

THE LORD'S DAY

Worship

May 28, 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.

Cast all your cares on him because he cares for you.
1 Peter 5:7

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Introit

Call to Worship

Psalm 89:1-2, 5-8

Pastor: I will sing of the LORD's great love forever! With my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations!

People: **I will declare that your love stands firm forever, that you established your faithfulness in heaven itself!**

Pastor: The heavens praise your wonders, O LORD, your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the holy ones.

People: **For who in the skies above can compare with the LORD? Who is like the LORD among the heavenly beings?**

Pastor: In the council of the holy ones God is greatly feared. He is more awesome than all who surround him.

People: **O LORD God Almighty, who is like you? You are mighty, O LORD, and your faithfulness surrounds you.**

*Praise Hymn

#100 - *Holy, Holy, Holy*

* *those who are able please stand*

*Confession of Faith

Westminster Larger Catechism 178, 180, 181

Q. Christian, what is prayer?

A. Prayer is an offering up of our desires to God,
in the name of Christ,
by the help of his Spirit,
with confession of our sins
and thankful acknowledgement of his mercies.

Q. What does it mean to pray in the name of Christ?

A. To pray in the name of Christ is,
in obedience to his command,
and in confidence on his promises,
to ask mercy for his sake;
not by merely mentioning his name,
but by drawing our encouragement to pray,
and our boldness, strength, and hope of acceptance in prayer,
from Christ and his mediation.

Q. Why are we to pray in the name of Christ?

A. Because the sinfulness of man
and his distance from God due to sin are so great,
so that we can have no access into his presence without a mediator,
and because there is no mediator in heaven or earth
appointed to or fit for that glorious work except Christ alone,
we are to pray in no other name but his only.

*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.*

Before the Throne of God Above

Bancroft/Cook



Be - fore the throne of God a - bove I have a
When Sa - tan tempts me to de - spair and tells me
 Be - hold Him there the ri - sen Lamb, my per - fect
 strong and per - fect plea; A great High Priest whose name is
of my guilt with - in, Up - ward I look and see Him
 spot - less Right - eous - ness; the Great un - change - a - ble I
 love, who ev - er lives and pleads for me. My name is gra - ven on His
there who made an end of all my sin. Be - cause the sin - less Sav - ior
 Am, the King of Glo - ry and of grace. One with Him - self I can - not
 hands; My name is writ - ten on His heart. I know that
died, my sin - ful soul is count - ed free. For God, the
 die; my soul is pur - chased by His blood. My life is
 while in heav'n He stands, no tongue can bid me thence de - part.
just, is sat - is - fied to look on Him and par - don me.
 hid with Christ on high, with Christ my Sav - ior and my God.

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Call to Prayer

Matthew 11:28-30

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

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

Scripture Reading

Genesis 16:1-16

Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. But she had an Egyptian maidservant named Hagar; so she said to Abram, The LORD has kept me from having children. Go, sleep with my maidservant; perhaps I can build a family through her. Abram agreed to what Sarai said.

So after Abram had been living in Canaan ten years, Sarai his wife took her Egyptian maidservant Hagar and gave her to her husband to be his wife. He slept with Hagar, and she conceived. When she knew she was pregnant, she began to despise her mistress. Then Sarai said to Abram, You are responsible for the wrong I am suffering. I put my servant in your arms, and now that she knows she is pregnant, she despises me. May the LORD judge between you and me. Your servant is in your hands, Abram said. Do with her whatever you think best. Then Sarai mistreated Hagar; so she fled from her.

The angel of the LORD found Hagar near a spring in the desert; it was the spring that is beside the road to Shur. And he said, Hagar, servant of Sarai, where have you come from, and where are you going? I'm running away from my mistress Sarai, she answered. Then the angel of the LORD told her, Go back to your mistress and submit to her. The angel added, I will so increase your descendants that they will be too numerous to count. The angel of the LORD also said to her: You are now with child and you will have a son. You shall name him Ishmael, for the LORD has heard of your misery. He will be a wild donkey of a man; his hand will be against everyone and everyone's hand against him, and he will live in hostility toward all his brothers.

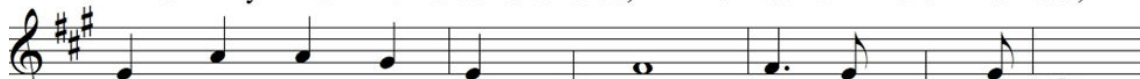
She gave this name to the LORD who spoke to her: You are the God who sees me, for she said, I have now seen the One who sees me. That is why the well was called Beer Lahai Roi; it is still there, between Kadesh and Bered. So Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram gave the name Ishmael to the son she had borne. Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore him Ishmael.

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;



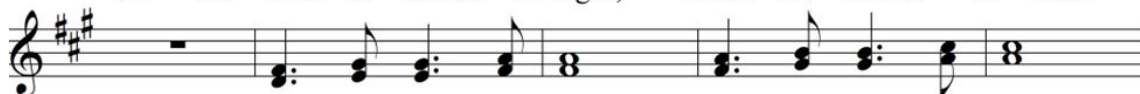
When the tempt - er would pre - vail, He will hold me fast.
Pre - cious in his ho - ly sight, He will hold me fast.
 Just - ice has been sat - is - fied; He will hold me fast.



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.

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Children's Church is for children 4 years old through 1st grade.

If today is your child's first time attending, please accompany them to Children's Church. Also, we have a "Cry Room" for our young families, where you can see & hear the service.

*Hymn of Response

Oh the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

Oh the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

Samuel T. Francis/Bob Kauflin



Oh the deep, deep love of Je - sus, vast un-measured, bound-less free,
Oh the deep, deep love of Je - sus, spread His praise from shore to shore,
 Oh the deep, deep love of Je - sus, far surpass - ing all the rest,
 rol - ling as a might - y o - cean in its full - ness o - ver me,
how He came to pay our ran - som through the sav - ing cross He bore;
 it's an o - cean full of bless - ing in the midst of e - very test.
 un - der neath me all a - round me is the cur - rent of Your love,
how He watch - es o'er His loved ones, those He died to make his own,
 Oh the deep, deep love of Je - sus, might - y Sav - ior pre - cious friend,
 lead - ing on - ward, lead - ing home - ward to Your glo - rious rest a - bove.
how for them He's in - ter - ce - ding plead - ing now be - fore the throne.
 You will bring us home to glo - ry where Your love will ne - ver end.
 Oh the deep, deep love, all I need and trust is the deep, deep love of Je - sus.

***Benediction**

Jude 24-25

Now to him who is able to keep you from falling and 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.*

• The Preached Word •

Title: *Divine Assistance in Our Prayers*

Text: Romans 8:26-27, 34

Pastor: Rev. Hunter Stevenson

pg. 917 in your pew Bible

Pray for Our Members:

Chip & Cathy Ridley
Susan Robertson
Elliot, Lilly, Charlotte, Samantha, Ben & Summer Robinson
David, Martha, Harvey & Seaborn Roddenberry

Pray for Our Missionary of the Month:

Dr. Victor and Nosizo Nakah are serving in Africa where Dr. Nakah is the international director of missions for the whole continent of Africa.

Pray for Those in Need:

Expecting: Laura Adams (8/29), Hannah Henning (10/14), Mackenzie Lyles (11/8), Lizzie Gossett (12/7)
Newborns: Ryder Newell, Eleanor Freel, Ben McKenzie, & Benjamin Hornick
Members Caring for Loved Ones: Becky Gorman (Randy); Howard Gordon (mom); Joseph Egloff (mom); Rana Munna (mom); Ron Henning (parents)
Recovering/Sick: John LaPish (leg); Dwayne Benson (surgery); Dick Manwaring (stroke)
Bereaved: Susana, Sarah Jane & Oscar Sandefur (Chris); Beth McSween (John); Cathy Smith (JC); Madeline Thompson (mom); Mary Clare Freel (dad); Kate Harrison (sister); Carol Dawson (sister); John Dukes (dad); Lynn & Aaron Hogg, Melissa Newell (Jerry); Brad Bibb (mom)
Our Leaders: the Session, Diaconate, and Staff; our local, state and federal governmental officials
Sacred Road Mission Team (Jake Adams, Lydia Johnson, Daniel Jones, Harvey Roddenberry, Lucy & Simon Shepley, Hunt & Hunter Stevenson) will be serving the Yakama Tribe of Native Americans in Washington State the week of June 3-10

• Financial Update •

April 30, 2023

General Operations

2023 Receipts: \$ 417,573
2023 Expenses: \$ 448,105

Faith Promise for Missions

2023 Receipts: \$ 31,253
Needed by June 30: \$ 28,950
to support our 18 missionaries
for the first half of the year

• Announcements •

Monday Morning Prayer - The church office will be closed tomorrow for Memorial Day so we will not gather for Monday Morning Prayer.

Meet the Interns - Our Summer Fellowships begin this Wed, May 31 with Mark Ballard introducing our Summers Interns. Dinner at 5:45 with an ice cream social afterwards.

The Pilgrim's Progress - This summer we will be reading *The Pilgrim's Progress*. Copies are in the narthex for \$5 with a reading schedule inside. Our Summer Sunday School classes are divided up by Shepherding Groups and will begin next Sunday, June 4th:

- Ed-Howard-Jeff Class in Modular Classroom #1
- Charlie-Matt-Rob Class in Modular Classroom #2
- Dan-Frank-Tommy Class in Room 125
- Cal-Charles-Neal-Paul Class in the Fellowship Hall

NMPC Kids Summer Book Club - Our children will read the "Little's Pilgrim's Progress" every Tuesday at 10:30 AM, starting June 6. Please register on [REALM](#).

Women's Fellowship - Our women will discuss *The Pilgrim's Progress* on 3 Wednesdays in June (7th, 14th, 21st) and 3 in July (12th, 19th, 26th). Sign up on [REALM](#).

VBS - We're sailing away on the S.S. VBS to learn about Jonah and our great God who saves! Rising 4K - 6th grade sailors are welcome onboard as we set sail (June 26-30).

High School Graduates - Over the next few Sundays, you'll notice a table in the narthex dedicated to our high school graduates. Please stop by to sign their photo books!



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*	Cal Garretson Tommy James* Charlie Parrish

	Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Diaconate	Lee Burch*		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> Hunter Stevenson, <i>Senior Pastor</i> Mark Ballard, <i>Youth Director</i> Megan Cathey, <i>Interim Children's Ministry Director</i>	Kathy Pye, <i>Church Secretary</i> Monni Parrish, <i>Administrator, Financial Director & Pianist</i> Melanie Buckner, <i>Music Director</i> Holly Shepley, <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.