

THE LORD'S DAY

# Worship

December 11, 2022



**NORTH MACON**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## Important Reminders:

Turn off all cellular devices during the worship service.  
Do not bring food or drink into the sanctuary.

---

*Nothing is impossible with God.  
Luke 1:37*

---

### Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

### Introit

Call to Worship

Psalm 118:13-16

Pastor: I was pushed back and about to fall, but the LORD helped me.

People: **The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.**

Pastor: Shouts of joy and victory resound in the tents of the righteous:

**Women: The LORD's right hand has done mighty things!**

**Men: The LORD's right hand is lifted high!**

**ALL: The LORD's right hand has done mighty things!**

\*Praise Hymn

*#208 - O Come, All Ye Faithful*

*\* those who are able please stand*

\*Confession of Faith

Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q 21 & 22

Q. 21. Christian, who is the Redeemer of God's elect?

A. The only Redeemer of God's elect is the Lord Jesus Christ,  
who being the eternal Son of God,  
became man, and so was, and continues to be,  
God and man in two distinct natures,  
and one person, forever.

Q. 22. How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?

A. Christ, the Son of God, became man,  
by taking to himself a true body,  
and a reasoning soul,  
being conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
in the womb of the Virgin Mary,  
and born of her,  
yet without sin. Amen.

*The Westminster Shorter 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*

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants. For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

## Pastoral Prayer &amp; Lord’s Prayer

Dr. David Todd

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

*God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen*

*God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay.  
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day;  
To save us all from Satan’s pow’r when we were gone astray.  
O tidings of comfort and joy!*

*From God, our heav’nly Father, a blessed angel came;  
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same;  
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name.  
O tidings of comfort and joy!*

*Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place.  
And with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace.  
This holy tide of Christmas all others doth deface.  
O tidings of comfort and joy!*

Scripture Reading

Matthew 1:18-25

\*Hymn of Preparation

#216 - *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

Prayer for Covenant Children

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Sermon

*A Sign From the Lord*  
Isaiah 7:1-17

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

\*Hymn of Response

#195 - *Joy to the World! The Lord is Come*

\*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

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@nmipc.net](mailto:monni@nmipc.net) and she will add you to the distribution list.*

# • The Preached Word •

---

**Title:** *A Sign From the Lord*

**Pastor:** Rev. Hunter Stevenson

**Text:** Isaiah 7:1-17

pg. 558 in the pew Bible

**Pray for Our Members:**

Jason, Payton, Jay, Emory & Packy Churchwell  
Kathy Combs  
Bryan, Meredith, Hunter, Rhett & Madison Covert  
Larry & Cathy Crumbley

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

Jeff & Jamie are church planters in India, and Jeff teaches rural pastors in a seminary.

**Pray for Those in Need:**

Expecting: Meredith McKenzie (1/15), Kaleigh Freel (2/25), Melissa Newell (4/8)  
& Jenny Nicholson  
Newborns: Forrest Dozier, Benjamin Hornick, Charlie & Lillie Wohlrahe, Teddy  
Cantrell, Annie Monsted, Amelia Prestwood, Noah Andree & Eli Singleton  
Members Caring for Loved Ones: Becky Gorman (Randy); Howard Gordon  
(mom); Monni Parrish (dad); Joseph Egloff (mom); Rana Munna (mom)  
Recovering/Sick: Jerry Hogg (cancer); John LaPish (surgery)  
Bereaved: Susana, Sarah Jane & Oscar Sandefur (Chris); Beth McSween (John);  
John & Joyce Mcadows (son); Edith Adams (mother); Joe Stanley (Kathy);  
LeeAnn Wildman (mom); Skip Yetter (brother); Boo McKelvey (mom & dad);  
Tricia Barton (mom); Cathy Smith (JC)  
Officer Nominees: Cal Garretson & Charlie Parrish (elder); Josh Buckner & Rick  
Funk (deacon)  
Our Leaders: the Session, Diaconate, 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\*
- 20 Missionaries & 2 short-term Mission Trips
- Central GA Presbytery & General Assembly

### \*Local Ministries

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

STF – Strong Tower Fellowship

CCS – Covenant Care Services

EE – Evangelism Explosion

CC – Campus Clubs

OOD – Out of Darkness



# A Fuller Explanation

## Providing a Home

We believe “Providing a Home” would meet one of the unique needs of those living in North Macon. We tend to be isolated and lonely. We tend to live fragmented and disconnected lives, and advances in technology seems 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.

The most recent initiative to “Providing a Home” is our Community Focused Sunday School Classes.

## 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 committed to proclaiming the Gospel as of chief importance for the transformation of lives.

## Partnering with Ministries

NMPC is 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 with 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 •

---

## Upcoming Sunday School Schedule

- Dec 18: Churchwide brunch
- Dec 25: No classes
- Jan 1: No classes
- Jan 8: Sunday School resumes

## Upcoming Wednesday Night Activities Schedule

- Dec 14: No classes
- Dec 21: No classes
- Dec 28: No classes
- Jan 4: No classes
- Jan 11: Wednesday Night Activities resume

# • Financial Update •

---

as of October 30, 2022

General Operations		Faith Promise for Missions	
2022 Receipts:	\$ 1,100,542	Support paid out:	
2022 Expenses:	\$ 1,174,649	\$ 32,150	(our 20 missionaries for the first half of 2022)
<b>Building Loan Balance</b>		Needed by Dec. 30:	\$ 32,150
October 30:	\$ 80,849	Cash available:	\$ 40,026

# • Announcements •

---

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

**Poinsettias** - Please help us decorate the sanctuary for Christmas by purchasing a poinsettia in honor or memory of someone. Forms are available on the coffee bar in the narthex.

**Strong Tower** - We are collecting coats, socks, sleeping bags, hoodies, scarfs, gloves and mittens to give to people in the Pleasant Hill community. There is a box in the narthex.

**Youth Progressive Dinner** - Students, join us this Wed, Dec 14 for a night of yummy food and fellowship from 6:00 pm until 9:00 pm. Please RSVP on the church website.

**Congregational Meeting** - Next Sun, Dec 18 we will have a congregational meeting immediately following the service to elect the next class of officers.

**High School Winter Retreat** - The High School Winter Retreat will be February 17-20. The price is \$250.00 per person. Space is limited. Please go to [nmpc.net](http://nmpc.net) to register.

**Christmas Eve Service** - We will have a Candlelight Christmas Eve Service on Sat, Dec 24th at 5:00 PM. A nursery for 0-3 year olds will be provided. Also, we will take up a special offering for the PCA Ministerial Relief Fund, which is used to provide financial assistance for the widows and orphans of PCA ministers & missionaries. You can give at the service, on Realm, or with a check with "PCA Relief Fund" on the memo line.



# 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 2022	Class of 2023	Class of 2024
Session	Jason Churchwell Tommy James	Ed Grimsley* Paul McCommon Rob Morton Howard Reed	Cleve Cunningham* Neal Ham*

	Class of 2022	Class of 2023	Class of 2024
Diaconate	Lee Burch Hays Fyke Grant Nicholson Shane Self	Silas Peed* Wes Seay*	Patrick Hoye* Brandon Youmans*

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

Staff	Every Member, <i>Ministers</i>	Kathy Pye, <i>Church Secretary</i>
	Hunter Stevenson, <i>Senior Pastor</i>	Monni Parrish, <i>Administrator, Financial Director &amp; Pianist</i>
	Mark Ballard, <i>Youth Director</i>	Melanie Buckner, <i>Music Director</i>
	Anna Smith, <i>Youth Assistant</i>	Riley Wilson, <i>North Macon Preschool Director</i>
	Megan Cathey, <i>Interim Children's Ministry 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.