



NORTHMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

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

September 15, 2024

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30AM

Chimes

Welcome

Prelude

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship – adapted from Psalm 66

Shout out to God, all the earth.

Erupt with joy to the one True God!

Sing of the glory due God's good name!

Offer the Lord the most magnificent praises!

Say to God, "All You have done is wondrous and causes awe!"

Your power is mighty, and you have done marvelous things.

The entire earth will bow down to worship You

and will sing glory-songs to You;

they will sing praises to Your name!

Shout out to God, all the earth.

Erupt with joy to the one True God!

*Hymn #645

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.

With healing balm my soul is filled, and every faithless murmur stilled:
to God all praise and glory!

What God's almighty power has made God's gracious mercy keepeth;
by morning glow or evening shade God's watchful eye ne'er sleepeth.

Within the kingdom of God's might, lo! all is just and all is right:
to God all praise and glory!

The Lord is never far away, but, through all grief distressing,
an ever-present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing,
as with a mother's tender hand God gently leads the chosen band:
to God all praise and glory!

Thus all my toilsome way along I sing aloud thy praises,
that all may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and body, take your part:
to God all praise and glory!

Call to Confession

Prayers of Confession — based on Psalm 51

Merciful God,
you forgive all who truly repent and turn to you.
We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy.
**We have not loved you with a pure heart,
nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves.
We have not done justice, loved kindness,
or walked humbly with you, our God.**
Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness.
In your great compassion,
cleanse us from our sin.
**Create in us a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within us.
Do not cast us from your presence,
or take your Holy Spirit from us.
Restore to us the joy of your salvation
and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**
Hear our prayers of confession ...

Scripture – 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Assurance of Forgiveness

Response to Forgiveness #658

God is So Good

God is so good; God is so good; God is so good; God's so good to me.
God cares for me; God cares for me; God cares for me; God's so good to me.
God loves me so; God loves me so; God loves me so; God's so good to me.
God is so good; God is so good; God is so good; God's so good to me.

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 Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

Remembering our Baptisms

*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.

Hymn #741 (remain seated)

Guide My Feet

Guide my feet while I run this race; (yes, my Lord!) guide my feet while I run this race; (yes, my Lord!)
guide my feet while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain!)

Hold my hand while I run this race; (yes, my Lord!) Hold my hand while I run this race; (yes, my Lord!)
Hold my hand I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain!)

Stand by me while I run this race; (yes, my Lord!) Stand by me I run this race; (yes, my Lord!)
Stand by me while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain!)

I'm your child while I run this race; (yes, my Lord!) I'm your child while I run this race; (yes, my Lord!)
I'm your child while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain!)

Search my heart while I run this race; (yes, my Lord!) Search my heart while I run this race; (yes, my Lord!)
Search my heart while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain!)

Guide my feet while I run this race; (yes, my Lord!) guide my feet while I run this race; (yes, my Lord!)
guide my feet while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain!)

Scripture – Philippians 1:1-11

Sermon – Paul's Prayer for the Maconites

*Hymn #744

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today.

Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captives' liberty, good tidings to the poor.

Arise, your light is come! All you in sorrow born,
bind up the brokenhearted ones and comfort those who mourn.

Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

*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 in the red book located in the pew so we can follow up with you and make a place for you in our weekly fellowship.

Prayer Concerns

If you have a need or a request for prayer, please contact the church office.

Ongoing Prayer Requests: Our Flint River Presbytery and campus ministries

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; Susan Garrett (colleague of Gregg Reed, cancer diagnosis) - 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)

Sanctuary Flowers

Flowers today have been given to the glory of God by Lynn Davis in loving memory of her parents, Cary & Susanna Hays.

Children's Sunday School & Nursery

Every Sunday, we have nursery available beginning at 9^{AM}. All children are welcome to arrive at 9 so parents may participate in Sunday School. Children will participate in their own Sunday School lesson and activities at 9:30 and will join their family to begin worship at 10:30. Nursery is still available through the end of worship.

Adult Sunday School

Join us for Sunday School in the Fellowship hall at 9AM as Pastor Ralph leads us through "Good Thinking about the Good Book" a Bible study about the Bible itself.

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!

Confirmation Kick-off – September 21-22

First Presbyterian Church of Thomaston, GA is hosting a presbytery-wide weekend retreat for all youth (in grades 6 through 12) who have not yet completed confirmation. This retreat will also serve as Northminster's kick-off event to our own confirmation class.

5th Sunday Lunch – September 29

We will celebrate Northminster's 60th year of making disciples, growing in faith together and serving others in Christ over lunch in the fellowship all September 29th 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^{AM} and an evening session at 6^{PM}. See your bulletin insert 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 19th at 6am and return around 5:30pm.

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
KAREN JONES, Clerk of Session JENNIFER WHITEHEAD, Ministry Assistant

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