



# NORTHMINSTER

## *Presbyterian Church*

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

July 28, 2024

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30AM

Chimes

Welcome

Prelude

*Christ is Coming!*  
Campbell Brynteson, violin

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship — based on Lamentations 3:22-23

We gather again this morning to the water,  
to remember the sign and the seal of God's faithfulness in Jesus Christ.

**WOMEN: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases.**

**God's mercies never come to an end.**

**They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.**

We gather again this morning to the table,  
to remember the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation, a reminder that God is good.

**MEN: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases.**

**God's mercies never come to an end.**

**They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.**

We gather again this morning to the book,  
to listen for what the Holy Spirit might say to us through the good news of the gospel.

**ALL: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases.**

**God's mercies never come to an end.**

**They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.**

\*Hymn #664

*Morning has Broken*

Morning has broken like the first morning; blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven, like the first dewfall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning, born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation; praise every morning, God's re-creation of the new day!

Call to Confession

Prayers of Confession

**Dear Jesus,  
as your Resurrection People,  
you have made us a movement of the morning —  
new days, new life, fresh starts.  
Everything about you shines brightly  
and looks ahead to our Father's future.**

**Yet we are a people stuck in hindsight.  
We confess how often we lurk in the shadows,  
clinging to people, places, and positions  
that have died in the night —  
but we will not let them go.**

**Set us free from the fixed past.  
Confirm your promises to us in the now.  
Turn our lives toward your Easter future.**

**Hear our prayers of confession ...**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Scripture – Romans 8:10-17

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. [repeat]

Remembering our Baptisms

\*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*Passing the Peace

Announcements and Invitations

Gathering of our Offerings

Offertory Music

\*Doxology #606

*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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 – Acts 6:1-7

Hymn #459 (remain seated)

*O Word of God Incarnate*

O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,  
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:  
we praise you for the radiance that from the hallowed page,  
a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.

The church from you, dear Savior, received this gift divine;  
and still that light is lifted on all the earth to shine.  
It is the chart and compass that, all life's voyage through,  
amid the rocks and quicksands still guides, O Christ, to you.

O make your church, dear Savior, a lamp of purest gold  
to bear before the nations your true light, as of old;  
O teach your wandering pilgrims by this our path to trace,  
till, clouds and storms thus ended, we see you face to face.

Sermon – We Presbyterians have a special stake in DEMOCRACY – Part 1

\*Hymn #761

*Called as Partners in Christ's Service*

Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,  
we respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,  
equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.

Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,  
let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.  
Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old,  
blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.

Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, in a small or global sense,  
help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence.  
Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care,  
bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.

So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life  
that surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.  
Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,  
messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Sung Response

Northumbria Community

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever he may send you. May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm. May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you. May he bring you home rejoicing, once again into our doors.

Postlude



## Information & Announcements

### Welcome Friends and 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; Annette Hutto; Jeff, Lynn, Josh and Hannah Denny - Current Friends and Family Concerns: Margaret Yawn; Donna Carole Kitchens - 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); Carter Eddlemon (Doug & Carol Holt's grandson)

### Christmas in July

Throughout this month, we will be gathering gifts for our backpack ministry supporting our neighbor, Rosa Taylor Elementary school. Each year, members of our neighborhood committee pack over 900 bags filled with ready-to-eat or easy-to-prepare foods and deliver them to Rosa Taylor where 26 students every week, throughout the entire school year, will be sure not to go hungry over the weekend. Please prayerfully consider giving to this ministry.

### Children's Sunday School

Children's Sunday School will continue all summer. We will be sharing stories of Jesus from the New Testament, enjoy story-related activities, and refreshments will be included. All children *as well as their friends and neighbors* are cordially invited to join us at 9:30AM every Sunday morning!

### Ushers and Greeters

We are in need of ushers and greeters to welcome our church family and guests on Sunday mornings. Please check the new sign-up board in the foyer to volunteer your smile on a Sunday that works for you!

### Birthday Cards

Beloved member, Jane Ebey, will celebrate her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday August 18<sup>th</sup>. Jane has been homebound under care at Carlyle Place here in Macon and we want to make sure she knows she is in our thoughts on this milestone birthday! We are asking members to write a birthday card to Jane and bring it to church with you by Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, at which time pastor Ralph and a member of our congregational care committee will take the cards and sanctuary flowers to Jane after worship. Thank you so much for your help making all our members feel God's love through your kindness and friendship.

### Veritas Classical Education

Veritas Classical School will start their second year in our building this August. We are excited to have this exceptional homeschool program right here at our church. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about Veritas, you can contact their Macon campus administrator, Michele, at 478-733-3241 or [veritaswelcome@veritasschoolsmg.com](mailto:veritaswelcome@veritasschoolsmg.com)

### Adult Sunday School – August 11

Our adult (ages 12 and up) Sunday School classes will resume in the Fellowship Hall Sunday, August 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00AM. Our first 6-week session will be led by pastor Ralph. See your bulletin insert for details.

### **Men's Breakfast – August 14**

All men are invited to gather at H&H Restaurant Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup> at 7am for breakfast and fellowship. This is a dutch treat event.

### **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Lunch – September 29**

We will celebrate Northminster's 60<sup>th</sup> year of making disciples, growing in faith together and serving others in Christ over lunch in the fellowship all September 29<sup>th</sup> following the worship service.

### **Women's Bible Study – October 2**

All women are invited to join this year's fall Bible study where Ralph will be teaching based on the book of Philippians. This study begins Wednesday, October 2 with a morning session at 10<sup>AM</sup> and an evening session at 6<sup>PM</sup>. Stay tuned for details.

### **Rise Against Hunger – October 6**

We will host this year's presbytery-wide Rise Against Hunger packing event. Stay tuned for details.

### **2024 Northminster Express – October 19**

This year, the Northminster Express will be riding the rails in scenic Blue Ridge, Georgia! We are currently taking reservations for our group tour aboard the Blue Ridge Scenic Railway. Tickets are \$68 for adults and \$48 for children between the ages of 2-12. We will depart from Northminster via chartered bus Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at 6am and return around 5:30pm. See your flyer insert for additional information.

#### **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

**Summer office hours:** Tuesday-Friday 9:00-1:00; Sunday 7:00-1:00; Jennifer Cell: 478-318-7911