



May 12, 2024

Ascension of the Lord Sunday

10:30am

GATHERING

Chimes

Welcome

Prelude

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship — based on Psalm 89

We will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever.

With our mouths we will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

We declare that your steadfast love is established forever,

your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens all around us.

Let those heavens join in praising the wonderful works of the Eternal.

Your grace-filled souls have gathered, singing of Your faithfulness.

For there is no one above who compares to the Eternal.

Not one of heaven or earth's creatures is like God in the least.

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee!

*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

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 ...

Assurance of Forgiveness

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*)

Scripture – Colossians 3:12-25

Remembering our Baptisms

*Passing the Peace

LISTENING

Announcements and Invitations

Honoring our Recent Graduates

Molly Brown

Abby Gleaton

Rachel Putzke

Mary Beth Shuford

Savannah Whitehead

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.

Scripture – Mark 12:28-34

Hymn #839 (remain seated)

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.
This is my story; this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story; this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending, bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love.
This is my story; this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story; this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love.
This is my story; this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story; this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Scripture – Numbers 27:1-11

Sermon – Daughters of Zelophehad ... Sisters of Jesus

DEPARTING

*Hymn #726

Will You Come and Follow Me

“Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?”

“Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?”

“Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?”

“Will you love the ‘you’ you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you’ve found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?”

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I’ll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I’ll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

*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; Evelyn Clark; Nancy Miles; Annette Hutto; Jeff, Lynn, Josh and Hannah Denny - 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)

Sanctuary Flowers

Flowers today have been given to the glory of God by Tim and Kathy McCord in loving memory of Tim's sister, Merrily McCord.

Children's Sunday School

All children are invited to attend Sunday School at 9:30^{AM}. 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^{AM}

Join us for Sunday Study at 9^{AM} in the fellowship hall. This 6-week study led by Janell Johnson, "Do Pharaohs Still Exist," will conclude on May 19th. A light continental breakfast is provided.

Congregational Meeting – June 2

All members are encouraged to attend this quick meeting immediately following the worship service for the purpose of choosing our 2024 nominating committee.

PCUSA Special Offerings – Pentecost

A foundation of faith established during childhood helps ensure lifelong faith and service. The patterns and lessons established during these formative years continue to bear fruit throughout a person's life. By receiving the Pentecost Offering, you are nurturing the faith of those who are the church to come — children, youth, and young adults. This offering will be collected May 19th.

Fellowship Opportunities

Taking in a Macon Bacon Baseball game, enjoying a day trip to Koinonia Farm near Americus, and resuming annual Thanksgiving meals are just a few of the ideas our fellowship committee is contemplating for our church calendar. Please let us know of your thoughts and suggestions for fun opportunities and fellowship events. You may fill out your blue response sheet or email your suggestions to Jennifer at admin@northminstermacon.org.

Backpack Ministry

Thank you all so much for your donations of plastic grocery bags! We are now well-stocked for packing our weekly backpack donations.

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