

THE LORD'S DAY

Worship

September 20, 2020



NORTH MACON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Important Reminders:

Turn off all cellular devices during the worship service.

Do not bring food or drink into the sanctuary.

Maintain at least 6 feet between yourself and others.

This is what the LORD says—your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:

*"I am the LORD your God, who teaches you what is best for you,
who directs you in the way you should go."*

Isaiah 48:17

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Introit

Call to Worship

Psalm 95:1-7

Pastor: Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD! Let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation!

People: Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song!

Pastor: For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods.

People: In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him.

Pastor: The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

People: Come, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;

Pastor: For he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.

*Praise Hymn

#75 - O Father, You are Sovereign

*Invocation

Rev. Josh Garrett

*Confession of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism #26

Christian: What do you believe when you say in the Apostles' Creed:
"I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth"?

We believe that the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ—
who out of nothing created heaven and earth
and everything in them,
and who still upholds and rules them
by His eternal counsel and providence—
is my God and Father
because of Jesus Christ His Son.

I trust Him so much that I do not doubt
that He will provide whatever I need for body and soul,
and He will turn to my good
whatever adversity He sends me in this sad world.

He is able to do this because He is Almighty God;
He desires to do this because He is a faithful Father.

*The Heidelberg Catechism was composed in Heidelberg, Germany in 1563.
It has been translated into many European, Asian, and African languages,
and is the most widely used and most warmly praised catechism of the Reformation period.*

* those who are able please stand

Isaiah 43



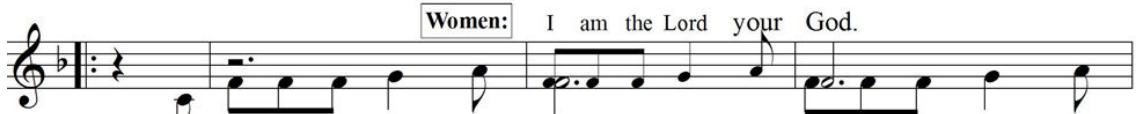
1. When you pass through the wa-ters, I will be with you. And the
 2. When you walk through the fire, you'll not be burned. And the



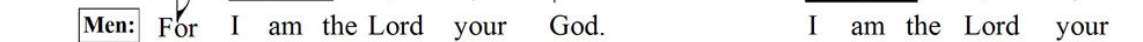
waves will not ov-er-come you. Do not fear for I have re-
 flames will not con - sume you. Do not fear for I have re-



deemed you. I have called you by name; you are mine.
 deemed you. I have called you by name, you are mine.



Women: I am the Lord your God.



Men: For I am the Lord your God. I am the Lord your



God. I am the Ho-ly One of Is-ra-el, your Sa - vior. I am the Lord.
 Do not



fear. Do not fear. Do not fear. Do not fear.
 I am the Lord. I am the Lord. I am the Lord.

*A psalm of David.
When the prophet Nathan came to him
after David had committed adultery with Bathsheba.*

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge. Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.

Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Rev. Josh Garrett

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Offertory

Memory Verse 25

Proverbs 4:23

Pastor: Let us recite Proverbs 4:23.

People: Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life;
Proverbs 4:23.

Memory Verse 26

*Drink water from your own cistern,
running water from your own well; Proverbs 5:15.*

Scripture Reading

1 Thessalonians 4:1-10

Finally, brothers, we instructed you how to live in order to please God, as in fact you are living. Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus to do this more and more. For you know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus.

It is God's will that you should be holy: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God; and that in this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him. The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you. For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. Therefore, he who rejects this instruction does not reject man but God, who gives you his Holy Spirit.

Now about brotherly love we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other. And in fact, you do love all the brothers throughout Macedonia. Yet we urge you, brothers, to do so more and more.

Speak, O Lord

Townend and Getty



Speak, O Lord, as we come to You— to re-ceive the food of Your ho - ly word
Teach us Lord full o-be - di-ence, — ho-ly rev - er-ence true hu - mil - i-ty. —
Speak, O Lord, and re-new our minds; Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.



Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;— Shape and fash-ion us — in Your like - ness,
Test our thoughts and our at - ti-tudes in the ra - di-ance — of Your pu-ri-ty.
Truths un-changed from the dawn of time, that will e - cho down through e - ter-ni-ty.



that the light of Christmight be seen to-day in our acts of love and our deed of faith.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your ma - jes - tic love and au - thor-i — ty.
And by grace we'll stand on Your prom-i-ses; And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.



Speak, O Lord, and ful - fill — in us — all Your pur - pos-es — for Your glo - ry.
Words of pow'r that can nev - er fail; Let their truth pre-vail o - ver un-be-lief.
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built and the earth is filled with Your glo - ry.

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Prayer for Covenant Children

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

*There is a Children's Class for students 4 years old to 2nd grade;
today we will also provide a class for 3rd-6th graders.*

*Hymn of Response

Jesus, Your Mercy

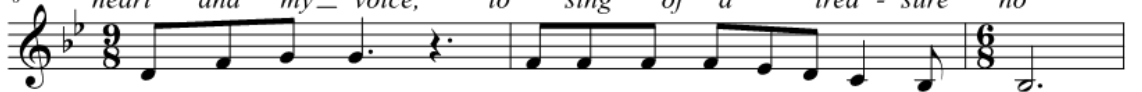
Jesus, Your Mercy



Je - sus, Your mer - cy is all my plea. I have no de - fense, my
Je - sus, Your mer - cy is all my boast, the good - ness I claim the
 Je - sus, Your mer - cy is all my rest, when fears weigh me down and
 4 *Je - sus, Your mer - cy is all my joy. For - e - ver I'll lift my*



guilt runs too deep. The best of my works pierced Your
grounds of my_ hope. What - ev - er I lack it's still
 en - e - mies press. A com - fort I cling to in
 6 *heart and my_ voice, to sing of a trea - sure no*



hands and Your feet. Je - sus, Your mer - cy is all my plea. vs. 2
what I need most. Je - sus, Your mer - cy is all my boast.
 life and in death. Je - sus, Your mer - cy is all my rest.
pow'r can de - stroy. Je - sus, Your mer - cy is all my joy.

9 Chorus



Praise the King who bore my sin, took my place when I stood con-demned.



Oh how good You've al-ways been to me. I will sing of Your mer - cy.

*Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up the light of his countenance upon you and give you peace, both now and forevermore. Amen.

*Doxology

#731

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Postlude

Visitors: Welcome! Please feel free to speak with one of the pastors or elders after the service. They would be glad to answer any questions you may have and would enjoy meeting you. *If you desire to receive email communications from the church, please email Monni Parrish at monni@nmpc.net and she will add you to the distribution list.*

• The Preached Word •

Title: *God - Honoring Sexuality*

Pastor: Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Text: Proverbs 5:15-23

pg. 514 in the pew Bible

Pray for Our Members:

Kate Harrison
 Caleb & Hannah Henning
 Alex, Tabitha, Ella & Zander Hinson
 Lyn & Aaron Hogg

Pray for Our Missionary of the Month:

Kay Burklin is MTW's refugee liaison, networking and resourcing refugee ministries and equipping the Church to love and serve those in need.

Pray for Those in Need:

Expecting: Holly Taylor, Megan Cathey, Mallory Sammons Moran & Megan Anderson
 Newborns: Summer Robinson, Charlie Cantrell, Olivia Nicholson, Frankie Schnetzer,
 Madison Covert, Benaiah Gottlieb, Kennedy Adams, Winston Garrett, Ava Adams,
 Hudson Hannah, Kinley Austin, Grace Behrens & Emerson Newell.

Newlywed & Engaged Couples: Jon & Bonnie (Barnes) Andree (3/21); Eric & Jennifer
 (McCullough) Hornick (4/25); Ben & Audrey (Drummond) Yost (5/29); Carter &
 Margaret (Duren) Shelton (7/25); Eric Hall & Jessica Cummings (10/24); Skylar Gossett
 & Lizzie Reed (8/7/21)

Members Caring for Loved Ones: Becky Gorman (Randy); Steve Smith (dad); Amelia
 Smith (mom); Howard Gordon (mom); Melanie Grier (mom); Amy Self (mom); Tricia
 Barton (mom); Monni Parrish (mom).

Recovering: Sally Lee (hip); Kathy Stanley (Parkinson's); John LaPish (surgery); Diane
 McCallum (knee replacement).

Bereaved: Diane McCallum (Jimmy); Pearson Kelly (mom); Cheryl Willis (Jerry); Kathy
 Moore (Don); Jean Snow (Bill Sr.); Jason Hawkins (dad); Larry & LuAnn Breed (Collin);
 Joe Timberlake (Peggy); Kasey Young (Keith); Kara Ballard (grandfather); Chase
 Singleton (dad); Jason Churchwell (dad); Margaret Rogers (dad); Gregory Washington
 (grandfather); Liz Ream & the McKelveys (Buck); Trey Dozier (grandmother); Curt
 Montgomery (grandmother); Tricia Barton (dad)

Our Leaders: the Session, Diaconate, Women's Ministry Committee, and Staff; our local,
 state and federal governmental officials.

North Macon Presbyterian Church

NMPC exists to glorify and enjoy God, love and equip His people for the work of His ministry, and make disciples of all nations.

More specifically, NMPC seeks to glorify God and make disciples by...

Providing a Home

- Warm & welcoming
- Connected & caring for one another
- Vulnerable & gracious

Proclaiming the Gospel

- Christ-centered worship & expository preaching
- Classes to educate, encourage & equip
- Small Groups to disciple & deepen relationships

Partnering with Ministries

- North Macon Preschool
- *RUF, STF, CCS, EE, CC and OOD*
- 19 Missionaries & 2 short-term Mission Trips
- Central GA Presbytery & General Assembly

*Local Ministries

RUF – Reformed University Fellowship (Mercer, Wesleyan & Valdosta State)

STF – Strong Tower Fellowship

CCS – Covenant Care Services

EE – Evangelism Explosion

CC – Campus Clubs

OOD – Out of Darkness

A Further Explanation

Providing a Home

We believe “Providing a Home” meets one of the unique needs for those living in North Macon. We tend to be isolated and lonely. We tend to live fragmented and disconnected lives, and advances in technology seem to be making matters worse. We tend to pride ourselves on “having it all together” and giving the appearance that we do not need anyone or anything.

We desperately need a place where we can take off our masks, admit our sin and failures, and be received and accepted. We long for a genuine community where we can be loved as we really are, and, in turn, love others as they really are. NMPC is committed to be that place—a home—where folks are welcomed, embraced, and loved.

Proclaiming the Gospel

NMPC’s primary task is to “Proclaim the Gospel”, for the Gospel is the power of God for salvation. To spell it out more particularly, we are committed to preach the good news of Jesus Christ, in the whole counsel of Scripture, by the power of the Holy Spirit, with Reformed theological convictions, in a caring and gracious community, so that we might present everyone perfect in Christ. Therefore, in every worship service, every Sunday school class, every small group, and every ministry of the church, we are committed to proclaim the Gospel as of chief importance for the transformation of lives.

Partnering with Ministries

NMPC is also committed to carrying the good news of the Gospel—in word and deed—into our community and around the world. We seek to do so through strategic partnerships with *ministries* in our community and *missionaries* around the globe. We are committed to **pray** for, **partner** with, and **participate** in these ministries so that we might make disciples of Jesus Christ of all nations.

• Discipleship Opportunities •

Sunday School Classes

Adults: 1 Samuel—taught by Josh Garrett in the Fellowship Hall

Youth: *Six Conversations* (from the Gospel of John)—taught by Mark Ballard & Anna Smith in the Outdoor Classroom

3rd-6th Grade: *Listening to Jesus*—taught by Duncan Cantrell in Room 122

K4-2nd Grade: *Living Together: the Faithfulness of God in the Families of the Patriarchs*—taught by Jill Bloodworth, Sara Pyles, and Caleb & Hannah Henning in Room 121.

Women's Bible Study

Heather Stevenson is teaching *Ezra: the Restoration and Rebuilding of God's People* on Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

Wednesday Night Activities

Dinner begins at 5:45 PM (\$5.00/adult/teen, \$2.00/child, family max \$15.00).

At 6:30 PM classes are offered for all ages:

Nursery (0-3 year old)

Children's Class (K4 - 6th grade)

Youth Group (7th - 12th grade)

Adult Bible Study: Reformed Worldview

The menu for Wed, Sept 23rd is Baked Spaghetti, Salad, Rolls & Cookies

Small Groups

If you are interested in joining a Small Group, please contact Josh or Payton.

• Financial Update •

as of July 31, 2020

General Operations

2020 Receipts: \$738,547
2020 Expenses: \$662,125

Faith Promise for Missions

2020 Receipts: \$ 35,381
Paid out June 30: \$ 32,508
to support our 19 missionaries
for the first half of 2020
Needed by Dec. 30: \$ 24,725

• Announcements •

Children's Lesson Today - Pastor Hunter will be preaching on sexuality today. We will provide a Children's Lesson during the sermon for students 4 years old through 6th grade.

Lunch for College & Graduate Students - After the worship service today, we will host a lunch for all college & graduate students. Join us!

New Members Class - If you are interested in learning more about NMPC or joining our membership, you are invited to attend the New Members Class, which is comprised of two Sunday night meetings, scheduled for tonight & Oct 4 from 5:30 - 8:00 (dinner & childcare are provided). Please talk with Pastor Hunter today to sign up. (We provide make-up sessions if you cannot attend one night.)

Monday Morning Prayer - We will gather for Monday Morning Prayer from 9:00 - 10:00 AM. If you have a prayer request, please let one of the pastors know.

Darkness to Light Training - NMPC will host a "Darkness to Light: Stewards of Children" training immediately following the worship service next Sunday, September 27 in the Fellowship Hall with lunch being served. The training will last approximately 2 hours. If you are an adult or student volunteer and have not taken this course, please plan to attend & e-mail Kathy Pye at kathy@nmnpc.net by Thursday to sign up.



NORTH MACON

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Mission

To glorify and enjoy God, love and equip His people for the work of His ministry, and make disciples of all nations.

	Class of 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022
Session	Ed Grimsley Kevin Watson*	Cleve Cunningham Neal Ham Dan Strawn* Jeff Thompson*	Jason Churchwell Tommy James

	Class of 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022
Diaconate	Matt Monsted* Silas Peed Wes Seay	Dwayne Benson Matt Cathey* Patrick Hoye Brandon Youmans	Lee Burch Hays Fyke Grant Nicholson Shane Self

**indicates the officer is at the end of a 2nd term and will roll off*

Staff	Every Member, <i>Ministers</i> Hunter Stevenson, <i>Senior Pastor</i> Josh Garrett, <i>Associate Pastor</i> Duncan Cantrell, <i>Assistant Pastor</i> Payton Churchwell, <i>Women's Ministry Coordinator</i> Mark Ballard, <i>Youth Director</i>	Anna Smith, <i>Youth Assistant</i> Kathy Pye, <i>Church Secretary</i> Monni Parrish, <i>Administrator, Financial Director & Pianist</i> Melanie Buckner, <i>Music Director</i> Debbie McCommon, <i>North Macon Preschool Director</i>
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5707 Rivoli Drive, Macon, GA 31210 | Phone: 478.477.7777 | Website: www.nmpc.net

North Macon belongs to the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), a denomination seeking to be Faithful to the Scriptures, True to the Reformed Faith, and Obedient to the Great Commission.