



# NORTHMINSTER

*Presbyterian Church*



November 12, 2023

24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

10:30am

## GATHERING

Chimes

Welcome

Prelude

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship – based on Psalm 5

Bend Your ear to me and listen to our words, O Eternal One;  
hear the deep cry of our hearts.

**Listen to our call for help, our King, our True God — to You alone we pray.**

In the morning, O Eternal One, listen for our voice;  
in the day's first light, we will offer our prayers to You  
and watch expectantly for Your answer.

**You're not a God who smiles at sin.**

**You cannot abide with evil.**

**You judge all who pervert and destroy what is good.**

Yet we, by Your loving grace,  
are welcomed into Your house.

**We will turn our faces toward Your holy place  
and fall on our knees in reverence before You.**

O Eternal One, lead us in the path of Your righteousness.

**Make Your way clear to us as we worship You in this hour.**

\*Hymn #665

*As Morning Dawns*

As morning dawns, Lord, hear our cry. O sovereign God, now hear our sigh.  
As first light brings the sun's warm rays, accept our sacrifice of praise.

Before you, Lord, the wicked fall, and none shall dwell within your hall.  
The proud shall never gain a place, nor evil live to see your face.

Your steadfast love shall welcome all who seek your house and on you call.  
O lead us, Lord, in righteousness, as through this day your name we bless.

Let all who seek you then rejoice, and sing to you with joyful voice.  
For you shall bless the righteous, Lord. Forever be your name adored.

**CONFESSING**

Call to Confession

Prayers of Confession

**Generous God —  
Lover, Beloved, and Love itself —  
You have called us to a life of love:  
for you, for others, for truth and life.**

**Forgive us when we have not loved you  
with our heart, mind, soul, or strength.  
Forgive us when we have  
seized love for ourselves  
but remained stingy with others.  
Forgive us for loving only the lovely.**

**In your mercy,  
free us from our past,  
speak to us today,  
and lay out your path ahead.**

**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

What do you profess about God our Father?  
**I believe in God our Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.**

And what do you profess about God in Christ?  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,  
and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he shall come to judge the  
living and the dead.**

And what do you profess about God the Holy Spirit?  
**I believe in the Holy Spirit; 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.**

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 #833 (remain seated)                      *O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go*

O Love that wilt not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.

O Light that followest all my way, I yield my flickering torch to thee;  
my heart restores its borrowed ray, that in thy sunshine's blaze its day may brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee;  
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee;  
I lay in dust life's glory dead, and from the ground there blossoms red life that shall endless be.

Scripture – 1 John 4:7-21

Sermon – “Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God”

### DEPARTING

\*Hymn #620    *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to his feet your tribute bring;  
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore his praises sing:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favor to his people in distress;  
praise him still the same as ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness.

Fatherlike, he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows;  
in his hands he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely yet his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him; you behold him face to face.  
Sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

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

### Sanctuary Flowers

Flowers this Sunday have been given to the grace of God by Rebecca Layfield in loving memory of her grandmother.

### 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

Today, 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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