

THE LORD'S DAY

# Worship

October 1, 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.

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*Behold! How great love is the love the Father has lavished on us,  
that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!  
1 John 3:1*

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### Prelude

### Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

### Introit

### Call to Worship

Psalm 146:5-9

Pastor: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God, the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them—the LORD, who remains faithful forever.

People: **He upholds the cause of the oppressed. He gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets prisoners free.**

Pastor: The LORD gives sight to the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down. The LORD loves the righteous.

People: **The LORD watches over the alien. He sustains the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.**

Pastor: The LORD reigns forever! Your God, O Zion, for all generations! Praise the LORD!

### \*Praise Hymn

*#77- Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*

*\* those who are able please stand*

\* Confession of Faith

Westminster Confession of Faith, Chapter 12

Q. Christian, what do you believe about your adoption as a child of God?

A. We believe that all those who are justified,  
God graciously guarantees  
to make partakers of the grace of adoption,  
in and for his only Son, Jesus Christ.

By this act they are taken into the number of God's children  
and enjoy the liberties and privileges of that relationship:  
they are given His name;  
they receive the Spirit of adoption;  
they have access to the throne of grace with boldness;  
and they are enabled to cry, "Abba, Father."

Like a father, God has compassion on them,  
protects them,  
provides for them,  
and chastens them;  
yet, they will never be cast off,  
but are sealed to the day of redemption,  
and will inherit the promises as heirs of everlasting salvation. 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 stand-  
ards of North Macon Presbyterian Church and our denomination, the Presbyterian Church in America.*

## Call to Confession

1 John 2:15-17

Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the world—the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does—comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.

## Corporate Confession

Almighty, eternal God and Father, we confess and acknowledge that we were conceived and born in sin, and are therefore inclined to all evil and slow to all good; that we transgress your holy commandments without ceasing, and ever more corrupt ourselves. We are sorry for our sins and seek your grace and help. Please have mercy upon us, most gracious and merciful God and Father, through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Grant to us and increase in us your Holy Spirit, that we may recognize our sin and unrighteousness from the bottom of our hearts, attain true repentance and sorrow for them, die to them wholly, and please you entirely by a new and godly life. Amen.

## Silent Confession

## Words of Assurance

1 Peter 2:24-25

*Jesus Christ bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.*

## Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Rev. Bob Brunson

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**

*Jesus, Strong and Kind*

*Jesus said that if I thirst, I should come to Him.  
No one else can satisfy. I should come to Him.  
Jesus said if I am weak, I should come to Him.  
No one else can be my strength. I should come to Him.*

*For the Lord is good and faithful. He will keep us day and night.  
We can always run to Jesus, Jesus, strong and kind.  
Jesus said that if I fear, I should come to Him.  
No one else can be my shield. I should come to Him.*

*Jesus said, if I am lost, He will come to me.  
And He showed me on that cross He will come to me.*

**Scripture Reading**

*2 Thessalonians 2:1-17  
page 959 in the pew Bible*

**\*Hymn of Preparation**

*My Heart is Filled with Thankfulness  
printed on page 5*

**Prayer for Covenant Children**

*Rev. Hunter Stevenson*

*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.*

# My Heart is Filled with Thankfulness

Townend and Getty



My heart is filled with thank-ful-ness to Him who bore my pain;  
My heart is filled with thank-ful-ness to Him who walks be - side;  
My heart is filled with thank-ful-ness to Him who reigns a - bove;



Who plumbed the depths of my dis - grace and gave me life a - gain;  
Who floods my weak-ness-es with strength and caus-es\_\_ fears to fly.  
Whose wis - dom is my per-fect peace, whose ev - 'ry\_\_ thought is love.



Who crushed my curse of sin - ful - ness and clothed me\_\_ with his light  
Whose ev - 'ry pro - mise is e - nough for ev - 'ry step I take.  
For ev - 'ry day I have on earth is giv - en by the King.



and wrote his law of right-eous-ness with pow'r up - on my heart.  
Sus - tain - ing me with arms of love and crown - ing me with grace.  
So I will give my life, my all, to love and fol - low Him.

©2003 Thankyou Muisic

Scrrmon

*The Punishment of the Great Prostituc*  
Revelation 17:7-18

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

## The Sacrament of Communion

*All those who have placed their faith and trust in Jesus Christ alone for their salvation, are baptized, and are members in good standing of a Bible-believing, evangelical church are invited to come forward and partake of the Lord's Supper this morning. All others, please remain seated and consider your relationship with Christ and His Church during the sacrament.*

# Turn Your Eyes

Turn your eyes up-on Je - sus look full in His won-der-ful  
 Turn your eyes to the hill - side where jus - tice and mer - cy em -  
 Turn your eyes to the morn - ing and see Christ the li - on a -  
 Turn your eyes to the hea - vens, our King will re - turn for His  
 face. and the things of earth will grow strange - ly dim, in the  
 brace. There the Son of God gave His life for us, and our  
 wake. What a glo - rious dawn, fear of death is gone, for we  
 own. Ev - every knee will bow, ev - every tongue will shout "All the  
 light of His glo - ry and grace. (to 2nd vs.) Je - sus to You we lift our  
 mea - sure - less debt was e - rased.  
 car - ry His life in our veins.  
 glo - ry to Je - sus a - lone!"  
 eyes. Je - sus our glo - ry and our prize. We a - dore You be -  
 hold You our Sav - ior ev - er true. Oh Je - sus we turn our eyes to You.

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\*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.

# • The Preached Word •

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**Title:** *The Punishment of the Great Prostitute*

**Text:** Revelation 17:7-18

**Pastor:** Rev. Hunter Stevenson

pg. 1001 in the pew Bible



**Pray for Our Members:**

Frank & Nina Fleming  
Russel, Kaleigh, & Eleanor Frecl  
Bobby & Barbara Freeman  
Rick Funk

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

Noah & Karleigh Stephens are church planters in Bangkok, Thailand

**Pray for Those in Need:**

Expecting: Hannah Henning (10/14), Mackenzie Lyles (11/8), Lizzie Gossett (12/7), Katie Singleton (12/23), Bonnie Andree (1/7) & Ember Bentley (3/13)

Newborns: June Adams, Ryder Newell, Eleanor Frecl & Ben McKenzie

Members Caring for Loved Ones: Becky Gorman (Randy); Joseph Egloff (mom); Rana Munna (mom)

Recovering/Sick: Dick Manwaring (stroke) & Mark Ballard (surgery)

Bereaved: Susana, Sarah Jane & Oscar Sandefur (Chris); Beth McSween (John); Cathy Smith (JC); Madeline Thompson (mom & sister); Mary Clare Frecl (dad); Kate Harrison (sister); Carol Dawson (sister); John Dukes (dad); Lynn & Aaron Hogg & Melissa Newell (Jerry); Brad Bibb (mom); Helen Johnson (mom); Amelia Smith (mom)

Our Leaders: the Session, Diaconate, and Staff; our local, state and federal governmental officials

# • Discipleship Opportunities •

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## Fall Sunday School Schedule

- 2-3 Year Old: *God's People* taught by Seth & Amy Peed in Room 112  
4k-2nd: *God Created All Things* taught by Steven & Jill Bloodworth, Hays & Andrea Fyke and Patrick & Andrea Goff in Room 121  
3rd-5th: *God's Servants* taught by Myra Baker & Tricia Barton in Room 122  
6th-12th: *1 Peter* taught by Mark Ballard and Bryce Little in the Youth Room  
College: We encourage college students to pick one of the following 4 classes  
Young Adults: *Let's Study 1 Corinthians* taught by Charles Hall, Matt McCommon & Paul Common in Modular Classroom #1  
Middle Adults: *Saints, Sufferers, and Sinners: Loving Others as God Loves Us* taught by Steven Bloodworth, Cal Garretson & Tate Morris in the Fellowship Hall  
Older Adults: *The Good News We Almost Forgot* taught by Lee Burch, Ed Grimsley, Neal Ham, Charlie Parrish, Howard Reed & Dan Strawn in MC #2  
Senior Adults: *Let's Study 2 Peter and Jude* taught by Tommy James & Rob Morton in the Conference Room

## 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 - 5th grade)

Youth Group (6th-12th grade)

Men's Small Groups

Women's Bible Study on Lamentations

Adult Bible Study on Romans taught by Rev. Eric Freel

*Menu: BBQ chicken, macaroni & cheese, green beans, salad bar & cookies.*

# • Financial Update •

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August 31, 2023

General Operations		Faith Promise for Missions	
2023 Receipts:	\$ 880,767	Paid out June 30:	\$ 28,950
2023 Expenses:	\$ 844,089	to support our 18 missionaries for the first half of 2023	
		Needed by Dec. 30:	\$ 30,550
		Cash available:	\$ 32,534

## • Announcements •

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**Celebrating The Lord's Supper** - The center sections will come down the center aisle to receive the elements and then return to their seats via the interior aisles. The outside sections will come down the outside aisles and return via the interior aisles. If anyone has mobility issues, please raise your hand and Elder Matt Shepley will come serve you. Please hold the elements until everyone has been served so that we can partake together.

**Monday Morning Prayer** - We will gather for prayer at 9 AM tomorrow morning.

**Local Ministry Partners** - Do you want to learn about our LMPs? Here's your chance!

- Out of Darkness Banquet: Thur, Oct 19
- Strong Tower Fellowship Banquet: Thur, Nov 2

**Strong Tower Fellowship** - Strong Tower will have a Fall Fest outreach on Thursday, October 19th at 5:30 PM. If you would like to bake goods or volunteer to help serve, please call Amy Drummond at 215-264-8650.

**Mercer Bears Tailgate** - Join us for an afternoon of fun, food, fellowship and football! On Sat, Oct 21 at 2:30 PM we will gather at Mercer University for a tailgate, followed by the football game at 4 PM (Mercer vs. Wofford). Bring your chairs and a favorite tailgate dish to share. Please register on REALM or contact Megan Cathey.

**Flowers** - The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and to welcome Bob & Karen Brunson to North Macon Presbyterian Church by Becky Gorman.



# 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.

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## Session

Cal Garretson<sup>25</sup>  
Ed Grimsley<sup>23\*</sup>  
Neal Ham<sup>24\*</sup>  
Tommy James<sup>25\*</sup>

Paul McCommon<sup>23</sup>  
Rob Morton<sup>23</sup>  
Charlie Parrish<sup>25</sup>  
Howard Reed<sup>23</sup>

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## Diaconate

Joshua Buckner<sup>25</sup>  
Lee Burch<sup>23\*</sup>

Rick Funk<sup>25</sup>  
Hays Fyke<sup>25\*</sup>

*The number indicates the officer's class; \*indicates the officer is at the end of a 2nd term and will roll off*

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## Staff

Every Member, *Ministers*  
Hunter Stevenson, *Senior Pastor*  
Bob Brunson, *Executive Pastor*  
Mark Ballard, *Youth Director*  
Bryce Little, *Youth Intern*  
Megan Cathey, *Interim Children's  
Ministry Director*

Kathy Pye, *Church Secretary*  
Monni Parrish, *Administrator,  
Financial Director & Pianist*  
Melanie Buckner, *Music Director*  
Holly Shepley, *North Macon  
Preschool Director*

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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.*