



# NORTHMINSTER

## *Presbyterian Church*

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

January 14, 2023

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

10:30am

### GATHERING

Chimes

Welcome

Prelude

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship – based on Psalm 145

The Eternal One is gracious. God shows mercy to God's people.

**For God's anger does not come easily, but faithful love does—  
and it is rich and abundant.**

But the Eternal's goodness is not exclusive—it is offered freely to all.

**God's mercy extends to all creation.**

All creation will stand in awe of You, O Eternal One.

**Thanks will pour from the mouths of every one of Your creatures.**

They will not be silent; they will talk of the grandeur of Your kingdom

**and celebrate the wonder of Your power.**

Until everyone on earth who has ears to hear knows Your valiant acts

**and the splendor of Your beautiful kingdom.**

All creation will stand in awe of You, O Eternal One.

**Thanks will pour from the mouths of every one of Your creatures.**

\*Hymn #611

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!

Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.

Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee; earth and heaven reflect thy rays;  
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began.  
Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan.  
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife.  
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

## CONFESSING

Call to Confession

Prayers of Confession

**God of such joyful love, you have encircled us in grace.**

**As Jesus welcomed the children,  
so your Holy Spirit has gathered us in to your holy company.**

**Forgive us for wanting out or pushing against your love  
or imagining we can go it alone.**

**Set us free from our past that we might love more in the future.**

**Hear our prayers ...**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Scripture – Colossians 3:1-17

Response to Forgiveness #627

*I Love You, Lord*

I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice to worship you; O my soul, rejoice.

Take joy, my King, in what you hear; may it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear.

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 Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

\*Passing the Peace

Announcements and Invitations

Installation of Ruling Elders

Mark Brown - Amanda Smith - Gail Walker

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 Intercession, 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.**

Scripture — Mark 10:13-16

Hymn #188 (remain seated)

*Jesus Love Me*

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but he is strong.  
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long ago,  
taking children on his knee, saying, "Let them come to me."  
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Sermon — Leadership: Alignment with Jesus' commands

### DEPARTING

\*Hymn #722

*Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak*

Lord, speak to me that I may speak in living echoes of your tone.  
As you have sought, so let me seek your erring children lost and lone.  
O lead me, Lord, that I may lead the wandering and the wavering feet.  
O feed me, Lord, that I may feed your hungry ones with manna sweet.  
O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the precious truths which you impart.  
And wing my words that they may reach the hidden depths of many a heart.  
O fill me with your fullness, Lord, until my very heart o'erflow  
in kindling thought and glowing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.  
O use me, Lord, use even me, just as you will, and when, and where  
until your blessed face I see, your rest, your joy, your glory share.

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Sung Response

May the road rise to meet you, may the wind blow at your back. May the sun shine warmly on your face, may the rain fall softly on your fields. And until we meet again, until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand. Amen

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; Frank & Evelyn Clark; Nancy Miles; Annette Hutto - Current Friends and Family Concerns: Margaret Yawn; Donna Carole Kitchens; Joel Jones; Nelda Crow; John & Louise Sallstrom; Betty Shuford - Military Personnel Prayer List: Joshua Sulkers; Isaac Falkenstine (Bonnie Diboll's grandson); Nicholas Sanchez (Kathy McCord's godson)

### Sanctuary Flowers

Flowers today have been given to the glory of God by Michael & Chloe Napier in celebration of the second birthday of Michael, III.

### Sunday Study Continues in 2024

We have now begun the first of three 6-week sessions of multi-generational Sunday studies! These sessions will be led by some of the amazing faculty of Mercer's Department of Religion. The first, Christian Ethics as Faithful Innovation, will be led by Paul Lewis. The second series, Lent for Everyone, will be led by Brian Whitfield. The third series, Do Pharaohs Still Exist, will be led by Janell Johnson. We hope you will plan to come. We'll be gathering at 9:00 with a light continental breakfast. Childcare will be provided for our youngest members, and we're hard at work on more plans for children and youth.

### Christian Ethics as Faithful Innovation – Sunday Study

Paul Lewis is leading our first six-weeks of Sunday Study. Paul has been a professor in the School of Religion at Mercer since 2002 with a specialty in Theological Ethics. We'll share more biographical details later. If you would like a copy of the book that Paul will be using in this study, please indicate this on your blue response sheet and we will order them as a group. Each hard-copy book is \$13 and the ebook is \$9. The link to information about the book can be found at <https://www.helwys.com/sh-books/faithful-innovation>. The book is certainly not required for this study but is simply being made available for those interested.

### Congregational Meeting

January 28, we will hold a congregational meeting after worship to approve pastor Ralph's 2024 Terms of Call.

#### 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

Office hours this week: 9:00-3:00 Tuesday-Thursday; 7:00-1:00 Sunday  
Jennifer Cell: 478-318-7911

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