

THE LORD'S DAY

Worship

December 18, 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.

*The people living in darkness have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.
Matthew 4:16*

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Introit

Call to Worship

Psalm 33:16-22

- Pastor: No king is saved by the size of his army. No warrior escapes by his great strength.
- People: **A horse is a vain hope for deliverance; despite all its great strength it cannot save.**
- Pastor: But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love, in order to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine.
- People: **We wait in hope for the LORD. He is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name.**
- Pastor: May your unfailing love rest upon us, O LORD, even as we put our hope in you.

*Praise Hymn

#194 - O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

** those who are able please stand*

*Confession of Faith

Westminster Confession of Faith, Section 8.2

Pastor: Christian, what do you believe about the Incarnation?

People: We believe that the Son of God,
the second person in the Trinity,
being truly and eternally God—
of one substance and equal with the Father—
did, when the fullness of time had come,
take upon himself man's nature,
with all its essential properties and common infirmities,
yet without sin.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
in the womb of the virgin Mary and of her substance.
In this way, two whole natures,
the divine and the human, perfect and distinct,
were inseparably joined together in one person
without being changed, mixed, or confused.
This person is truly God and truly man,
yet one Christ,
the only mediator between God and man. Amen.

The Westminster Confession of Faith expresses the teachings 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 North Macon Presbyterian Church and our denomination, the Presbyterian Church in America.

*Hymn

#230 – Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor

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.

Pastoral Prayer & 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

Celtic Noel

Noel, Noel, sing we Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

*The first Noel, the angel did say, was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.*

Noel, Noel, sing we Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

*They looked up and saw a star shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.
And by the light of that same star, three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went.*

Noel, Noel, sing we Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

*Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
Who hath made heav'n and earth of naught, and with His blood our life hath bought.*

Noel, Noel, sing we Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

Scripture Reading

Luke 1:26-38

*Hymn of Preparation

#225 - *Once in Royal David's City*

Prayer for Covenant Children

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Sermon

The Promised Child
Isaiah 9:1-7

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

*Hymn of Response

#203 - *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

*Benediction

Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. 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@nmprc.net and she will add you to the distribution list.*

• The Preached Word •

Title: *The Promised Child*

Pastor: Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Text: Isaiah 9:1-7

pg. 559 in the pew Bible

Pray for Our Members:

Cleve & Kathy Cunningham
Will, Kristen, Nate, Seth, Josiah, Noah, Isaac, Joshua & Tristan Daniels
Robby, Katy, Hughes & Spencer Danner
Phil & Tina Davies

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)
Newborns: Forrest Dozier, Benjamin Hornick, Charlie & Lillie Wohlrabe, 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); Patricia Hughes (jaw)
Bereaved: Susana, Sarah Jane & Oscar Sandefur (Chris); Beth McSween (John); John & Joyce Meadows (son); Edith Adams (mother); Joe Stanley (Kathy); LeeAnn Wildman (mom); Skip Yetter (brother); Boo McKelvey (mom & dad); Tricia Barton (mom); Cathy Smith (JC)
Our Leaders: the Session, Diaconate, and Staff; our local, state and federal governmental officials.

• Christmas Poinsettias •

To the Glory of God and in Honor of:

Liz Ream	Mark & Meg Baxter
Charlotte Laurens	
Kathy Pye	
Monni Parrish	
Beverly & Billy Adams	
Hunter & Heather Stevenson	
The Stevenson Family	Jane Brooks
David & Murray Todd	Morris Butler Family
Judith Cook	Pam Cook
Melanie Buckner	Glenn & Deloris Cross
Holly Garretson	Cal, CC & Camp Garretson
Kate Harrison	Her Georgia Children & Grands
James Grace, Everett & Hudson Gibson	Barbara Gibson
Joey & Rachel Leggett	Mary Jane Leggett
Heather & Hunter Stevenson	Betty Luce
Kathy Pye	
Melanie Buckner	
Monni Parrish	
Liz Ream	Boo, Rebecca, Anna Helen & Michael McKelvey and Don & Heidi Ream
The Stevenson Family	McKelvey Family
Our Church Family	Rob & Ann Morton

Melanie Buckner
Monni Parrish

NMPC Ensemble

Charles Asbell (Granddaddy)
John & Ann Timms
David & Murray Todd
Hunter & Heather Stevenson
Josh & Lindsay Garrett
Mark & Kara Ballard
Josh & Melanie Buckner
Richard Fyke
Charlie & Kathy Pye
Andrei, Nicole, Tia & Caitlin
Paul Johnson

Charlie, Monni, Andrei & Nicole Parrish

Becky Gorman

Seth Peed Family

Mrs. Tricia Barton

Katie Pyles

Adelle Vinson

Maggie Pyles

Mrs. Joyce Parks Pyles
Rev. Tommy Joe & Mrs. Shirley Neyman
Melanie Buckner
Monni Parrish
Kathy Pye

Jack Pyles Family

Pat Jenkins

Lucy, Simon, Luke & Clifton Jake Shepley

Church Staff

Dr. Richard & Betty Smith

Heather Stevenson

Hunter Stevenson

Liz Ream

Hunter, Heather, Mia, Stone & Hunt Stevenson

The Parrish Family

John & Ann Timms

The Stevenson Family
Josh & Melanie Buckner

David & Murray Todd

PaPa & Honey

Lola Grace & Maddie James Wilson

• Christmas Poinsettias •

To the Glory of God and in Memory of:

Jim & Janice Bealle

Rodger & Tricia Barton

Joan Adams
John McSween

Mark & Meg Baxter

Willard Boyett

Donna Boyett

Harry Lee & Velma Burch, Jr.
Arlin & Jimmy Dowd, Sr.

Lee & Jennifer Burch

Orlean Roewer

Morris Butler Family

Barry D. Cook

Pam Cook

Josh, Virginia & Malcolm Davies
Trevor Jr., Agnes & Trevor III Chatfield

Phil & Tina Davies

Sturkie Dawson
Larry Laurens
Jo-Bess Grenga

Carol Dawson

David Dondes

Cathe Dondes & Family

Perry Feldman

Feldman Family

Dan Gibson

Barbara Gibson & Family

Melanie Grier
Emily & Goodloe Grier
Mary & Bill Irby

Jim Grier

Larry Laurens
Sturkie Dawson
Jo-Bess Grenga

Charlotte Laurens

Kamron Elijah Ward	Griffin Family
Walter E. Leggett, Jr.	Mary Jane Leggett
Albert L. Luce, Jr.	Betty Luce
Connie Manwaring George Watt	Dick & Sandy Manwaring
Jimmy McCallum Jamie McCallum Jackson	Diane McCallum
Buck Ream Tommy & Rosemary McKelvey	Boo, Rebecca, Anna Helen & Michael McKelvey and Don & Heidi Ream Boo, Rebecca, Anna Helen & Michael McKelvey
John McSween	Beth McSween
Vestal & Wilma Parrish (PaPa V & Grammy) Anne Asbell (Nonni)	Charlie, Monni, Andrei & Nicole Parrish
Donnie Wayne Churchwell	Seth Peed Family
Dr. Kenneth Layton Gorveatte Major Walter Edward & Mrs. Aurelia Norwood	Jack Pyles Family
Buck Ream Francis & Anna Daves Donald & Helen Ream	Liz Ream
Jude William Taylor	The Taylor Family
Peggy Timberlake	Joe Timberlake
Harry & Lola Hatfield Albert & Doris Timms Ronnie Hatfield & Mike Timms Lester Westbrooks	John & Ann Timms
Ed Voss	Cindy Voss
Jerry Willis	Cheryl Willis

• Financial Update •

as of November 30, 2022

General Operations		Faith Promise for Missions	
2022 Receipts:	\$ 1,197,695	Support paid out:	
2022 Expenses:	\$ 1,291,905	\$ 32,150	(our 20 missionaries for the first half of 2022)
		\$ 12,000	(gifts to missionaries)
		\$ 10,000	(Sacred Road Staff Fund)
		\$ 41,300	(Ukraine Relief)
		Needed by Dec. 30:	\$ 32,150
		Cash available:	\$ 43,500
Building Loan Balance			
November 30:	\$ 73,797		

• Announcements •

Congregational Meeting - Immediately following the worship service today, we will have a congregational meeting to elect the next class of elders and deacons.

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.

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.

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.

Flowers - The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Joan Adams by her husband Wade and family.