



NORTHMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

...making disciples, growing in faith together and serving others in Christ

October 30, 2022

21st Sunday after Pentecost

10:30am

GATHERING

Greeting

Prelude

All Creatures of Our God and King
Manou Chakravorty, Cello

arr. Ijames

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship — based on Psalm 24

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it.
For God has founded it on the seas,
and established it firmly on the deep.

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?
And who shall stand in God's holy place?
Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,
who do not lift up their souls to what is false.

By grace alone are we made clean
and welcomed into the company of saints!

Hymn #12

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:
thy justice, like mountains high soaring above; thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life thou givest, to both great and small. In all life thou livest, the true life of all.
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree, then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light. Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; O help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

CONFESSING

Call to Confession

Prayers of Confession

**Holy yet merciful God,
in your presence we confess
our sinfulness, our shortcomings,
and our 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 ashamed and sorry
for all we have done to displease you.**

**Forgive our sins,
and help us to live in your light
and walk in your ways,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

In his name, hear our confessions ...

Assurance of Forgiveness

Response to Forgiveness #581

Glory Be to the Father

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, amen.

*Passing the Peace

Announcements and Invitations

Gathering our Offerings

Offertory Music

It Is Well With My Soul

Manou Chakravorty, Cello

arr. Ijames

Doxology #606

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.

LISTENING

Prayers of Thanksgiving and for Illumination

Scripture – Luke 19:1-10

Hymn #643 (remain seated)

Now Thank We All Our God

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,
to Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
the God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.

Sermon – “Climb Down From that Tree”

Rev. Michael Ruffin

Hymn #744

Arise! Your Light Is Come!

Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today.

Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captives' liberty, good tidings to the poor.

Arise, your light is come! All you in sorrow born,
bind up the brokenhearted ones and comfort those who mourn.

Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song!
Rise us like eagles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

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.

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.

PRAYER CONCERNS

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

Current Member Concerns: Ann R. Smith; Ann Hall; Jane Ebey; Jon Geerlings; Kathy Wheeler; Frank Clark; Lynn Southerland; Steve, Helene, and baby Amelia Olk; Ricky Smith; Tom Jones (kidney issues); Nancy Miles; Ann Weaver

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

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

Sanctuary Flowers

Flowers today have been given to the grace of God by Brady, Trey, Ben, and Mary Beth Shuford as a thank you to NPC for showing love to our grandparents, Ann & Andy Weaver, this past year.

Welcome today's guest pastor, Michael Ruffin

Michael Ruffin is a retired pastor and editor. In his retirement he is a writer, a supply preacher, and an Adjunct Professor at Mercer University. He and his wife Debra have two children and two grandchildren.

Ghost Gathering for Gals – Drop-in this afternoon

All women are invited to drop in between 3:30-5:30 this afternoon at Liz Riley's for a fun fall gathering. Bring a party dish or snack to share and have fun in fellowship!

Choir Practices – Every Wednesday

Music Director, Gunner Chancey, invites all interested saints to come together in the choir room at 7PM on Wednesday evenings for choir rehearsal.

Macon Recovers Coat Drive

Our wonderful neighbors, Macon Recovers, are holding a winter coat drive now through November 30th. Please bring your gently used scarves, gloves, coats, socks, and hats to Northminster before November 30th or you may take your items directly to Macon Recovers Tuesday through Saturday between 11AM-7PM.

Loaves & Fishes Annual Foodie Fundraiser – This Thursday

Participation in this fundraiser is the easiest thing you might do all year! Simply eat at a participating restaurant on Thursday, November 3rd, and they will donate 5% of your meal price to the Macon Loaves & Fishes Ministry. For a list of participating restaurants, visit foodiefundraiser.org or contact the church office.

UKirk Wild Alaska Night – November 18 at 6PM

The UKirk Ministry is holding a fundraising dinner featuring salmon caught by Boyd Ellison. Tickets are \$30 each and available from Emory Whitaker, Jeff Denny, or Sam McDuffie. We will also host an ecumenical worship service in our sanctuary following dinner. If you would like to participate in the community choir of this service, see the enclosed flyer for rehearsal details.

Ecumenical Worship & Dialogue – November 18th at 7PM

Following the UKirk dinner, the Flint River Presbytery Young Adult Ministry, partnered with the UKirk-Episcopal Fellowship at Mercer, will host a worship service and dialogue. All are invited.

Community Choir Practices

As part of the Ecumenical service, all in the community are invited to participate in the choir. Rehearsals will be held in Northminster's sanctuary at the following times: Saturday, Nov. 5 from 9:30-10:30AM, Sunday, Nov. 13 from 4:00-5:00PM, and the day of the service, Nov. 18 from 5:00-5:45PM.

Youth Bottled Water Drive

The Northminster Youth have learned of a need for bottled water for the Loaves & Fishes Ministry, as they go through 45 cases a month! Even with cooler months coming, the need continues. We will be collecting bottled water from now through November 27th. Youth will be available to bring the waters from your car into the church, or a monetary donation is welcome. Simply put "water" in the check memo line or on your offering envelope. See Donna Shuford if you have any questions.

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; Barbara Fatkin; Roland Hill; Jan Hirsh; Melissa McDougald; Jinny McDuffie; Ray Mosely; Michael Napier; Minor Vernon; Genny Whitaker

RALPH HAWKINS, Pastor and Teaching Elder PAUL EVANS, Parish Associate GUNNER CHANCEY, Director of Music
KAREN JONES, Clerk of Session JENNIFER WHITEHEAD, Ministry Assistant

In-Office hours this week: Sunday, Monday, Thursday 9:00-1:00
Jennifer Cell: 478-318-7911