

The Worship of God

A Celebration

*For all the saints who from their labors rest,
Who thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest,
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Northminster Baptist Church

THE MEMORIAL RECITAL

Today's Memorial Organ Recital is a time of thanksgiving "for all the saints" who have touched Northminster's life and gone on to inherit eternal life with God. Even while they rest from their labors, their influence is still active. Our kinship with them is abiding. Their faithfulness in life and their legacy in death deserve the church's resounding "Alleluia!"

It is fitting that a memorial service be celebrated on this day and in this way. Today's recital is timed to coincide with Northminster's 18th birthday. On May 7, 1967, Northminster met for the first time as a worshipping congregation. That service not only gave birth to a new body of believers; it set the tone for a new tradition of worship among Mississippi Baptists. Nothing has done more to enhance that tradition or enrich that tone than the addition of the Austin Organ to the sanctuary in 1981. The organ was given in memory of one of Northminster's beloved members, Roger W. Stribling, Jr., who died in April, 1975. Thus, organ music has become a medium of remembrance and an offering of thanks for the faithfulness of God and his servants in this place; and it is through organ music that we honor those servants today. The following church members have died since Northminster's founding in 1967:

Robert Ford Bass
James Walter Butler
Ruth Wright Eager
Roger Marion Hendrick
Ralph Hanna Hester, Jr.
Erneze Butler James
Samuel Leander Jones
Kerry Delmar Kimbrough
Susan Anne McFarland

Edward Ford Neal
Leland Speed
Roger Wilson Stribling, Jr.
Homer Hampton Thames
Isabelle Poteat Turner
Myrtis Jones Walton
Eva Gates Wooley
Eugene James Yelverton, Sr.

Many others -- relatives of church members and friends of the church -- have joined these forerunners who cheer us on in the race of faith. We honor them today also.

"Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin that does so easily beset us, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him, endured the cross, despising the shame, and is now seated at the right hand of the throne of God."

Hebrews 12:1-2

THE RECITALIST

Marilyn Mason is University Organist and Chairman of the Organ Department at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. She has been guest Professor at Columbia University and also at Union Theological Seminary, where she earned the degree Doctor of Sacred Music. The University of Michigan honored her in 1972 with the Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award.

Marilyn Mason was the first American woman to play in Westminster Abbey, the first woman organist to play in Latin America, and the first American organist to play in Egypt. Numerous invitations have taken her to five continents: North and South America, Europe, Africa and Australia. She has served as adjudicator at almost every major competition in the world.

Her own repertoire is immense, covering every period of literature. Her artistic achievements as a recitalist, teacher, judge and recorder are extensive. In future contribution to her profession, she has commissioned over thirty works by contemporary American composers, each dedicated to her and premiered by her.

Marilyn Mason played the dedicatory recital for Northminster's organ on March 22, 1981. We welcome her back for this return engagement as a friend and honored musician.

THE ACT OF WORSHIP The Fifth Sunday of Easter May 5, 1985 Three o'clock

The Call to Worship Psalm 150
The Processional Hymn No. 6 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"
The Invocation John Thomason
The Greeting

THE MEMORIAL RECITAL Marilyn Mason

MUSIC OF BACH, SCARLATTI, AND HANDEL HONORING THE TERCENTENARY OF THE COMPOSERS' BIRTH

Three Sonatas Domenico Scarlatti
Andante Allegro (Kp. 287) (1685-1757)
Allegro (Kp. 288)
Allegro (Kp. 255)

"Lascia mio piange" G. F. Handel
(1685-1769)

Tocatta, Adagio and Fugue, BWV 564 J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)

Deuxieme Choral en b mineur Cesar Franck
(1822-1890)

Evocation a la Sixtine Chapelle Franz Liszt
(1811-1886)

MUSIC BY AMERICAN COMPOSERS

Pastorale Drone (1982)* George Crumb
(b. 1929)

Concert Variations on "The Austrian Hymn" J. K. Paine
(1839-1906)

* First performance in Jackson

The Recessional Hymn "For All the Saints"
(The hymn is printed on the following page.)

The Benediction Hebrews 12:1-2

The Roger Stribling, Sr. family would like to invite you to a reception at their home, One Grove Park Place, immediately following the memorial recital.

