



# NORTHMINSTER

## *Presbyterian Church*

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

July 30, 2023

Ninth Sunday of Pentecost

10:30am

### GATHERING

Chimes

Welcome

Prelude

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship – based on Psalm 27 and John 4:23

Let us worship God, our light and our salvation.

**The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.**

We desire to live in God's house

**and to seek God in his holy temple.**

We have come with shouts of joy,

**to sing and to make music to the Lord.**

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

**Teach us your ways and make straight our paths**

**in this hour of worship and always.**

\*Hymn #32

*I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise,  
that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.

I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day.

The moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.

God formed the creatures through the Word, and then pronounced them good.

Lord, how thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye,

if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flower below but makes thy glories known.  
And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from thy throne,  
while all that borrows life from thee is ever in thy care,  
and everywhere that we can be, thou, God, art present there.

## CONFESSING

Call to Confession

Prayers of Confession

**Holy and merciful God,  
in your presence we confess  
our sinfulness, our shortcomings,  
and our offenses again your law of love. [over]**

**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, I Lord,  
for we are humbled 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.**

**Hear our prayers ...**

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.

Affirmation of Faith — 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 the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

\*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

Scripture – Luke 14:1-24

Hymn #729 (remain seated)

*Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.  
In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.  
In my heart, in my heart, Lord I want to be more loving in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.  
In my heart, in my heart, Lord I want to be more holy in my heart.

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.  
In my heart, in my heart, Lord I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

Sermon – “For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

\*Hymn #716

*God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store,  
nature’s wonder, Jesus’ wisdom, costly cross, grave’s shattered door:  
gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise;  
thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:  
all at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the church made one.  
Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone.  
Born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.

Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your grace conferred:  
ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel word.  
Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ’s ageless call,  
healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.

### 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](mailto: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; Nancy Miles; Kathy McCord; Annette Hutto - 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); James Watwood

### Sanctuary Flowers

If you would like to provide flowers for a Sunday worship service, simply check the board in the Narthex in the rear of the sanctuary and sign up for the date you'd like. Arrangements are \$65 each; payments are made to Northminster.

### Christmas in July

This July, we will be holding 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.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Lunch

Today immediately after the service, we invite you to join us in the fellowship hall for lunch. All are invited!

### Rosa Taylor Prayer Walk

After the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday lunch, at 1:30pm, all who are interested are invited to join the neighborhood committee at Rosa Taylor Elementary school to pray for a positive and safe start to the new school year for students, teacher, and staff.

### Sunday Morning Coffee Hour

Beginning Sunday, August 6, we will hold a drop-in coffee hour before the worship service. Doors open at 9:30am. Grab a friend and a cup of coffee and enjoy this casual hour of fellowship.

### Women's Fall Bible Study

This fall, Pastor Ralph will lead a 7-week Bible Study: Seven Sisters of Moses. All ladies are invited to attend either at 10:00am or 6pm every Wednesday from September 20 through November 1.

### 2023 Women's Retreat

Mark your calendars for this year's annual women's retreat: Friday and Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. Details are forthcoming.

### 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

All rights reserved, License #1244003