NORTHMINSTER
Presbyterian Church

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

October 11, 2026 | 20th Sunday after Pentecost | 10:30AM

Chimes

Welcome

Prelude *It Is Well with My Soul* Philip P. Bliss, arr. Martha Mier

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship – based on Psalm 27

Let us worship God, our light and our salvation.
The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.
We desire to dwell in God's house
and to seek God in his holy temple.
We have come with shouts of joy,
to sing and to make music to the Lord.
Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.
Teach us your ways and make straight our paths
in this hour of worship and for the rest of our days.

Hymn No. 611 (standing) *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Call to Confession

Prayers of Confession

Holy and gracious God,
you have given us your son
who is the Light of your world.
In his brightness we see the fullness of your face.

Forgive us
for chasing trendy flashes of lightning
for hiding his light under our bushels of busyness
for losing sight of his word and his way.

Rekindle the flame of your salvation that we might this week
be who he has said we already are: the lights of your world.

Hear our prayers ...

[silent prayer]

Scripture – John 1:10-14

Assurance of Forgiveness

Hymn No. 468 (seated) *In My Life (Lord, Be Glorified)*

Remembering our Baptisms

Affirmation of Faith – from the Presbyterian *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 *Oh, How He Loves You and Me* Kurt Kaiser; arr. Ellen Banks Ewell

Doxology No. 606 (standing) *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 5:14-16

Hymn No. 286 (seated) *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

Sermon – You (yes, you!) are the light of the world

Hymn No. 12 (standing) *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

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 *Stand Up Stand Up for Jesus* George J. Webb, arr. Jerry Ray

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; Steve Davis – *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; Dave Crowe (Nita Mitchell's brother); Rick Almarode (David Kenney, Sr.'s cousin) – *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 Michael & Chloe Napier in celebration of their son, Samuel's, first birthday.

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.

Today's Music
Sarah Watson is a graduate of Wesleyan College, where she majored in piano and organ performance. Sarah has played in churches since a very young age. She was the elementary music teacher at Tattnall Square Academy for five years. She had her first child, Ellie Mae, back in April and now stays at home with her while teaching piano on the side. She has been happily married to her husband, Caleb, for three years.

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, gratitudes, goals, and dreams. Come join us!

Backpack Ministry Supplies Update
Thank you to everyone who has been bringing your plastic grocery bags. We now have a very hearty supply and all space for them has been filled. We will let you know when you can start bringing more bags.

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
Tiffany Anderson is leading a study on Christian Popular Culture for Youth throughout the month of October. This is 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.

Adventures Aboard Bob the Bus!
You are invited to join Bob's Brunch Bunch every third Thursday of the month. To catch a ride, our "conductor," Pastor Ralph, is happy to pick you up from home that morning, you're welcome to meet at the church and ride along (10:30AM departure time), or you can meet us at the restaurant around 11. This month, we'll be dining at The Iron Rail in Bolingbroke on October 15th. Simply fill out your Bus Ticket, included in your bulletin, and place it in the offering basket or leave it on Jennifer's desk. Tear off your small ticket stub to keep with you. Ralph will plan his route based on who wants to ride along and call you with a pick-up time that you can then write down on your stub.

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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