



NORTHMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

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

September 20, 2026

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30AM

Chimes

Welcome

Choral Prelude

O How Blest Are the Meek and Humble

Richard Avery & Donald Marsh

Opening Prayer

Choral Introit

Bless the Lord, O My Soul

Based on Psalm 103; D. M. K.

Call to Worship – based on Psalm 103

O my soul, come, praise the Eternal One.

**With all that is in me—body, emotions, mind, and will—every part of who I am—
praise God's holy name.**

O my soul, come, praise the Eternal One;

sing a song from a grateful heart;

sing and never forget all the good God has done.

Despite all our many offenses, God forgives and releases us.

More than any human creature, God heals our wounds.

God reaches deep into the pit to deliver us from death.

God crowns us with unfailing love and compassion like a monarch.

When your soul is famished and withering,

God fills us with good and beautiful things, satisfying us as long as we live.

O my soul, come, praise the Eternal One.

Hymn No. 35 (standing)

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

Call to Confession

Prayers of Confession

Lord, Almighty,

You shelter us under your wings.

You so gently sustain us.

You grant the desires of our hearts.

Forgive us, then,

for seeking shelter under false promises

[over]

**for wasting time and talent on foolish pursuits
for wrapping ourselves up in our comforts.**

**Tune our hearts to sing again your praise.
Turn our eyes outward to love our neighbor.
Set us again on a path into your future.**

Hear our prayers ...

[silent prayer]

Scripture – Isaiah 44:21-22

Assurance of Forgiveness

Hymn No. 175 (seated)

Seek Ye First

Remembering Our Baptisms

Affirmation of Faith – The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, 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

*Blessed Are Those Who Mourn,
Blessed Are the Meek and Merciful*

MUSIC: Plainsong,
Based on Matthew 5:3-9

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.

Scripture – Matthew 5:1-11

Hymn No. 172, verses 1-3 (seated)

Blest Are They

Sermon – On meekness, mourning, and mercy

Hymn No. 172, verses 4-5 (standing)

Blest Are They

Charge and Benediction

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

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Dutch Melody; arr. Julius Röntgen



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 – *Current Friends and Family Concerns:* Margaret Yawn; Donna Carole Kitchens; Karen Kuebel (Betty Lamb's niece, sodium deficiency); Christopher Oxford (Isabel Davis's grandson); Kimberly Lewis (Frenchie Bowen's niece); Louise Sallstrom; Kyra Osmus; Suzann Smith's brother, Henry (shoulder replacement); Dave Crowe (Nita Mitchell's brother) – *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 today have been given to the glory of God by Pat McCall in celebration of music director, David Kenney, Sr.'s and ministry assistant, Jennifer Whitehead's September birthdays.

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.

Dominican Republic Mission Trip Info Meeting – Today!

We will have a meeting after worship in the library to discuss our 2027 mission trip to the Dominican Republic. Everyone who is interested in participating is invited to attend.

Women's Fall Bible Study – Every Wednesday, Starting Oct. 7th at 10AM & 5:30PM

Fall at Northminster means many things, including a fresh round of Wednesday Bible studies among our women. Pastor Ralph will launch a series he is calling "Making Some Lists, Checking Them Twice" — a look at the various "lists" in the scriptural collection: Ten Commandments, Beatitudes, Fruits of the Spirit, Paul's Spiritual Clothing, etc. And with each Biblical list each week, we'll build our own lists of blessings, gratuities, goals, and dreams. Come join us!

Choir Rehearsal Schedules

Every Wednesday: Handbell ringers meet at 6:00 p.m. in the library. Singers meet at 7:00 p.m. in the choir room. ALL AGES AND ABILITIES ARE WELCOME!! Just bring your wrists, arms, vocal cords, and willing spirits, and we will welcome you into the music fold!

Adult/Youth Sunday Studies

For our current Adult & Youth series, the wonderful faculty of Mercer University is helping us once again. For the next 5 weeks, Tiffany Anderson will be leading a study on Christian Popular Culture for Youth. This will be an exciting intergenerational study so please plan to join us! In Tiffany's words, "I hope to consider these cultural products as creations of intentional adults." Join us in the community room downstairs at 9am every Sunday!

Kidventures – Children's Sunday School

Our Northminster kids are having a blast in Kidventures with Mrs. Virginia and helpers, Elizabeth & Anna! Sunday school starts at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday. Bring a friend and join us for lessons, crafts, and snacks as we learn about how to care and share the way Jesus wants us to! Everyone, 5th grade and under, is welcome! Childcare begins at 9 a.m. for those wanting to attend adult Sunday school.

Loaves & Fishes Ministry – Walk a Mile

Many people in our community walk 4 to 7 miles every day just to survive. They walk to find food, showers, services, work, and safe places to rest. Walk, run or cycle 40 miles over 21 days while raising funds to support our neighbors experiencing homelessness. Kick-off event is Saturday, October 3rd at Amerson River Park's Bluff Pavilion from 10AM-1PM. Finish strong Saturday, October 24th at Loaves & Fishes Ministry of Central Georgia from 10AM-1PM. To register, become a sponsor, or get more details, please grab a flyer from the welcome desk.

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 – Thursday 9:00-1:00; Jennifer Cell: 478-318-7911

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May the Peace of the Lord Christ Go with You, by Peter Sutcliffe.

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