



# NORTHMINSTER

## *Presbyterian Church*

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

March 16, 2025

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

10:30am

Chimes

Call to Worship — from Hebrews 12:2-3

Now let us stay focused on Jesus,  
**who designed and perfected our faith.**

He endured the cross and ignored the shame of that death  
**because He focused on the joy that was set before Him;**  
and now He is seated beside God,  
**on the throne, a place of honor.**

Let us consider the life of the One who endured such burdens  
**so that we will not grow weary or lose heart in our own trials.**

Prelude

Opening Prayer

\*Hymn #630

*Fairest Lord Jesus*

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O thou of God to earth come down,  
thee will I cherish, thee will I honor, thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring.  
Jesus is fairer; Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling, starry host.  
Jesus shines brighter; Jesus shines purer, than all the angels heaven can boast.

Beautiful Savior, Ruler of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!

Call to Confession

Silent Prayers of Confession

Shared Prayers of Confession

**Almighty God,  
you despise nothing you have made,  
and you forgive the sins of all who turn back to you.  
Create in us new and contrite hearts,  
that, truly repenting of our sins  
and acknowledging our brokenness,  
we may obtain from you, the God of all mercy,  
full pardon and forgiveness,  
through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Redeemer,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Response to Forgiveness #184 (repeat)

*Calm to the Waves*

Calm to the waves. Calm to the wind. Je - sus whis - pers, "Peace, be  
still." Balm to our hearts. Fears at an end. In still-ness, hear his voice.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and moving lines.

Remembering our Baptisms

\*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 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.**

\*Passing the Peace

Announcements and Invitations

Gathering of our Offerings

Offertory Music

Hymn #647 (remain seated)

*Give Thanks*

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One;  
give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One;  
give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.

And now let the weak say, "We are strong"; let the poor say,  
"We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!"

And now let the weak say, "We are strong"; let the poor say,  
"We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!"  
Give thanks. Give thanks.

Prayer 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 #451 (remain seated)

*Open My Eyes, That I May See*

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me.  
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my eyes; illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear.  
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my ears; illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere.  
Open my heart, and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my heart; illumine me, Spirit divine!

Scripture – 2 Corinthians 4

Sermon – "We proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves"

Hymn #175

*Seek Ye First*

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,  
and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek, and you shall find;  
knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

You shall not live by bread alone, but by every word  
that proceeds from the mouth of God. Allelu, alleluia!

\*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: 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); Cody Hynes; Wendy Rodin (Bernadette Preyna's niece) - Military Personnel Prayer List: Austin Riley; Joshua Sulkers; Isaac Falkenstine (Bonnie Diboll's grandson); Nicholas Sanchez (Kathy McCord's godson); James Watwood; Carter Eddlemon (Doug & Carol Holt's grandson)

### Sanctuary Flowers

If you would like to contribute to the weekly flower arrangements, whether in celebration of a special event or in memory of a loved one, please sign up on the board in the foyer. Arrangements are \$65 (payable to Northminster) and can be taken home with you or gifted to one of our homebound or sick members.

### Adult Sunday School

March 9<sup>th</sup> through April 13<sup>th</sup>, Bryan Whitfield will lead us through N. T. Wright's Lent for Everyone: Luke, Year C, available at this site - <https://a.co/d/9oZUTDr>. There will be no Sunday School Easter Sunday. April 27-May 18, Andrew Gardner from Mercer University, will lead "Confronting Christian Nationalism." We will then break for the summer.

### Ushers and Greeters needed

Each week, we are blessed to be welcomed through our doors with joy and smiles. We would love for YOU to be one of those smiling faces. Our greeters also usher during the offering, passing the offering plates along the pews. If you are able to volunteer in this capacity, please sign up on the board in the foyer.

### Children's Sunday School

Children meet downstairs in room 123 at 9:30AM every Sunday morning. For adults wanting to attend Sunday School, you may take your children to the nursery room upstairs by the kitchen to wait with a leader until children's Sunday School begins.

### Women's Spring Bible Study

All women are invited to gather for Bible Study at 10AM in the community room every Wednesday through April 23rd. Jeanne Roddenberry will be leading our ladies through *Elijah* by Priscilla Shirer. Books are available for purchase by anyone who would like; cost is \$17 and can be made payable to Northminster with "Bible Study" in the memo line.

### Easter Lilies

Every year, Northminster congregants help fill our sanctuary with Easter Lilies on Easter Sunday. This year, we will have both potted lilies and bud-vase lilies. These flowers represent beautiful memories of loved ones who have died. Please see your blue sheet for information about having a lily for your loved one(s). After worship, lilies can be taken home or taken to someone you know who could appreciate their beauty. Cost is \$12 each; checks can be made payable to the church with "lilies" in the memo line.

## **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Lunch & BINGO!**

Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, the outreach committee will host 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday lunch with a taco bar following the worship service in the fellowship hall. We will also be hosting our youth's annual Bingo! fundraiser. Each sheet of 12 bingo cards is \$20. Please let us know if you plan to attend on your response sheet or by calling, texting, or emailing Jennifer (478-318-7911 or admin@northminstermacon.org)

## **Outreach Committee Meeting – This Sunday**

The outreach committee will be meeting in the library after church today. All who would like to be part of this committee, or would simply like to learn more of what it's about, please join us!

### **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: Mark Brown; Barbara Fatkin; Amy Maley; Nita McCord; Michael Napier; Renea Preyna; Gregg Reed; Jeanne Roddenberry; Amanda Smith; Gail Walker  
RALPH HAWKINS, Pastor and Teaching Elder PAUL EVANS, Parish Associate  
JENNIFER WHITEHEAD, Ministry Assistant

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