



NORTHMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

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

January 28, 2023

4th Sunday after Epiphany

10:30am

GATHERING

Chimes

Welcome

Prelude

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship – based on Romans 8:26-28

As we worship, we cling to the apostle's teaching:

The Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness,

for we do not always know how to pray as we ought,

but God's very Spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words.

And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit,

because the Spirit intercedes for the saints

always according to the perfect will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God,

those who are called according to his purpose.

God is calling through the Holy Spirit!

*Hymn #410

God Is Calling through the Whisper

God is calling through the whisper of the Spirit's deepest sighs,
through the thrill of sudden beauties that can catch us by surprise.

Flash of lightning, crash of thunder; hush of stillness, rush of wonder:

God is calling—can you hear? God is calling—can you hear?

God is calling through the voices of our neighbors' urgent prayers,
through their longing for redemption and for rescue from despair.

Place of hurt or face of needing; strident cry or silent pleading:

God is calling—can you hear? God is calling—can you hear?

God is calling through the music of sublime and human arts,
through the hymns of earth and angels, and the carols of our hearts.
Lift of joy and gift of singing; days and nights our praises bringing:
God is calling—and we hear! God is calling—and we hear!

CONFESSING

Call to Confession

Prayers of Confession

**Holy Spirit,
you whisper in our deepest sighs
you speak through our neighbor's prayers
you reveal yourself in music and beauty.**

**Forgive us
when we cover over your calling
or ignore your movement among us
or choose to worship fleeting things.**

**We welcome your mercy
we depend upon your power
we are amazed by your grace.**

Hear our prayers ...

Assurance of Forgiveness

Remembering our Baptisms

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. [repeat]

Scripture – Romans 8:31-39

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 the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

*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 – Touch: Blessing others in the manner of Jesus

DEPARTING

*Hymn #729

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.

*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

Congregational Meeting



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; 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); James Watwood

Choir – Wednesdays at 7PM

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 7PM in the choir room downstairs (entrance at the back of the building near the playground) and warm-up at 10AM Sunday morning before worship.

Sunday Study at 9AM

Join us for Sunday Study at 9AM 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.

2023 Giving Statements

2023 giving statements have been mailed. If you do not receive yours within one week, please contact Jennifer to have a copy emailed to you.

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:

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
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