



NORTHMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

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

November 10, 2024

25th Sunday after Pentecost

10:30am

Chimes

Welcome

Prelude

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship — based on Psalm 68:19

Come, beloved of God, let us worship the Lord together.

Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up — God is our salvation!

Come, disciples, let us learn from our Teacher, Jesus.

Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up — God is our salvation!

Come, children of God, let us welcome the Holy Spirit in our midst.

Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up — God is our salvation!

Come, let us attend to Bath, Book, and Meal — the signs and seals of our salvation.

Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up — God is our salvation!

*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 Jesus’ healing miracles

Lord Jesus Christ, you came to serve.
**As you came to a blind man and gave him sight,
come to us in our darkness
and show us the things we cannot see.**

As you came to a man tormented in his mind
and gave him peace and healing,
come to us in our tensions and make us whole.

As you came to Lazarus, who was dead,
and brought him from the grave,
**come to us in our deadness and bring us to real life
now with our living Lord.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you came not to be served but to serve.
**But we see life the other way round:
to get where we do not give,
to exploit whom we have not helped,
to use what we have not earned.**

As you came to a dying thief and promised him paradise,
come to us now in forgiveness and give us hope.

Hear our further prayers ...

Scripture – Psalm 103:8-13

Assurance of Forgiveness

Response to Forgiveness #819

Be Still My Soul

verse 1

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side. Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.
Leave to thy God to order and provide, who through all changes faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Remembering our Baptisms

Affirmation of Faith – 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.

Hymn #774 (remain seated)

There Is Now a New Creation

There is now a new creation through the grace of Jesus Christ,
peace and reconciliation with the God of endless life.

Call the lost and found together; tell the news to everyone:
now the past is gone forever and a new life has begun.

Wrap the prodigal in welcome; run to greet the wayward child.
All is finished and forgiven; let us now be reconciled.

Come and join the celebration; come and join this happy feast;
Jesus makes an invitation to the greatest and the least.

There is now a new creation through the grace of Jesus Christ.
Sing, with thanks and adoration, to the God of endless life!

Scripture – Philippians 3:7-14

Sermon – Pressing onward toward the Goal

*Hymn #722

Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak

Lord, speak to me that I may speak in living echoes of your tone.
As you have sought, so let me seek your erring children lost and lone.

O lead me, Lord, that I may lead the wandering and the wavering feet.
O feed me, Lord, that I may feed your hungering ones with manna sweet.

O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the precious truths which you impart.
And wing my words that they may reach the hidden depths of many a heart.

O fill me with your fullness, Lord, until my very heart o'erflow
in kindling thought and glowing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.

O use me, Lord, use even me, just as you will, and when, and where
until your blessed face I see, your rest, your joy, your glory share.

*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.



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: 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); M.A. Riley (friend of Frank Ellis, surgery) - 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 Doug and Carol Holt in honor of ALL veterans. May we always be thankful for their service.

Committee Meetings – Today

For most committees, this will be the final meeting of 2024. 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.

Youth Progressive Dinner – Today

All youth are invited to participate in a progressive dinner party next Sunday, November 10th. Youth will travel to different homes for each course. If you are interested in hosting a course, please contact Chloe or Rosie.

Men's Breakfast – November 13th

All men are invited to gather for breakfast together at H&H Restaurant downtown (807 Forsyth St.) at 7^{AM}. This is a dutch treat activity.

Thanksgiving Lunch – November 17th

Our Fellowship/Adult Discipleship committee will be hosting Thanksgiving Lunch Sunday, November 17th following the worship service. The menu will feature Roasted pork loin with apricot sauce, sweet potato casserole, green beans, salad, bread and for dessert, slices of Lynn Davis' famous cakes! To help us cover the cost of food, we are asking \$10 for adults, \$5 for children ages 5-12 with a family cap of \$25.

Small Group Fellowship in 2025

Fellowship groups will be to build connections, deepen relationships, and to share in prayer and mutual support. These church-wide groups will be multi-generational, co-ed, and will include 10 to 12 people each. There will be a leader selected within each group, to coordinate gatherings. The groups will start in January 2025 and continue until June, taking a break for the summer. If you are interested in participating in a small group, please indicate this on your blue response sheet.

Sunday School – Every Sunday morning

Adult/Youth Sunday school will continue through December 15th in the fellowship hall at 9^{AM}. Children's Sunday school continues throughout December 22nd at 9:30^{AM}. All children, grades 5 and under, are welcome to arrive at 9^{AM} so parents may participate in Sunday School. Childcare remains available through the end of worship.

2025 Directory

Since the time of our last pictorial directory, we have welcomed new faces and said goodbye to members who have passed. It is time for an update! Throughout the month of December, please stop by the Library any Sunday before or after worship to have your photo taken and make sure your contact information is correct. All who wish to be included in the directory, whether member or friend, are encouraged to participate.

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