



NORTHMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

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

June 25, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Pentecost

10:30am

GATHERING

Chimes

Welcome

Prelude

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship – based on Psalm 23

The Eternal is our shepherd, caring for us always.

**God provides rest in rich, green fields,
beside streams of refreshing water.**

God soothes our fears.

The Eternal makes us whole again,

**steering us off worn, hard paths
to roads where truth and righteousness echo God's name.**

Even in the unending shadows of death's darkness,

we are not overcome by fear.

Because You are with us in those dark moments,

near with Your protection and guidance.

We are comforted.

You spread out a table before us,

provisions in the midst of attack from all enemies.

You care for all our needs, anointing our heads with soothing, fragrant oil,

filling our cups again and again with Your grace.

Certainly Your faithful protection and loving provision will pursue us
wherever we go, always, everywhere.

**We will always be with the Eternal,
in Your house forever.**

My shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is his name.
In pastures fresh he makes me feed, beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake his ways,
and leads me, for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death your presence is my stay;
one word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread;
my cup with blessings overflows; your oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;
O may your house be my abode, and all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;
no more a stranger, or a guest, but like a child at home.

CONFESSING

Call to Confession

Prayers of Confession

**O Lord,
we are like sheep,
how often we get lost from the Way.
We forget the needs of our neighbors
and do not love you above all else.
We need a Savior,
and so we long for Jesus.
Come, fill our lives again
with your saving Spirit.**

Hear our prayers ...

Assurance of Forgiveness

Scripture – Philippians 2:1-4

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.

Affirmation of Faith – 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 the Peace

Announcements and Invitations

Moment for Mission – Update from our neighbors at Macon Recovers

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

Scripture – Luke 15:1-10

Hymn #649 (remain seated)

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see.

‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.
‘Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

When we’ve been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we’ve no less days to sing God’s praise than when we’d first begun.

Sermon – In praise of second chances

*Hymn #835

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

DEPARTING



*Charge and 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 & Evelyn Clark; Tom Jones; Nancy Miles; Kathy McCord - Current Friends and Family Concerns: Margaret Yawn; Donna Carole Kitchens; Joel Jones; 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

Sanctuary Flowers

Flowers this week are given to the glory of God by Michael and Chloe Napier in honor of M3's first birthday!

Pass the Red Book

Members, Friends, and visitors, please pass the red book down your pew to log your attendance. This allows us to share with our session the average weekly attendance and keep accurate records for annual reporting to the Presbytery. Don't worry, your contact information only stays within our church.

Youth Activities

The youth will meet each Sunday from tonight, June 25th, through July 16th at 6pm for dinner, games, and a study on prayer. If you would like to help provide a meal or lead one of the per-planned lessons on any Sunday night, please let Donna Shuford know (dwshuford@yahoo.com).

Christmas in July

This July, we will hold our annual Christmas in July offering supporting our backpack ministry and Rosa Taylor teachers. Your gifts to this ministry not only provide 26 children each week with nourishing bags of food for the weekend, but also helps teachers with classroom supplies.

Hymn Sing and Ice Cream

Join us Sunday, July 9th at 6pm for worship through hymns and fellowship with ice cream! This is a free event and we'd love to see everyone there. Invite your family and friends.

Lake Day for Children and Youth – July 22

All families with children and teens are invited to lake day at the home of Allen and Barbara Fatkin Saturday, July 22. Come out for a fun summer day on the water with your church family! Families are asked to bring a snack or drinks to share. Please contact Donna Shuford with questions about the events of the day or Jennifer for address information.

Welcome, Veritas Classical Schools

As you drive by throughout the weeks of summer, you may notice some extra activity here at Northminster. In May your session approved the rental of our downstairs to Veritas Classical School of Macon. This school is an accredited home study program, where students in grades K through 12 attend teacher-led classes Tuesdays and Thursdays (and Fridays for higher-level math) and complete their work at home under parent-led direction the remaining days of the week. We are excited to welcome this wonderful school to our church! Open House and classes will begin in August.

Line Dancing

The community line dance group from Theron Ussery Park (off Wimbish Rd) will be gathering here at Northminster in the fellowship hall throughout the summer every Thursday at 10:00am. You are welcome to come join the fun!

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, Wednesday-Friday 9:00-1:00

Jennifer Cell: 478-318-7911

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