



NORTHMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

October 10, 2021

10:30am

GATHERING

Greeting

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

Prelude

Be Still, My Soul
Pat McCall, violin

arr. Dennis Allen

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship — based on Psalm 67

God has been so gracious to us and blessed us
and made his face to shine upon us,

in giving us Jesus the Christ, our Friend.

May God's way be known throughout the earth,
God's saving power among all peoples,

the power we have seen in Jesus, our Healer.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

We praise you today for your goodness and grace!

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity

and you guide the nations toward your way.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

May God continue to bless us;

let all the ends of the earth revere God!

*Hymn #404

What Is This Place

What is this place, where we are meeting? Only a house, the earth its floor.

Walls and a roof, sheltering people, windows for light, an open door.

Yet it becomes a body that lives when we are gathered here, and know our God is near.

Words from afar, stars that are falling. Sparks that are sown in us like seed:

names for our God, dreams, signs, and wonders sent from the past are what we need.

We in this place remember and speak again what we have heard: God's free redeeming word.

And we accept bread at his table, broken and shared, a living sign.

Here in this world, dying and living, we are each other's bread and wine.

This is the place where we can receive what we need to increase: God's justice and God's peace.

CONFESSING

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you
with our whole heart and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.
Through Christ, our Lord,
in whose name we now pray ...**

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Response to Forgiveness #581

Gloria Patri

**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.**

*Affirmation of Faith — from the Presbyterian Book of Order

The great ends of the Church are:

**the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind;
the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God;
the maintenance of divine worship;
the preservation of the truth;
the promotion of social righteousness; and
the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.**

*Passing of the Peace

LISTENING

Announcements and Invitations

Prayer of Intercession and Lord's Prayer

Hymn #409

God Is Here!

God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer, may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.

Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace; here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place. Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech, here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.

Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold; here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old. Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.

Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work our purpose out. Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive: we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

Prayers for Illumination

Scripture – Romans 13:8-14

Sermon in Music

Morning Has Broken

arr. Catherine McMichael

Scripture – Mark 10:13-16

Sermon in Words

On the Blessings and Boundaries of Touch

DEPARTING

*Hymn #729

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

*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

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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 Mark and Emily Brown in loving memory of Kathleen Thomason and James Compton.

Lectionary Readings

October 10, 20th Sunday after Pentecost – Job 23:1-9, 16-17; Psalm 22:1-15; Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 10:17-31
October 17, 21st Sunday after Pentecost – Job 38:1-7 (34-41), 16-17; Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35; Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 10:35-45

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; Janet Kelly

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

Military Personnel Prayer List: Austin Riley; Joshua Sulkers; Isaac Falkenstine (Bonnie Diboll's grandson)

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 run through November 7th. Registration is \$25 per person.

Help with UKirk meals

If you are willing to provide a meal for the UKirk students, either by yourself or by teaming up with others, please contact Emory Whitaker at lewhitaker@cox.net or 478-737-5273

October Book Drive for Macon Recovers

Throughout the month of October we are collecting used books to help build the library at Macon Recovers. If you have any books you would like to donate, please put them in the "Neighborhood Nook" box located in the church foyer. All genres are welcome; however, we don't want to bring over anything too sad.

Thank you on behalf of Macon Recovers and the Neighborhood Committee.

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;

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: Monday - Friday 8:30-1:00