



# NORTHMINSTER

## *Presbyterian Church*

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

April 28, 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter

10:30am

### GATHERING

Chimes

Welcome

Prelude

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship — based on hymn 641

When in our music God is praised,  
and adoration leaves no room for pride,  
**it is as though the whole creation sings Alleluia!**

How often, singing our prayers in song,  
we are lifted above the noise of the world,  
**and we are moved to a more profound Alleluia!**

So let every instrument be tuned for praise,  
and let we who have a voice sing our prayers.  
**May God give us faith to sing always our Alleluias!**

\*Hymn #641

*When in Our Music God Is Glorified!*

When in our music God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride,  
it is as though the whole creation cried: Alleluia!

How often, making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound,  
as worship moved us to a more profound Alleluia!

So has the church, in liturgy and song, in faith and love, through centuries of wrong,  
borne witness to the truth in every tongue: Alleluia!

And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night when utmost evil strove against the light?  
Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight: Alleluia!

Let every instrument be tuned for praise! Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!  
And may God give us faith to sing always: Alleluia!

## CONFESSING

Call to Confession

Affirmation of Faith — Presbyterian 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.**

Prayers of Confession

Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from the grave  
and crowned him Lord of all life and love.

**We confess how often we have not followed behind him  
or acknowledged his law of love in our lives.  
We have gone along with the way of the world  
and failed to give you glory and others love.**

**Forgive us and raise us from our sin,  
that we may be your faithful people,  
obeying the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who rules the world and is head of the church, his body.**

**Hear our prayers ...**

Response to Forgiveness #553

*Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen*

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again. (*repeat*)

Assurance of Forgiveness

Scripture — Ephesians 2:3-9

Remembering our Baptisms

\*Passing the Peace

Announcements and Invitations

Gathering of our Offerings

Offertory Music

\*Response — Doxology #606

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia, Alleluia!  
Praise God, for all that love has done, Creator, Christ, and Spirit one! Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Alleluia, O Praise God, Alleluia!

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.**

### LISTENING

Hymn #375 (remain seated)

*Shall We Gather at the River*

Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod,  
with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God?  
Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;  
gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray,  
we will walk and worship ever, all the happy golden day.  
Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;  
gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

Ere we reach the shining river, lay we every burden down;  
grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown.  
Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;  
gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

Soon we'll reach the shining river; soon our pilgrimage will cease;  
soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace.  
Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;  
gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

Scripture – 1 Corinthians 13, selections

Sermon – “At the moment all that we can see are puzzling reflections in a mirror”

### DEPARTING

\*Hymn #300

*We Are One in the Spirit*

We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord; we are one in the Spirit;  
we are one in the Lord, and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand; we will walk with each other;  
we will walk hand in hand, and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land:  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will work with each other; we will work side by side; we will work with each other;  
we will work side by side, and we'll guard human dignity and save human pride:  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

\*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; Evelyn Clark; Nancy Miles; Annette Hutto - Current Friends and Family Concerns: Margaret Yawn; Donna Carole Kitchens; Joel Jones; Nelda Crow - Military Personnel Prayer List: Austin Riley; Joshua Sulkers; Isaac Falkenstine (Bonnie Diboll's grandson); Nicholas Sanchez (Kathy McCord's godson); James Watwood; Dawson Everett (Gwen Kitchens' great-nephew)

### Church-Wide BINGO! – Today

You're invited to join us in the fellowship hall right after worship today, for food and fun! This annual activity helps raise funds for our youth to attend Montreat in the summer.

### Children's Sunday School

All children are invited to attend Sunday School at 9:30<sup>AM</sup>. We'll have a lesson with a craft and a morning snack. All children will join their parents for the worship service at 10:30.

### Sunday Study at 9<sup>AM</sup>

Join us for Sunday Study at 9<sup>AM</sup> in the fellowship hall. The next 6-week study led by Janell Johnson, "Do Pharaohs Still Exist," will continue through May 19<sup>th</sup>. A light continental breakfast is provided.

### Visit from the Haugens – May 5

Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, we are excited to welcome our supported missionaries, George and Jeanne Haugen! During our regular 9:00 Sunday School hour, you're invited to see a presentation from George updating us on their mission work in the Middle East. (Our regular Sunday School lessons will resume May 12<sup>th</sup>.) They will be joining us in worship as well. It's a Sunday you don't want to miss.

### Rosa Taylor Teacher Appreciation – May 6

Each semester, Northminster shows our appreciation as a community to the teachers and staff of our neighborhood elementary school, Rosa Taylor. If you would like to help by providing food, such as a fruit plate, casserole, or breakfast finger food, please let us know on your blue response sheet or by reaching out to our neighborhood committee elder, Amanda Smith.

### Youth Montreat Carwash – May 11

Be sure to swing by the church Saturday, May 11 between 1<sup>PM</sup>-3<sup>PM</sup> to get your car washed by the Northminster youth! This annual fundraiser will be the final one, helping with all Montreat Youth Conference expenses in June.

### Honoring our graduates – May 12

Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, we will not only give collective thanks to the mothers and motherly women in our congregation, we will also take a moment during the service to honor our high school graduates: Molly Brown, Abby Gleaton, Rachel Putzke, Mary Beth Shuford, and Savannah Whitehead, and our Graduate school graduate: Gunner Chancey.

**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

WWW.NORTHMINSTERMACON.ORG

All rights reserved, License #1244003

565 WIMBISH RD. MACON, GA 31210