



October 29, 2023

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

10:30am

### GATHERING

Chimes

Welcome

Prelude

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship – based on Psalm 100

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

**Worship the Lord with gladness. Come before God with joyful songs.**

Know that the Lord is God. It is God alone who made us.

**We are God's people, the sheep of his pasture.**

Enter these doors with thanksgiving and these walls with praise.

**Give thanks to God and praise his name.**

For the Lord is good and his love endures forever,

**God's faithfulness continues through all generations!**

\*Hymn #2

*Come, Thou Almighty King*

Come, thou almighty King, help us thy name to sing; help us to praise:

Father, all glorious, o'er all victorious, come, and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

Come, thou incarnate Word, merciful, mighty Lord, our prayer attend.

Come, and thy people bless, and give thy word success; Spirit of holiness, on us descend.

Come, holy Comforter, thy sacred witness bear in this glad hour.

Thou who almighty art, now rule in every heart, and ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power.

To thee, great One in Three, eternal praises be, hence evermore!

Thy sovereign majesty may we in glory see, and to eternity love and adore.

## CONFESSING

Call to Confession

Prayers of Confession

**Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn back to you.  
We humbly confess our sins and lean on your mercy.  
We have not always loved you with a pure heart,  
nor have we always loved our neighbor as ourselves.  
We have not done justice, loved kindness,  
or walked humbly with you, our God.  
Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness.  
In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin.  
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 – 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

Gathering of our offerings

Offertory Music

\*Response – Doxology #606

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God for all that love has done, Creator, Christ, and Spirit one! Alleluia! O Praise God! Alleluia!

## LISTENING

\*Prayers of Thanksgiving and for Illumination

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.

Scripture – Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Sermon – “On the Verge”

guest preacher, Dr. Brian Wright

## DEPARTING

\*Hymn #463

### *How Firm a Foundation*

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!  
What more can be said than to you God hath said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go, the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;  
for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie, my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;  
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose, I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."

\*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; Jane Prentice; Ann Hall; Jane Ebey; Kathy Wheeler; Frank & Evelyn Clark; Nancy Miles; Annette Hutto - Current Friends and Family Concerns: Margaret Yawn; Donna Carole Kitchens; Joel Jones; Nelda Crow; Sara Walcott; Laurie King (Diboll) - Military Personnel Prayer List: Austin Riley; Joshua Sulkers; Isaac Falkenstine (Bonnie Diboll's grandson); James Watwood

### Sanctuary Flowers

Flowers in the sanctuary today have been given to the glory of God by Donna Shuford in celebration of breast cancer survivors, in honor of those currently fighting, and in loving memory of those whose battle led them home to the Lord.

### Sunday Morning Coffee Hour

Grab a friend and join us Sunday mornings for a cup of coffee and casual fellowship. Doors open at 9:30am.

## **UKirk Annual Dinner Fundraiser**

The UKirk Campus ministry's annual fundraising dinner will be held here at Northminster October 27<sup>th</sup> at 6<sup>PM</sup>. Tickets are \$30 and are available through Jeff Denny, Sam McDuffie, or Kim Emener.

## **2023 Women's Retreat**

Our annual Fall Women's Retreat will take place November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. We invite all women of all ages to this exciting event. Our event leader this year is Dr. Martha Moore-Keish of Columbia Theological Seminary. She will be leading us through "Exploring and Expanding our Images of God." Attendance is \$25 for the whole session and includes dinner on Friday as well as breakfast and lunch Saturday. We will gather Friday from 6pm-9pm and Saturday from 9am-2pm here at Northminster. You may register online at northminstermacon.org or in your bulletin's response sheet.

## **Fall Festival at St. Andrews Presbyterian**

Our sister church, St. Andrews on the corner of Forsyth Rd. and Bass Rd., invites all to join them for a fall festival October 29<sup>th</sup>. There will be a hot dog lunch at 12:15<sup>PM</sup> (please RSVP for this to 478-474-4451 by Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>), Activities, games, and trunk-or-treat start at 1<sup>PM</sup> and conclude by 3<sup>PM</sup>. Costumes are welcome for all and there is no cost for this event.

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

Bring a side dish or dessert to share and join us after worship October 29<sup>th</sup> for lunch. The youth and worship committees will be providing barbeque and hosting and exciting afternoon of trivia! We can't wait to see you there.

## **2024 Sunday School and Kick-off Dinner**

Sunday School, Sunday Study, Learning Lab – No matter what you call it, Sunday morning at 9:00 is a wonderful time to meet with old friends or make new friends, have a cup of coffee and a bite to eat, and maybe even learn a little bit as we share our faith with one another. The meal we are planning for Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> is to talk about what you, as a part of this congregation, want to see in the form of Christian education for the coming year. Even if you don't want to participate in any Sunday morning studies, please come and help us decide what is best for this congregation. We need everyone's input.

Please join us for a wonderful FREE meal of pork loin, sweet potatoes, green beans, salad, and Lynn Davis' cake at 6:00pm on Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. If you need a ride, please contact Jennifer in the church office and she will arrange for someone to pick you up. Reservations are encouraged and the blue sign-up sheet is in the bulletin.

## **Sunday School – A Clear View of the Birth of Jesus**

Every Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup> through December 17<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Ralph will lead a Sunday School discussion based on brief video lectures by Dr. Kenneth Bailey, a Presbyterian scholar and seminary professor in the Middle East for 40 years. Join us at 9<sup>AM</sup> in the fellowship hall; a light breakfast will be provided.

## **Youth Calendar**

Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> after church: Pizza and Ornament-making! All school-aged children and parents are invited to this activity.

Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 4<sup>PM</sup>: Hot dogs and s'mores at the home of Allen & Barbara Fatkin, we'll pack Thanksgiving Dinners for the 8 homeless students at Rosa Taylor.

Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup> after church: We'll put up the tree in the sanctuary. Lunch will be provided.

### **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, Tuesday-Thursday 9:00-3:00

Jennifer Cell: 478-318-7911

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