

THE LORD'S DAY

Worship

January 22, 2023



NORTH MACON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Important Reminders:

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

*Our help is in the name of the LORD,
the Maker of heaven and earth.
Psalm 124:8*

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Introit

Call to Worship

from Psalm 104

Pastor: O LORD my God, you are very great! You are clothed with splendor and majesty.

People: He wraps himself in light as with a garment. He stretches out the heavens like a tent. He set the earth on its foundations; it can never be moved.

Pastor: He makes springs pour water into the ravines; they give water to all the beasts of the field; the wild donkeys quench their thirst; the birds of the air nest by the waters.

People: He makes grass grow for the cattle, and plants for man to cultivate—bringing forth food from the earth: wine that gladdens the heart of man, oil to make his face shine, and bread that sustains his heart.

Pastor: The moon marks off the seasons, and the sun knows when to go down; you bring darkness, it becomes night, and all the beasts of the forest prowl.

People: How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures! There is the sea, vast and spacious, teeming with creatures beyond number—living things both large and small!

Pastor: May the glory of the LORD endure forever! May the LORD rejoice in his works! I will sing to the LORD all my life! I will sing praise to my God as long as I live!

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

1. I sing the might - y pow'r of God that made the mount - ains rise,
2. *I sing the good-ness of the Lord that filled the earth with food;*
3. There's not a plant or flow'r be - low but makes Thy glo - ries known;

that spread the flow - ing seas a - broad and built the loft - y skies.
He formed the crea-tures with His word and then pro-nounced them good.
And clouds a - rise and tem-pests blow by or - der from Thy throne;

I sing the wis - dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day;
Lord, how Thy won-ders are dis - played wher - e'er I turn my eye,
While all that bor - rows life from Thee is ev - er in Thy care,

the moon shines full at His com-mand and all the stars o - bey.
if I sur - vey the ground I tread or gaze up - on the sky!
and ev - 'ry - where that man can be, Thou God, are pres - ent there.

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.*

Call to Confession

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Corporate Confession

O great and everlasting God, Who dwells in unapproachable light, Who searches and knows the thoughts and intentions of the heart, we confess that we have not loved you with all our heart, nor with all our soul, nor with all our mind, nor with all our strength; nor our neighbors as ourselves. We have loved what we ought not to have loved. We have coveted what is not ours. We have not been content with Your provisions for us. We have complained in our hearts about our family, about our friends, about our health, about our occupations, about Your church, and about our trials. We have sought our security in those things which perish, rather than in You, the Everlasting God. Chasten, cleanse, and forgive us, through Jesus Christ, who is able for all time to save us who approach You through him, since he always lives to make intercession for us. Amen.

Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

Isaiah 53:6

*We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way;
and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.*

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.

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side;
 Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
 Leave to thy God to order and provide;
 In ev'ry change, He faithful will remain.
 Be still, my soul: your best, your heav'nly Friend
 thro' thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: your God doth undertake
 To guide the future as He has the past.
 Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
 All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
 Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
 His voice, who ruled them while He dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: when dearest friends depart,
 And all is darkened in the veil of tears,
 Then shall you better know His love, His heart,
 Who comes to soothe your sorrow and your fears.
 Be still, my soul: your Jesus can repay
 From His own fullness all He takes away.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hast'ning on
 When we shall be forever with the Lord,
 When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
 Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
 Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
 All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, Let us go over to the other side. Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, Teacher, don't you care if we drown? He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, Quiet! Be still! Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. He said to his disciples, Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith? They were terrified and asked each other, Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!

He Will Hold Me Fast

Habershon(1906)/M. Merker(2013)

1. When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
 2. *Those He saves are His de-light,* Christ will hold me fast;
 3. For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;

When the tempt - er would pre - vail, He will hold me fast.
Pre - cious in his ho - ly sight, He will hold me fast.
 Just - ice has been sat - is - fied; He will hold me fast.

I could nev - er keep my hold through life's fear - ful path;
He'll not let my soul be lost; His prom - is - es shall last;
 Raised with Him to end - less life, He will hold me fast

For my love is oft - en cold; He must hold me fast.
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.
 'till our faith is turned to sight, When He comes at last!

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;

For my Sa - vior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

Prayer for Covenant Children

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Sermon

Here is Your God!
Isaiah 40:12-26

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

*Hymn of Response

Behold Our God
printed on page 8

*Benediction

Jude 24-25

Now to him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and dominion, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, 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.*

Behold Our God

Baird and Altrogge



Who has held the o - ceans in his hands? Who has num - bered ev - 'ry grain of sand?
Who has gi - ven coun - sel to the Lord? Who can ques - tion an - y of his words?
Who has felt the nails up - on His hands, bear - ing all the guilt of sin - ful man?



Kings and na - tions trem - ble at his voice. All cre - a - tion ris - es to re - joice.
Who can teach the One who knows all things? Who can fath - om all his won - drous deeds?
God e - ter - nal hum - bled to the grave, Je - sus, Sav - ior, ri - sen now to reign!



Chorus: Be - hold our God. seat - ed on his throne. Come let us a - dore Him.



Be - hold our King, noth - ing can com - pare, come, let us a - dore Him!



Men: You will reign for - ev - er, Je - sus Christ our Sav - ior.

Women: *Let your glo - ry fill the earth. All cre - a - tion sings Your worth.*



You will reign for - ev - er, Je - sus Christ our Sav - ior. Be -
Let your glo - ry fill the earth. All cre - a - tion sings,



hold our God. seat - ed on his throne. Come let us a - dore Him.



Be - hold our King, noth - ing can com - pare, come, let us a - dore Him! Be -

*(repeat
chorus)*

• The Preached Word •

Title: *Here is Your God!*

Text: Isaiah 40:12-26

Pastor: Rev. Hunter Stevenson

pg. 586 in the pew Bible

Pray for Our Members:

Frank & Nina Fleming
Bobby & Barbara Freeman
Rick Funk
Hays, Andrea, Imrie & Buck Fyke

Pray for Our Missionary of the Month:

Rich & Chrissy Greete have a counseling ministry to Mission to the World missionaries here in the States and on mission fields all over the world.

Pray for Those in Need:

Expecting: Kaleigh Freel (2/25) & Melissa Newell (4/8)

Newborns: Ben McKenzie, Forrest Dozier, Benjamin Hornick, and Charlie & Lillie Wohlrabe

Members Caring for Loved Ones: Becky Gorman (Randy); Howard Gordon (mom); Monni Parrish (dad); Joseph Eglöf (mom); Rana Munna (mom); Glenda Eaves (mom)

Recovering/Sick: Jerry Hogg (cancer); Patricia Hughes (jaw); John LaPish (leg)

Bereaved: Susana, Sarah Jane & Oscar Sandefur (Chris); Beth McSween (John); John & Joyce Meadows (son); Edith Adams (mother); Joe Stanley (Kathy); LeeAnn Wildman (mom); Boo McKelvey (mom & dad); Tricia Barton (mom); Cathy Smith (JC)

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 & 1 short-term Mission Trip
- Central GA Presbytery & General Assembly

*Local Ministries

RUF – Reformed University Fellowship (Mercer, Wesleyan, CSU & VSU)

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.

The most recently initiative in “Providing a Home” is our Community Focused Sunday School Classes. Please see page 13 to determine which class might be best for you.

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 strategic partnerships so that we might make disciples of Jesus Christ of all nations.

• Discipleship Opportunities •

Winter Sunday School Schedule

- 2-3 Year Old: *God's Son* taught by Seth & Amy Peed in Room 112
4k- 5k: *Living in God's Family* taught by Anna Barnes in Room 114
1st-2nd: *Knowing Jesus* taught by Steven & Jill Bloodworth, Hays & Andrea Fyke and Patrick & Andrea Goff in Room 121
3rd-5th: *God's Design for Worship* taught by Myra Baker & Tricia Barton in Room 122
6th-12th: *Mark* taught by Mark Ballard & Anna Smith in the Youth Room
20s & 30s: *Ecclesiastes* taught by Charles Hall, Matt McCommon & Hunter Stevenson in the Fellowship Hall
30s & 40s: *In the Lord, I Take Refuge* taught by Cal Garretson and Steven Bloodworth in MC #2
50s & 60s: *James* taught by Ed Grimsley, Neal Ham, Howard Reed and Dan Strawn in MC #1
60s & up: *Philippians* taught by Tommy James & Rob Morton in the Conference

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 Classes (K4 - 6th grade)

Youth Group (7th - 12th grade)

Women's Bible Study (Heather Stevenson)...**begins Feb 1**

Adult Bible Study on **Psalm 139** (Hunter Stevenson)

January 25 menu: Pork Loin, Cheesy Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad Bar & Ice Cream

• Financial Update •

as of December 31, 2022

General Operations		Faith Promise for Missions	
2022 Receipts:	\$ 1,400,007	Collected in 2022:	\$ 110,318
2022 Expenses:	\$ 1,406,752	Support paid out:	
		\$ 64,300	(20 missionaries)
		\$ 12,000	(gifts to missionaries)
		\$ 10,000	(Sacred Road Staff Fund)
		\$ 41,300	(Ukraine Relief)
		Cash available for distribution:	\$ 21,518
Building Loan Balance			
December 31:	\$ 28,000		

• Announcements •

Monday Morning Prayer - We will gather at 9:00 AM tomorrow for Monday Morning Prayer. Please let Pastor Hunter (hunter@nmnpc.net) know if you have a prayer request.

North Macon Preschool - Registration will open on Jan 25 for NMPC members and current preschool families and can be found at www.nmpc.net under the Preschool tab. For more information or to schedule a tour, email Riley Wilson (riley@nmnpc.net).

Wednesday PM Women's Bible Study - The Wednesday PM Women's Bible Study will begin on February 1st at 6:30 PM. They will be studying the Sermon on the Mount.

Marriage Conference 2023 - We are delighted to welcome back Dr. John Cox for a second Marriage Conference on March 3-4. The cost is \$20 for an individual, \$35 for a couple, and free for college students. Please scan the QR code to register.



50th Anniversary of the PCA - Our denomination, the Presbyterian Church in America, is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. Please visit pca50.org to learn more!



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 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Session	Ed Grimsley* Paul McCommon Rob Morton Howard Reed	Neal Ham*	Jason Churchwell* Cal Garretson Tommy James* Charlie Parrish

	Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Diaconate	Lee Burch* Silas Peed*		Joshua Buckner Rick Funk Hays Fyke*

*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 & 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>	

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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.