

Simply

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free.
Till by turning, turning we come round right.



STEWARDSHIP

October 31, 2021

10:30am

GATHERING

Greeting

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

Prelude

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come
NPC Brass

arr. Al Terego

Call to Worship – based on hymn 35

Praise the Lord, the Almighty, the God of creation!

Our souls praise God, for health and salvation!

All who hear, now to this worship draw near;

We join the whole church in glad adoration!

Praise the Lord! O let all that is in us adore God!

All creation, all life and breath, come with your praises!

Let the amen sound from God's people again;

Gladly we adore the giver of Faith, Hope, and Love.

*Hymn #35

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation! all ye who hear, now to his temple draw near; join me in glad adoration!

Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth, shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth! Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him! Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly for aye we adore him.

CONFESSING

Call to Confession

Prayer of Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Response to Forgiveness #606 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Affirmation of Faith — from the Presbyterian Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

*Passing of the Peace

LISTENING

Moment for Mission and Stewardship Invitation

Hymn #286

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure, until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine, until this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die, but live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.

Prayers for Illumination

Scripture – Acts 2:41-47

Hymn

Simple Gifts

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free, 'Tis the gift to come down
4 where we ought to be, and when we find ourselves in the place just right,
7 'Twill be in the val - ley of love and de-light. When true sim - plic - i - ty is gained,
12 to bow and to bend we shan't be a-shamed, To turn, turn will be our de-light
17 Till by turn - ing, turn - ing we come round right.

Sermon in Words

**Simply Stewardship:
Glad and Generous Hearts**

*Hymn #309

Come, Great God of All the Ages

Come, great God of all the ages; make your earthly mission known;
speak through every deed and person; let your way and will be shown.
Guide the church to true commitment; give direction now we ask;
fit us for the work of building; dedicate us to the task.

Come, Christ Jesus, flesh and spirit, sure foundation, cornerstone;
help us form the church eternal; may your vision be our own.
Send a message to each follower; lead all people to your way;
urge us to strong faith and action as we build the church today.

Come, great Spirit, in and with us, tune our ears to hear your call;
through the moving of your presence, let redeeming love recall
ministry I dedication, love embodied in our deeds;
challenge us to do your bidding, see purpose, fill on needs.

Come, O come, in celebration, household of the one true God;
in commitment and rejoicing let us go where Christ has trod;
as we act in faith and reverence, let us, Lord, the future see;
place us in the church triumphant, now and for eternity.

FEASTING

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right for us to give thanks and praise...**

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy name, Thy Kingdom Come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sharing of Bread and Cup

All who desire the communion meal are invited to come forward to the table, receive a portion of bread from the pastor, take a cup from one of the elders, and return to the pew. We will share in the cup together once everyone has been served.

Music during Communion

Here I Am to Worship

arr. Michael Lawrence

Closing Unison Prayer

God of grace, you renew us at your table with the bread of life.

**May this food strengthen us in love
and help us to serve you in each other.**

We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Lord. Amen.

DEPARTING

*Benediction

*Sung 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.

Special Thanks to Our NPC Brass for today's music and to Tom Jones for his transpositions of the hymns.

Ray Lawrence, Frank Ellis, and Tom Jones, trumpet

Edward Clark, saxophone

Jeff Denny, trombone

All rights reserved, License #1244003

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 Charlotte Nolan in loving memory of her husband, Jim Nolan.

Lectionary Readings

November 7, 24th Sunday after Pentecost – Ruth 3:1-5,4:13-17; Psalm 127; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44

November 14, 25th Sunday after Pentecost - 1 Samuel 1:4-20, 2:1-10; Hebrews 10:11-25; Mark 13:1-8

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.

Congregational Meeting today after worship

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

Thank you for your October book donations

Thank you all for the book donations for Macon Recovers' library. The books and magazines will be enjoyed and are very appreciated.

- 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 - Thursday 8:30-1:00

478-477-6646

WWW.NORTHMINSTERMACON.ORG

565 WIMBISH RD. MACON, GA 31210