

THE LORD'S DAY

Worship

December 12, 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.

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

Hebrews 1:3

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Introit

Call to Worship

Revelation 5:6, 9-14

Pastor: Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing in the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. And they sang a new song:

People: **You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.**

Pastor: Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. In a loud voice they sang:

People: **Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth, wisdom and strength, honor and glory and praise!**

Pastor: Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, singing:

People: **To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor, glory and power, for ever and ever!**

*Praise Hymn

#208 - *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

*Invocation

Rev. Josh Garrett

*Confession of Faith

Colossians 1:15-20

Pastor: Christian, who is Jesus Christ?

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn over all creation.
For by him all things were created:
things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible,
whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities;
all things were created by him and for him.
He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.
And he is the head of the body, the church;
He is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead,
so that in everything he might have the supremacy.
For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him,
and through him to reconcile to himself all things,
whether things on earth or things in heaven,
by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. Amen.

*Hymn

#203 - *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

** those who are able please stand*

Eli James Singleton

Baptismal Vows

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

1. Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
2. Do you claim God's covenant promises in his behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for his salvation, as you do for your own?
3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before him a godly example, that you will pray with and for him, that you will teach him the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?
4. Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting these parents in the Christian nurture of this child?

Congregational Prayer

Take My Life and Let It Be

*Take his life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee
Take his moments and his days; let them flow in ceaseless praise
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.*

Call to Prayer

Hebrews 4:14-16

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are - yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

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

Celtic Noel

*Hymn of Preparation

#201 - O Little Town of Bethlehem

Prayer for Covenant Children

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Sermon

In the Beginning Was the Word
John 1:1-5

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

*Hymn of Response

#207 - Good Christian Men, Rejoice

*Benediction

Ephesians 3:20-21

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! 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

•The Preached Word•

Title: *In the Beginning Was the Word*

Text: John 1:1-5

Pastor: Rev. Hunter Stevenson

pg. 860 in your pew Bible

Psalm 19:1-4. The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. **Day after day they pour forth speech;** night after night they display knowledge. There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.

Romans 1:18-20. The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. **For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made,** so that men are without excuse.

Psalm 147:19. He has revealed his word to Jacob, his laws and decrees to Israel.

Hebrews 1:1-3. In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days **he has spoken to us by his Son,** whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

1 John 1:1-3. That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. **The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us.** We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 1:16-21. We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but **we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.** For he received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain. And we have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

• World Missions •

Thanks be to God for His incredible goodness and blessings to our church in the area of world missions! This year, because of your generous giving, we were able not only to support our 19 missionaries but also to give the following gifts:

- 1) Mike & Eli Sabin, who serve in Guam with Transworld Radio, were given a \$10,000 gift for an upgrade and repairs to their radio towers.
- 2) Joshua Tsavatewa, who ministers at Sacred Road in Washington State, was given a \$5000 gift for a down payment on his first home with his new wife.
- 3) Jeff and Jamie Garrett in South Asia were given a \$10,000 gift for a capital campaign for the renovation of a school and training center for pastors.
- 4) Jim and Mary Alice Patterson in North Carolina were given a \$2,000 gift to purchase a new log splitter which they use to provide firewood for the widows and the elderly in their ministry.
- 5) Teresa Webber, who is church planting in Bangkok, Thailand, was given a \$2000 gift toward the support she needed to get on the field.

In addition, we have been able to take on 4 new missionaries:

- 1) Stan and Connie Beasley work with 18.26 Network where they train and equip Christians to turn their vocations into opportunities for world missions.
- 2) Tomo Ito is working with Sacred Road Ministries to establish a similar work with the tribes of Native Americans in Warm Springs, Oregon.
- 3) Brian and Megan Moore are involved in evangelism and church planting in Neurenburg am Rhein, Germany.
- 4) Teresa Weber is part of a church planting team in Bangkok, Thailand.

Pray for Our Members:

Skip & Debbie Yetter
Brandon, Beth, Levi & Howard Youmans
Levy & Joan Youmans

Pray for Our Missionary of the Month:

Mike and Eli Sabin help spread the gospel throughout Southeast Asia by means of Trans World Radio in Guam.

Pray for Those in Need:

Expecting Mothers: Kathlyn Wohlrabe (1/29), Mary Lou Cantrell (1/31) & Jennifer Hornick (6/18)

Newborns: Annie Monsted, Amelia Prestwood, Noah Andree, Eli Singleton, Lakelyn Newell, Smith Dozier, Mary Louise Cathey and Ford Anderson.

Members Caring for Loved Ones: Becky Gorman (Randy); Steve Smith (dad); Amelia Smith (mom); Howard Gordon (mom); Tricia Barton (mom); Monni Parrish (dad); Joseph Egloff (mom); Rana Munna (mom); Seth Peed (dad)

Recovering/Sick: Kathy Stanley (Parkinson's); Seth Daniels (leg); Cathie Dondes (elbow); John LaPish (cancer); Terry Rohn (shoulder); Debbie Yetter (hip).

Bereaved: Liz Ream & the McKelveys (Buck); Cindy Voss (Ed); Jim Grier (Melanie); Cathie Dondes (David); Jill Bloodworth (mom); Monni Parrish (mom); Cheryl Willis (sister); Jennifer Hornick (step-dad); Susana, Sarah Jane & Oscar Sandefur (Chris); Beth McSween (John); Pam Kanode (Paul); Vicki Anderson (Matthew); Bobby Freeman (brother); Claire Chastain (brother); Dustin Newell (dad)

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

• Discipleship Opportunities •

Sunday School Schedule

Sunday, December 19: church wide brunch at 9:30 AM (no SS classes)

Sunday, December 26: no classes

Sunday, January 2: no classes

Sunday, January 9: Community Based SS classes begin

Wednesday Night Activities

We will resume Wednesday Night Dinner & Activities on January 12th, 2022.

• Financial Update •

as of November 30, 2021

General Operations		Faith Promise for Missions	
2021 Receipts:	\$ 1,374,574	Paid out June 30:	\$ 26,742
2021 Expenses:	\$ 1,111,567	to support our 19 missionaries for the first half of 2021	
Building Loan Balance		Needed by Dec. 30:	\$ 25,675
November 30:	\$ 444,222	Cash available:	\$ 34,199

• Announcements •

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.

Wednesday Night Activities - Our Wednesday Night Activities have concluded for 2021. We will resume on January 12, 2022.

Christmas Eve Service - We will have a Candlelight Christmas Eve Service on Friday, December 24th at 5:00 PM. A nursery for 0-3 year olds will be provided. We will take up a special offering for the PCA Ministerial Relief Fund, which is used for financial assistance for the widows and orphans of PCA ministers & missionaries. If you would like to make a donation, please put "PCA Relief Fund" on the memo line of your check.

Marriage Conference - NMPC will host a Marriage Conference with Dr. John Cox on February 11-12. Please save the date!

Mission Trip to Sacred Road - NMPC will send a team of short-term missionaries to Washington State the week of June 4-11, 2022 to assist Sacred Road Ministries as they minister to the Yakama Tribe of Native Americans. If would you like more information, please contact Mark Ballard or Duncan Cantrell.



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 & 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>	

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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.