



NORTHMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

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

February 12, 2023

6th Sunday after Epiphany

10:30am

GATHERING

Chimes

Greeting

Prelude

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship — based on Hymn 409

Saints in the Lord, trust that God is here!

We meet again to offer praise and prayer.

May we find in full measure what it is in Christ we have.

We gather together our various gifts and offerings,
waiting the coming of the Spirit in our minds and hearts.

Jesus is Lord of all, of church and kingdom.

May we be faithful to his gospel, and to his purposes.

Here, in this day's dedication, we freely give and freely receive.

We are God's children. We are debtors to God's grace.

We adore the Lord! We believe!

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 life-long 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 your 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!

CONFESSING

Call to Confession

Prayers of Confession

Eternal and merciful God,
you have loved us with a love beyond our understanding,
and you have set us on paths of goodness for your name's sake.

**Yet often we have strayed from your way;
often we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
through what we have done and what we have left undone.**

As we remember the lavish gift of your grace
symbolized in baptism, O God,
we praise you and give you thanks that you forgive us yet again.

**Grant us now, we pray, the grace to die daily to sin,
and to rise daily to new life in Christ,
who lives and reigns with you,
and in whose strong name we pray ...**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Response to Forgiveness #610 *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

verses 1-2

O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of God's grace!

The name of Jesus charms our fears, and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears, brings life, and health, and peace.

Affirmation of Faith — Presbyterian Study Catechism

Question 1. What is God's purpose for my life?

God wills that we should live by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, for the love of God, and in the communion of the Holy Spirit.

Question 2. How do we live by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ?

We are not our own. We have been bought with a price. The Lord Jesus Christ loved us and gave himself for us. We entrust ourselves completely to his care, giving thanks each day for his wonderful goodness.

Question 3. How do we live for the love of God?

We love because God first loved us. God loves me in Christ with a love that never ends. Amazed by grace, I no longer live for myself. I live for the Lord who died and rose again, triumphant over death, for my sake. Therefore, we take those around us to heart, especially those in particular need, knowing that Christ died for them no less than for us.

Question 4. How do we live in the communion of the Holy Spirit?

By the Holy Spirit, we are made one with the Lord Jesus Christ. We are baptized into Christ's body, the church, along with all others who confess him by faith. As members of this community, we trust in God's Word, share in the Lord's Supper, and turn to God constantly in prayer. As we grow in grace and knowledge, we are led to do the good works that God intends for our lives.

*Passing the Peace

Announcements and Invitations

Gathering our Offerings

Offertory Music

Response — 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

Hymn #726 (remain seated)

Will You Come and Follow Me

“Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?”

“Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?”

“Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do suck as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?”

“Will you love the ‘you’ you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you’ve found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?”

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I’ll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I’ll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Scripture – Luke 23:44-24:12

Sermon – SISTERS OF JESUS: Women will be waiting for us up ahead

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.

DEPARTING

*Benediction

*Sung Response

May the Lord, Mighty God, bless and keep you forever.
Grant you peace; perfect peace, courage in every endeavor.
Lift up your eyes and see His face and His grace forever.
May the Lord, Mighty God, bless and keep you forever.

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; Kathy Wheeler; Frank Clark; Lynn Southerland; Tom Jones; Nancy Miles; Ann Weaver; Kathy McCord

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

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

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper – February 21 at 6:00pm

As Ash Wednesday approaches, Northminster is preparing our heart, mind and spirit for the liturgy and lessons of the season of Lent. We are excited this year to revive one of our favorite traditions: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper! Tuesday, February 21, join us at 6:00pm for food and fellowship as we celebrate God's abundant blessings and prepare our hearts for a Lenten season of reflection and prayer. Cost is \$5 per person with a \$20 maximum per family.

Men's Fellowship Dinner – February 26 at 6:00pm

Pastor Ralph and Elder Mike Napier invite all men, ages 10 to 100, to join us for a man-size dinner filled with great friends and conversation Sunday, February 26th at 6pm in the fellowship hall. Invite your friends and family to attend as well.

Women's Bible Study

Inviting all ladies! Women's Spring Bible Study will be held Wednesdays at 10AM and 6PM from March 1 to April 5 in the community room downstairs. The morning study will be led by Jeanne Roddenberry and Natalie Vernon. The evening study will be led by Virginia Cowsert and Lynn Denny. Please let us know on your blue response sheet which study you would like to attend.

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; Jeff Denny; Barbara Fatkin;
Nita McCord; Jinny McDuffie; Ray Mosely; Michael Napier; Donna Shuford; 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