



NORTHMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

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

October 8, 2023

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30am

GATHERING

Chimes

Welcome

Prelude

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship – based on Ecclesiastes 3

God's love and light are eternal, while our lives move through time:

A time to be born, a time to die; **a time to plant, a time to gather the harvest.**

A time to cry, a time to laugh; **a time to mourn, a time to dance.**

A time to scatter stones, a time to pile them up;

a time for a warm embrace, a time for keeping your distance.

A time to search, a time to give up as lost; **a time to keep, a time to throw out.**

A time to love, a time to hate; **a time to go to war, a time to make peace.**

*Hymn #1

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.

Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee, though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

CONFESSING

Call to Confession

Prayers of Confession

**Living God,
you belong to eternity,
timeless in love and light.**

**We, your creatures,
live stranded in time,
prone to change and decay.**

**Forgive us
when we set our sights on what is temporary,
when we cling to passing fads and truths,
when we act foolishly or fail to act in love.**

**By your grace,
set us free from our past,
ground us in your Word today,
and send us forward in faith.**

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

Announcements and Invitations

Prayers of Intercession and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, Hallowed by Thy name, Thy Kingdome Come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Dedication of Time, Talent and Treasure

Offertory Music

Order My Steps

arr. Schrader

*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 #697

Take My Life

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love; take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee, swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King; take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee, filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold; take my intellect and use
every power as thou shalt choose, every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine. Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne, it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store; take myself and I will be
ever, only, all for thee, ever, only, all for thee.

Scripture – Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Musical Interlude

There is a Time
Carra Bell, soloist

Courtney

Scripture – Matthew 24:32-35

Sermon – STEWARDSHIP: Tending to the changing seasons of politics

DEPARTING

*Hymn #65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty. Hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee; I will ever give to thee.

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

Sanctuary Flowers

Flowers this week have been given to the glory of God by Brad and Nancy Miles in celebration of recent birthdays for their daughter, Rosie and grandson, Wren.

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.

Women's Fall Bible Study

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.

UKirk Annual Dinner Fundraiser

The UKirk Campus ministry's annual fundraising dinner will be held here at Northminster October 27th at 6PM. 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 3rd and 4th. 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.

Youth Volunteers

Our youth have incredible times of fellowship when they gather for evening studies. These times include dinner, activities, and a lesson. If you're able to help with providing a meal, overseeing or planning an activity, or leading a pre-planned lesson, please let Donna Shuford know.

5th Sunday Lunch

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

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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