

THE LORD'S DAY

# Worship

May 16, 2021



**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.

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*I tell you the truth, unless a man is born again,  
he cannot see the kingdom of God.*

*John 3:3*

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### Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

### Introit

Call to Worship

Psalm 100

Pastor: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth!

People: **Serve the LORD with gladness! Come before him with joyful songs!**

Pastor: Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

People: **Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him and praise his name!**

Pastor: For the LORD is good, and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

\*Praise Hymn

*#101 - Come Thou Almighty King*

*\* those who are able please stand*

\*Confession of Faith

Westminster Larger Catechism, 66 & 67

Pastor: Christian, what is that union which the elect have with Jesus Christ?

People: The union which the elect have with Christ  
is the work of God's grace,  
whereby they are spiritually and mystically,  
yet really and inseparably,  
joined to Christ as their head and husband;  
which is done in their effectual calling.

Pastor: What is effectual calling?

People: Effectual calling is the work of God's almighty power and grace,  
whereby (out of his free and special love to his elect,  
and from nothing in them moving him thereunto)  
he does, in his accepted time,  
invite and draw them to Jesus Christ,  
by his Word and Spirit;  
savingly enlightening their minds,  
renewing and powerfully determining their wills,  
so as they (although in themselves dead in sin)  
are thus made willing and able freely to answer his call,  
and to accept and embrace the grace  
offered and conveyed therein.

*The Westminster Larger Catechism expresses the truths of the Bible in summary form. It was comprised at the Westminster Assembly in London (1643-1648), and it sets forth the doctrinal standards of our church and our denomination, the Presbyterian Church in America.*

\*Hymn

#529 - *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Receiving New Members

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

*Patrick, Andra, Ella & Wiley Goff; Terry & Donna Rohn; Chase Singleton*

1. Do you acknowledge yourself to be a sinner in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope except in His sovereign mercy?
2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and depend upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?
3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes a follower of Jesus Christ?
4. Do you promise to serve Christ in His Church by supporting and participating in its worship and work to the best of your ability?
5. Do you submit yourself to the government and discipline of the Church, and promise to further its purity and peace?

The Sacrament of Baptism

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

*Ella Leigh Goff*

*I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean;  
I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols.  
Ezekiel 36:25*

*He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit,  
whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior.  
Titus 3:5b-6*

Right Hand of Fellowship

NMPC Elders

## Call to Confession

Isaiah 55:6-7

Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked ones forsake their ways and the unrighteous ones their thoughts. Let them turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

## Corporate Confession

Psalms 51:1-12

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.

## Silent Confession

## Words of Assurance

Psalms 103:10-12

*He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.  
For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him;  
as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.*

## Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Rev. Duncan Cantrell

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

Please fill out the information sheet beside your bulletin. Also, we encourage those watching online to 'make a comment' so that we can record your presence with us.

## Scripture Reading

Ezekiel 37:1-14

## \*Hymn of Preparation

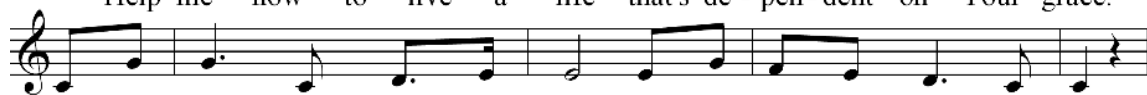
O Great God

# O Great God

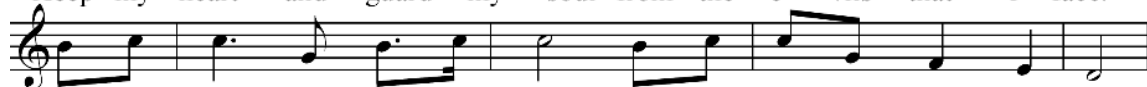
Bob Kauflin



O Great God of high - est heav'n, oc - cu - py my low - ly heart.  
*I was blind - ed by my sin, had no ears to hear Your voice,*  
Help me now to live a life that's de - pen - dent on Your grace.



Own it all and reign su - preme con - quer ev - ery re - bel pow'r.  
*did not know Your love with - in, had no taste for heav - en's joys.*  
Keep my heart and guard my soul from the e - vils that I face.



Let no vice or sin re - main that re - sists Your ho - ly war.  
*Then Your Spir - it gave me life, o - pened up Your Word to me,*  
You are worth - y to be praised with my ev - ery thought and deed.



you have loved and pur - chased me, make me Yours for - ev - er more.  
*through the gos - pel of Your Son, gave me end - less hope and peace.*  
O great God of high - est heav'n, glo - ri - fy Your Name through me.

Prayer for Covenant Children

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Sermon

*You Must Be Born Again*  
John 3:1-8

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

\*Hymn of Response

*#455 - And Can it Be That I Should Gain*  
*vs. 1, 4, and 5*

\*Benediction

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The One who calls you is faithful, and he will do it. 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](mailto:monni@nmpc.net) and she will add you to the distribution list.*

# •The Preached Word•

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**Title:** *You Must Be Born Again*

**Text:** John 3:1-8

**Pastor:** Rev. Hunter Stevenson

pg. 862 in your pew Bible

WSC Q. 31. *What is effectual calling?*

Effectual calling is the work of God's Spirit, whereby,  
convincing us of our sin and misery,  
enlightening our minds in the knowledge of Christ,  
and renewing our wills,  
He doth persuade and enable us to embrace Jesus Christ,  
freely offered in the gospel.



Romans 8:30

And *those he predestined, he also called*; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

1 Corinthians 1:9

God, *who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord*, is faithful.

1 Peter 5:10

And the God of all grace, *who called you to his eternal glory in Christ*, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.

2 Timothy 1:8-9

So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God, *who has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace*. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

2 Thessalonians 2:13-14

But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers loved by the Lord, because *from the beginning God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth*. He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Titus 3:3-8

At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. *He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior*, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying.

Ezekiel 36:25-28

I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. You will live in the land I gave your forefathers; you will be my people, and I will be your God.

Deuteronomy 30:6

*The LORD your God will circumcise your hearts and the hearts of your descendants, so that you may love him with all your heart and with all your soul, and live.*

John 1:12-13

He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—*children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.*

1 John 2:29

If you know that he is righteous, you know that *everyone who does what is right has been born of him.*

1 John 3:9

*No one who is born of God will continue to sin*, because God's seed remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God.

1 John 4:7-8

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. *Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.* Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

1 John 5:1-5

*Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God*, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, *for everyone born of God overcomes the world.* This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

1 John 5:18-19

We know that *anyone born of God does not continue to sin*; the one who was born of God keeps him safe, and the evil one cannot harm him. We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one.

1 Peter 1:22-23

Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart. *For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.*

Psalm 14:2-3

The LORD looks down from heaven on the sons of men to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God. *All have turned aside, they have together become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one.*

Romans 8:7-8

*The sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God. (See Jer 13:23; John 8:34; 1 Cor 2:14)*

John 6:44

*No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day.*

Matthew 22:14

*For many are invited, but few are chosen.*

John 17:6-9

*I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them.*

Acts 13:48

*When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the word of the Lord; and all who were appointed for eternal life believed.*

Ephesians 2:8-9

*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.*

2 Timothy 2:24-26

*And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.*

# 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\*
- 20 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

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**Pray for Our Members:**

Rhett, Joyce, Matthew & Sara Rhett Farmer  
Mark, Alleli & Mark Paul Ferland  
Caroline Fleming  
Frank & Nina Fleming

**Pray for Our Missionary of the Month:**

Mike & Eli Sabin help spread the gospel throughout Southeast Asia by means of Trans World Radio on Guam. Christian programming is broadcast to places that otherwise would have no Christian witness.

**Pray for Those in Need:**

Expecting: Melissa Newell (6/14), Bonnie Barnes Andree (6/22), Katie Singleton (6/25), Molly Prestwood (7/19) & Allie Monsted (7/28)

Newborns: Betsy Lambert, Smith Dozier, Mary Louise Cathey, Ford Anderson, Genevieve Moran, Hayley Taylor, Summer Robinson, Charlie Cantrell, Olivia Nicholson, Frankie Schnetzer, Madison Covert, & Kennedy Adams

Members Caring for Loved Ones: Becky Gorman (Randy); Steve Smith (dad); Amelia Smith (mom); Howard Gordon (mom); Tricia Barton (mom).

Recovering/Sick: Sally Lee (hip); Kathy Stanley (Parkinson's); John LaPish (knee)

Bereaved: Joe Timberlake (Peggy); Liz Ream & the McKelveys (Buck); Tricia Barton (dad); Charles Baker (sister); Charlie Parrish (mom); Amy Self (mom); Chris Wilson (dad); Kathy Kersey (brother); Cathy Crumbley (mom); Cindy Voss (Ed); Justin & Haynes Studstill (Tyler); Jim Grier (Melanie); John Timms (brother); Cathe Dondes (David); Jill Bloodworth (mom); Margaret Shelton (grandfather); Monni Parrish (mom); Cheryl Willis (sister).

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

# • Discipleship Opportunities •

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## Sunday School Classes

Adults: *Habakkuk*—taught by Josh Garrett in the Fellowship Hall

Youth: *Biblical vs. Cultural Liturgies*—taught by Mark Ballard & Anna Smith

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, Caleb & Hannah Henning & Kelly Smith in Room 121.

## Summer Fellowships

We will begin our Summer Fellowships on Wednesday, May 26th.

6:00 Dinner

6:45 Singing

6:55 Lesson for all ages

7:10 Dessert & Fellowship

## Small Groups

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

# • Financial Update •

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as of May 2, 2021

## General Operations

2021 Receipts:           \$ 558,005  
2021 Expenses:         \$ 366,250

## Faith Promise for Missions

2021 Receipts:         \$ 40,775  
Needed by June 30:   \$ 24,725  
to support our 20 missionaries

## Building Loan Balance

April 30, 2021:       \$ 542,499

# • Announcements •

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**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.

**VBS Registration**-VBS will be June 14-17 from 9 AM - Noon and registration is now open for students and volunteers! You should have received an email last week. If you have any questions, contact Duncan (duncan@nmpe.net) or Monni (monni@nmpe.net).

**Teacher Appreciation Dinner** - NMPC would like to celebrate and thank all of the educators in our local schools for all of their hard work during the 2020-2021 school year. Please join us for dinner on Monday, May 24<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:00 PM and bring your spouse or another teacher! RSVP on Realm or to Kathy Pye.

**2021 High School Graduates** - Help us put together a “book of encouragement” for each high school graduate by scanning the QR code or leaving a handwritten note in the front office. Thank you!



**Summer Book** - Each summer our congregation reads a book together and gathers in Sunday School classes to discuss it. This year we will read Dane Ortlund's *Gentle and Lowly: The Heart of Christ for Sinners and Sufferers*. Pick up a copy for \$5 today!



# 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 2021	Class of 2022	Class of 2023
Session	Cleve Cunningham Neal Ham Dan Strawn* Jeff Thompson*	Jason Churchwell Tommy James	Ed Grimsley* Paul McCommon Rob Morton Howard Reed

	Class of 2021	Class of 2022	Class of 2023
Diaconate	Dwayne Benson Matt Cathey* Patrick Hoye Brandon Youmans	Lee Burch Hays Fyke Grant Nicholson Shane Self	Silas Peed* Wes Seay*

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

Staff	Every Member, <i>Ministers</i>	Anna Smith, <i>Youth Assistant</i>
	Hunter Stevenson, <i>Senior Pastor</i>	Kathy Pye, <i>Church Secretary</i>
	Josh Garrett, <i>Associate Pastor</i>	Monni Parrish, <i>Administrator,</i>
	Duncan Cantrell, <i>Assistant Pastor</i>	<i>Financial Director &amp; Pianist</i>
	Payton Churchwell, <i>Women's Ministry Coordinator</i>	Melanie Buckner, <i>Music Director</i>
Mark Ballard, <i>Youth Director</i>	Debbie McCommon, <i>North Macon Preschool Director</i>	

5707 Rivoli Drive, Macon, GA 31210 | Phone: 478.477.7777 | Website: [www.nmpc.net](http://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.*