



# NORTHMINSTER

## *Presbyterian Church*

October 24, 2021

10:30am

### GATHERING

Greeting

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

Prelude

*A Mighty Fortress*  
Pat McCall, violin

arr. Anna Laura Past

Welcome and Opening Prayer

worship assistant, Emily Brown

Call to Worship

We gather to worship our living God.

**May our mouths be filled with laughter,  
and our tongues with shouts of joy!**

We sing and pray in thanksgiving to God:

**“The Lord has done great things for us.”**

The Lord has indeed done great things for us,  
**and so we rejoice and sing songs of praise.**

May anyone who sows in tears

**reap help and healing with shouts of joy.**

May those who go out weeping,

bearing the seed for sowing,

**may them come home with shouts of joy,  
carrying their sheaves.**

\*Hymn #74

*When God Restored Our Common Life*

When God restored our common life, our hope, our liberty, at first it seemed a passing dream, a waking fantasy; a shock of joy swept over us, for we had wept so long; the seeds we watered once with tears sprang up into a song.

We went forth weeping, sowing seeds in hard, unyielding soil; with laughing hearts we carry home the fruit of all our toil. We praise the One who gave the growth, with voices full and strong. The seeds we watered once with tears sprang up into a song.

Great liberating God, we pray for all who are oppressed. May those who long for what is right with justice now be blest. We pray for those who mourn this day, and all who suffer wrong; may seeds they water now with tears spring up into a song.

## CONFESSING

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Holy and merciful God,  
in your presence we confess  
our sinfulness, our shortcomings,  
and our many offenses against you.  
You alone know how often we have sinned  
in wandering from your ways,  
in wasting your gifts,  
in forgetting your love.**

**Have mercy on us, O Lord,  
for we are sorry for all we have done.  
Forgive our sins,  
and help us to live in your light  
and walk in your good ways,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
Hear our prayers ...**

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 — 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.**

\*Passing of the Peace

## LISTENING

Hymn #385

*All People That on Earth Do Dwell*

All people that on Earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell. Come ye before and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed; without our aid he did us make;  
we are his folk; he doth us freed, and for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise; approach with joy his courts unto;  
praise, laud, and bless his name always, for it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good; his mercy is forever sure;  
his truth at all times firmly stood, and shall from age to age endure.

Prayers of the People

Scripture – Psalm 126

Interlude

*O God Our Help In Ages Past*  
NPC Bell Choir

arr. Lloyd Larson

Scripture – Mark 10:46-52

Sermon

**Before the Healing**

guest pastor, Dena Hobbs

**DEPARTING**

\*Hymn #275

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing. Our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing. For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe. His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing, were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he. Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us. The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him. His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure. One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth. The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth. Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also. The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still. His kingdom is forever.

\*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 Guest Pastor, Dena Hobbs**

Today, we welcome back to our pulpit, Dena Hobbs. Dena is a graduate of the Union Theological Seminary & Presbyterian School of Christian Education in Richmond, Virginia. She currently lives in Bonaire with her husband and children where she also serves as the Episcopal Campus Minister at Mercer University and frequently preaches for sister churches within Flint River Presbytery.

**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](mailto: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](mailto:pastorhawkins@northminstermacon.org)

## **Sanctuary Flowers**

Flowers this week have been given to the glory of God by Haley & Hamilton Hirsh in honor of their mother, Jan Hirsh's, birthday.

## **Lectionary Readings**

October 24, 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Job 42:1-6, 10-17; Psalm 34:1-8; Hebrews 7:23-28; Mark 10:46-52  
October 31, Reformation Sunday – Ruth 1:1-18; Psalm 146; Hebrews 9:11-14; Mark 12:28-34

## **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; Lynn Davis

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)

## **Backpack Ministry Volunteers**

Our backpack ministry would love to add a few more volunteers to help deliver food bags to Rosa Taylor school. This would only be a once-a-month commitment during the school year and would not be needed over school holidays. If interested, please contact Suzann Smith at 478-718-2021.

## **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.

## **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Loaves & Fishes Foodie Fundraiser**

Loaves & Fishes Ministry invites you to take part in the 5th Annual Foodie Fundraiser Thursday, November 4th (Presented by Alex's PC Solutions and Burgess Pigments). Dine at a participating restaurant on Thursday, November 4th, and that restaurant will donate 5% of your tab to the Loaves and Fishes Ministry of Macon. For a copy of participating restaurants, email the church office or check your October 31st bulletin.

## **Congregational Meeting, November 7<sup>th</sup>**

We will have a congregational meeting with the intention of electing new elders following the service Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. Those on the ballot include Barbara Fatkin, Jinny McDuffie, Ray Mosely, Michael Napier and Ginny Whitaker.

### **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