



Jesus is the life I want to live, the light I want to reflect,
the way to the Father, the love I want to express, the joy
I want to share, the peace I want to sow around me....

-Teresa of Calcutta

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

THE ACT OF WORSHIP
The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 8, 2019
Ten-thirty o'clock

PREPARATION AND PRAISE

The worship of God begins this morning as you enter the Sanctuary. You are encouraged to use these moments for meditation, reflection and prayer. Following the service, greet our visitors and share your fellowship with those around you.

The Meditation of Preparation

Who shall ascend unto the hill of the Lord? Or who shall stand in God's holy place? There is no one but us. There is no one else to send, nor a clean hand, nor a pure heart on the face of the earth...but only us.

-Holy the Firm, Annie Dillard

Prelude "Who Trusts in God, a Strong Abode" Manz
The Call to Worship "Bless Ye the Lord" Ippolitof-Ivanof

*Bless ye the Lord our God, all ye His angels, bless the Lord.
Bless the Lord all His angels fair, that so rejoice in His strength.
He is gracious, kind, and full of compassion, ever just,
But He doth not always chide, nor keepeth His wrath.
As the heav'n is high above the earth, so great His mercy
to all that trust in His word.*

*The Processional Hymn No. 52: "I Sing the Mighty Power of God" *ELLACOMBE*

*The Litany of Praise Mary Kathryn Reiners

Leader: The Lord be with you;

People: And also with you.

Leader: O Lord, you have searched us and known us;

People: You know our sitting down and our rising up.

Leader: You understand our thoughts afar off.

People: You comprehend our path;

Leader: You are acquainted with all our ways.

All: O Lord, you know us all together.

*The Gloria Patri No. 807: "Glory Be to the Father" *MEINEKE*

*The Prayer of Invocation Mary Kathryn Reiners

The Greeting Lesley Ratcliff

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Gospel Luke 14:25-33 Charles Poole
Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

The Anthem "O Lord, Thou Hast Searched Me" Butler
O Lord, Thou hast searched and known me.
Thou knowest when I siteth down, and when I rise up,
Thou searchest out my path, and my lying down, and are acquainted in all my ways.
Thou layest Thy hand upon me.

Wonderful are Thy works, O Lord!
If I ascend into heav'n, Thou art there!
If I take the wings of the morning, Thou art there!
I praise Thee for Thou art wonderful.

I praise Thy name.

The Sermon "When We Come to the End" Charles Poole

COMMITMENT

Northminster is an open fellowship that wants to share its gift of life and ministry with others. During the Time of Response, this church extends to you an invitation to membership by your request for baptism, by letter from a sister church, or by statement of your Christian experience in another denomination. If you would like to unite with this covenant community, please express this desire by coming forward at this point of the service.

TIME OF RESPONSE

Look to your heart,
that flutters in and out like a moth.
God is not indifferent to your need.
You have a thousand prayers
but God has one.

-Anne Sexton

*The Recessional Hymn No. 458 "Search Me, O God" *ELLERS*

*The Benediction Charles Poole

*The Postlude "The Church's One Foundation" Helman

**The congregation will please stand.*

The Lectionary passages for September 8 are found on the following pages in the Pew Bible:

Jeremiah 18:1-11 ~ page 629
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 ~ page 503
Philemon 1-21 ~ page 970
Luke 14:25-33 ~ page 850

THE DEDICATION OF CHILDREN AND PARENTS

Daniel William Stancill
Son of Jeff and Mary Ellen Stancill

The Litany of Dedication

Pastor: We are here today to present Dan to the church and to dedicate him to God. Who brings this child for this holy purpose?

Parents: We, his parents, bring this child to be dedicated to God.

Pastor: What can we affirm about this child?

People: That he is made in the image of God and is a child of God by creation.

Pastor: What will this child be told about his faith history?

People: He will learn about Abraham and Sarah, the grandparents of our faith; about Moses, who led our ancestors out of bondage, and about Miriam, who sang and danced a victory song of freedom; about the Jewish hope for a Messiah; about Jesus Christ the Savior, and about the history of the church as God's redemptive people in the world.

Pastor: Who will raise this child in the faith, worship with him regularly, teach him to pray and lead him into a loving relationship with God?

Parents: We are the persons primarily responsible for this important work.

Pastor: Is anyone else to help with the guidance of this child?

People: Yes, we too, will share in his growth, for he belongs to us as well.

Pastor: We trust that God will be with us in this awesome task.

People: For God is faithful to us in all that we do.

Pastor: Amen.

The Presentation of the Child Charles Poole

The Lessons Psalm 139:1-18 Lesley Ratcliff
Philemon 1-21

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The sacrament of reconciliation is the great means of perfection. Confession is the channel of special sanctifying grace; it is the restoration of lost energies, light for the new journey, the movement of our heart toward resolution...

-James Alberione

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer Lesley Ratcliff

INTERCESSION AND DEDICATION

*The Offertory Hymn No. 635: "He Leadeth Me" *HE LEADETH ME*

*The Offertory Prayer Mary Kathryn Reiners

The Offertory "Abide with Us, Our Savior" Haan

*The Doxology *OLD HUNDREDETH*