca Layfield, soprano
Catherine Wooddy, alto

arr. Craig Courtney

Scripture – Acts 3:1-10

Sermon in Words

Victorious Vertical Living in a Hard Horizontal World

DEPARTING

*Hymn #733

We All Are One in Mission

We all are one in mission; we all are one in call, our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all. A single, great commission compels us from above to plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.

We all are called for service to witness in God's name. Our ministries are different; our purpose is the same: to touch the lives of others by God's surprising grace, so every folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.

Now let us be united and let our song be heard. Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming word. We all are one in mission; we all are one in call, our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.

Affirmation of Faith — from the 1998 Presbyterian Study Catechism

Question 63. **What is the mission of the church?**

The mission of the church is to bear witness to God's love for the world in Jesus Christ.

Question 64. **What forms does this mission take?**

The forms are as various as the forms of God's love, yet the center is always Jesus Christ. The church is faithful to its mission when it extends mercy and forgiveness to the needy in ways that point finally to him. For in the end it is always by Christ's mercy that the needs of the needy are met.

Question 65. **Who are the needy?**

The hungry need bread, the homeless need a roof, the oppressed need justice, and the lonely need fellowship. At the same time — on another and deeper level -- the hopeless need hope, sinners need forgiveness, and the world needs the gospel. On this level no one is excluded, and all the needy are one. Our mission as the church is to bring hope to a desperate world by declaring God's undying love — as one beggar tells another where to find bread.

*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



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 Nita Mitchell in loving memory of her husband, Louie Mitchell.

Lectionary Readings

September 5, 15th Sunday after Pentecost – Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23; Psalm 125; James 2:1-17; Mark 7:24-37
September 12, 16th Sunday after Pentecost – Proverbs 1:20-33; Psalm 19; James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38

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; Ann Hall; Jane Ebey; Jon Geerlings; Kathy Wheeler; Betty Barlow; Donna Shuford; Frank Clark; Beau Kitchens;

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

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

Train Day – October 9th

There's still room on the train tour in Nashville, GA! Registration deadline is Sept 30th. Cost is \$25 for 1 person \$45 for 2, \$60 for 3, or \$80 for 4. You may register via your Realm account, or by signing up on the enclosed response sheet. Payments may be turned in at the church or mailed in.

Women's Retreat – November 12-13

Registration is open online for the November Women's retreat. 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 event 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 Sept. 15) is \$20 per person. Regular registration (until Nov. 7) is \$25 per person. Additional information will be provided soon.

Church will be closed Monday, September 6th

The church will be closed September 6th in celebration of the Labor Day holiday.

Rise Against Hunger – Sunday, October 3rd at 2pm at Forsyth Presbyterian

If you would like to participate in the annual Rise Against Hunger food packing event, mark your calendar for October 3rd. You may also donate online at flitriverpresbytery.org

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 JENNIFER WHITEHEAD, Ministry Assistant

Office hours this week: Tuesday - Friday 8:30-1:00

Need some WIFI for schoolwork these next two weeks?



4pm – 7pm each Tuesday and Thursday
September 7, 9, 14, and 16

- Fast internet for schoolwork
- Plenty of quiet space for all
- Help with homework
- Clean restrooms
- Snacks!
- all Rosa Taylor **students** welcome!
- One **adult** must accompany each household
- Masks** are required for everyone's safety
- Bring your own internet **device**

just around the corner at

NORTHMINSTER
Presbyterian Church



565 Wimbish Road  only 1 mile from Rosa Taylor