



NORTHMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

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

January 21, 2023

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

10:30am

GATHERING

Chimes

Welcome

Prelude

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship – based on 1 Corinthians 12:27-31

"We are the body of Christ and individually members of it."

We each have our part to play in the living body of Jesus.

As the apostle taught: God has appointed in the church apostles, prophets, teachers, deeds of power, gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, and various kinds of tongues.

Each has been given a spiritual gift to share, to build up the body.

And yet we all strive for the greater gifts — faith, hope, and love.

We cannot live without God. We adore the Lord. And we believe!

*Hymn #409

God Is Here

God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.

Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.

Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place.

Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.

Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here, as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old.

Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.

Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out. Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive: we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

CONFESSING

Call to Confession

Prayers of Confession

**God, you are here!
And you have blessed us with signs and seals
of your everlasting love and mercy.**

**Bath, book, and meal —
each reminds us of our lifelong need
of your saving grace in Jesus.**

**Forgive us when we lose our way
forget who we are cling to symbols that do not save.**

**Set us free from the past. Meet us in this holy moment.
Turn our hearts to your future.**

Hear our prayers ...

Assurance of Forgiveness

Remembering our Baptisms

Scripture – Matthew 5:13-19

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 God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

*Passing the Peace

Announcements and Invitations

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 – Ministry: Learning from Jesus' indignation

DEPARTING

*Hymn #716

Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak

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.

*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.

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; Sara Walcott; Laurie King (Diboll); John & Louise Sallstrom; Betty Shuford - Military Personnel Prayer List: Austin Riley; Joshua Sulkers; Isaac Falkenstine (Bonnie Diboll's grandson); Nicholas Sanchez (Kathy McCord's godson)

Sanctuary Flowers

*Correction: Flowers from last week's worship service were given by Micheal and Chloe Napier in celebration of their 3rd anniversary.

Choir – Wednesdays at 7^{PM}

We are so thankful for our wonderful choir, under the direction of music minister Gunner Chancey, who fill our sanctuary with prayerful praise through song every Sunday. We'd love to see YOU join them in the loft. Choir practices are held each Wednesday at 7^{PM} in the choir room downstairs (entrance at the back of the building near the playground) and warm-up at 10^{AM} Sunday morning before worship.

Sunday Study at 9^{AM}

Join us for Sunday Study at 9^{AM} in the fellowship hall. This study is open to all ages, though childcare is provided for our youngest attendees. A light continental breakfast is included.

Congregational Meeting – January 28

Sunday, January 28, we will hold a congregational meeting after worship to address important items, including approval of pastor Ralph's 2024 Terms of Call.

2023 Giving Statements

2023 giving statements are now available and can be picked up in the foyer. All statements remaining after Sunday, January 28th will be mailed.

Committee Meetings – February 11

Each of our 10 church committees will be gathering Sunday, February 11th after worship for their first of five meetings this year. Location of each meeting within the church building is to be determined. If you would like to join one of the following committees, or simply sit in on a meeting to see what it's all about, please contact

the corresponding Elder:

- Adult Discipleship & Fellowship – Nita McCord
- Children & Youth Discipleship – Donna Shuford
- Congregational Care – Gail Walker
- Finance – Minor Vernon
- Membership Engagement – Barbara Fatkin
- Neighborhood – Amanda Smith
- Outreach & Mission – Kari Alderman
- Personnel – Michael Napier
- Property – Mark Brown
- Worship – Jeff Denny

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper – February 13

It's almost that time again! Lent begins on Wednesday, February 14 with Ash Wednesday, and we'll join together for the traditional Shrove Tuesday pancake supper on Tuesday February 13 at 6:00 PM. It's also known as Fat Tuesday so there'll be lots more than just pancakes - eggs, grits, bacon, sausage and fruit. Sounds good, doesn't it. Elder Jeff Denny will lead us in a short devotional. Sign up on the blue sheet included in your bulletin. Cost is \$7.00 per person with a \$20 limit per family.

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; Mark Brown; Jeff Denny; Barbara Fatkin; Nita McCord; Michael Napier; Donna Shuford; Amanda Smith; Minor Vernon; Gail Walker

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

All rights reserved, License #1244003