



NORTHMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

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

February 22, 2026

First Sunday of Lent

10:30AM

Chimes

Welcome

One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Prelude

Psalm 130
(Out of the Depths I Cry to You)

Emma Lou Diemer

Opening Prayer

Choral Introit

Call to Worship – based on Hymn 166

Lord, who throughout these forty days
for us did fast and pray,
**teach us with you to mourn our sins
and close by you to stay.**
Abide with us, till when this life
of suffering shall be past,
**an Easter of unending joy
we may attain at last.**

Hymn No. 166 (standing)

Lord Who throughout These Forty Days

Call to Confession

Prayers of Confession– based on Psalm 130

If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins,
O Lord, who could stand?
But with you there is forgiveness;
therefore you are worshipped.
I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,
and in the Lord's word I put my hope.
My soul waits for the Lord
more than watchmen wait for the morning.
[over]

**Almighty God, our Redeemer,
in our weakness we have failed
to be your messengers of forgiveness and hope.
Renew us by your Holy Spirit,
that we may follow your commands
and proclaim your reign of love,
through Jesus the Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.**

Hear our prayers ...

[silent prayer]

Assurance of Forgiveness

Scripture – Deuteronomy 8:1-10

Response No. 175, verse 1 (seated) *Seek Ye First*
Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

Remembering the Law of Love – based on Matthew 22:37-40

What is the great and first commandment?

**Love the Lord your God
with all your heart
and with all your soul
and with all your mind.**

What is the second commandment like it?

Love your neighbor as yourself.

What does this mean?

Love is the fulfilling of God's law.

To what does this call us?

To a life of faith working through love.

Passing the Peace

Announcements and Invitations

Gathering of our Offerings

Offertory Music

iSanto! iSanto! iSanto!

Words: Reginald Heber,
trans. Juan Bautista Cabrera & Music: John B. Dykes

Doxology No. 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 be Thy name, Thy Kingdom 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.

Scriptures – Matthew 4:1-11

Hymn No. 167 (seated)

Forty Days and Forty Nights

Sermon – Lent: In the wilderness with Jesus – Part One: Famished after forty days

Hymn No. 741 (standing)

Guide My Feet

Charge and Benediction

One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

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

O for a Heart to Praise My God

RICHMOND, arr. Robert J. Powell



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.

Current Member Concerns: Jane Prentice; Evelyn Clark; Rex & Nita Tidwell; Joan Walker; Mary Alice Wilson; Annette Hutto; Sarah Morrow; Larry Smallwood - *Current Friends and Family Concerns:* Margaret Yawn; Donna Carole Kitchens; Karen Kuebel (Betty Lamb's niece, sodium deficiency); Christopher Oxford (Isabel Davis's grandson); Rhonda Weaver; Suzann Smith's sister-in-law (severe vision problems); Kimberly Lewis (Frenchie Bowen's niece); Louise Sallstrom; Kyra Osmus; Lucile Hawkins – *Military Personnel Prayer List:* Austin Riley (David & Liz Riley's son); Joshua Sulkers (Sharon Sulkers' son); James Watwood; Carter Eddlemon (Doug & Carol Holt's grandson); James Barefoot, Austin Jones, and James Hawkins (family friends of Jennifer Whitehead)

Sanctuary Flowers

Flowers this week have been given to the glory of God by Sharon Sulkers in loving memory of her husband, Steve.

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 & Children's Sunday School

Adult Sunday School meets in the community room Sunday mornings at 9AM. Children's Sunday School, for all in 5th grade and under, are invited to join us at 9:30AM in the Kidventure room upstairs near the fellowship hall. Childcare begins at 9AM for parents wanting to attend Sunday School.

Choir Rehearsal Schedules

Bell Choir rehearsals are held every Wednesday from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Vocal choir meets every Wednesday from 7:00-8:15 p.m. All are invited to join in!

Special Music & Lecture – February 28th at Washington Ave. Presbyterian

All are invited to a special event: *“The Evolution of Musical Tradition in the Black Church: Preserving Heritage, Perpetuating Hope”* February 28th at 3PM, at Washington Avenue Presbyterian Church (939 Washington Ave. Macon). Parking can be found one block away at the Washington memorial library (1180 Washington Ave). For more than four centuries, African American music has shaped the cultural and spiritual life of America. From fields and plantations to sanctuaries and concert halls, its rhythms, harmonies, and melodies have expressed struggle, faith, protest, joy, and hope. This event will trace the powerful evolution of musical traditions rooted in the Black church, highlighting its essential role in preserving heritage, shaping community, and inspiring generations. Through lecture and music, the audience will experience a story that is profoundly American and worthy of celebration.

All things property

If you have a concern or question about our building and property, please speak to or contact elder Brad Miles, so he and the property committee can address it. His information can be found on the 2026 Elder Contact bulletin insert.

Contact Pastor Ralph

Ralph welcomes any and all forms of contact at any time: phone, text, email, in-person. Do reach out if conversation, prayer, and/or a visit would be a blessing to you. A normal work week includes working from home on Mondays; office time, meetings, and visitation on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays; and normally Fridays as a day off. Weekends often include congregational and presbytery activities.
cell: 478-250-3355 email: pastorhawkins@northminstermacon.org

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: Scott Emener; Amy Maley; Nita McCord;

Brad Miles; Renae Preyna; Gregg Reed; Jeanne Roddenberry; Amanda Smith; Sharon Sulkers; Natalie Vernon

RALPH HAWKINS, Pastor and Teaching Elder DAVID KENNEY, SR., Music Director PAUL EVANS, Parish Associate

SAM ALDERMAN, III, Clerk of Session JENNIFER WHITEHEAD, Ministry Assistant

Office hours: Monday - Friday 9:00-1:00; Jennifer Cell: 478-318-7911

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