

THE LORD'S DAY

Worship

October 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.

Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!
Revelation 19:9

Preclude

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Introit

Call to Worship

Isaiah 25:6-9

Pastor: On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples,

People: **A banquet of aged wine—the best of meats and the finest of wines.**

Pastor: On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations:

People: **He will swallow up death forever!**

Pastor: The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove the disgrace of his people from all the earth.

People: **The LORD has spoken!**

Pastor: In that day they will say:

People: **Surely this is our God! We trusted in him, and he saved us!
This is the LORD! We trusted in him! Let us rejoice and be glad
in his salvation!**

* *those who are able please stand*

*Praise Hymn

#310 - Rejoice the Lord Is King

*Invocation

Rev. Bob Brunson

*Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

Pastor: Christian, what do you believe?

All: I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

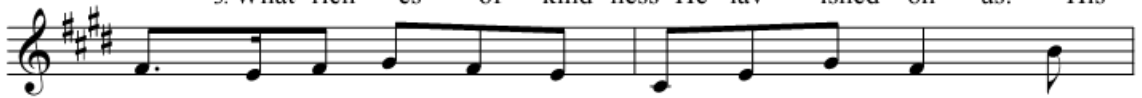
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

*The Apostles' Creed was not written by the apostles but is a summary of their teachings.
It dates back to the 4th century and has been used by the church to identify believers,
instruct new converts, and provide a confession of faith for worship.*

His Mercy Is More



1. What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done? Om -
 2. *What pa - tience would wait as we con - stant - ly roam? What*
 3. What rich - es of kind - ness He lav - ished on us. His



ni - sient, all know - ing, He counts not their sum. Thrown
Fa - ther, so ten - der, is call - ing us home? He
 blood was the pay - ment; His life was the cost. We



in - to a sea with - out bot - tom or shore, our
wel - comes the weak - est, the vil - est, the poor. Our
 stood 'neath a debt we could nev - er af - ford. Our

CHORUS



sins, they are man - y; His mer - cy is more. *(to vs. 2) Praise the*
sins, they are man - y; His mer - cy is more.
 sins, they are man - y; His mer - cy is more.



Lord, His mer - cy is more. Strong - er than dark - ness,



new ev - 'ry morn. Our sins, they are man - y; His mer - cy is more.

Call to Confession

Psalm 24:3-4

Who may ascend the mountain of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place? The one who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not trust in an idol or swear by a false god.

Corporate Confession

Almighty and most merciful Father, we are thankful that your loving kindness is higher than the heavens, wider than our wanderings, deeper than all our sin. Forgive us for our frivolous attitude toward life, our callousness towards suffering, our envy of those who have more than we have, our indifference to the treasures of heaven, our obsession with creating a life of constant pleasure, and our neglect of your wise and gracious law. By the power of your Holy Spirit, help us change our way of life so that we may desire what is good, love what you love, and do what you command, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

Ephesians 1:7-8

*In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins,
in accordance with the riches of God's grace
that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.*

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

- Isaiah 54:4-6 Do not be afraid; you will not suffer shame. Do not fear disgrace; you will not be humiliated. You will forget the shame of your youth and remember no more the reproach of your widowhood. For your Maker is your husband—the LORD Almighty is his name—the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer; he is called the God of all the earth. The LORD will call you back as if you were a wife deserted and distressed in spirit—a wife who married young, only to be rejected, says your God.
- Hosca 2:19-20 I will betroth you to me forever. I will betroth you in righteousness and justice, in love and compassion. I will betroth you in faithfulness, and you will acknowledge the LORD.
- Isaiah 61:10 I delight greatly in the LORD! My soul rejoices in my God! For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
- Isaiah 62:5 As a bridegroom rejoices over his bride, so will your God rejoice over you.
- Zeph 3:17 The LORD your God is with you! He is mighty to save! He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing.
- Eph 5:25-27 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.
- 2 Cor 11:2-3 I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy. I promised you to one husband—to Christ—so that I might present you as a pure virgin to him.
- Rev 21:2 I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

***Hymn of Preparation**

#529 - *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

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.

Sermon

The Wedding Supper of the Lamb
Revelation 19:1-10

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

***Hymn of Response**

We Will Feast in the House of Zion
printed on page 7

***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.

***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.*

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

Sandra McCracken



We will feast in the house of Zi - on. We will sing with our



hearts re - stored. He has done great things, we will say to - geth-er; We will feast



and weep no more. We will not be burned by the fire, He
In the dark of night be-fore the dawn my
Ev - 'ry vow we've bro - ken and be-trayed; You



is the Lord our God. We are not con - sumed by the
soul be not a - fraid; for the prom - ised morn - ing, oh how
are the faith - ful One. And from the gar - den to the



flood; Up - held, pro - tect - ed, gath - ered up.
long? O God of Ja - cob be my strength.
grave bind us to - geth - er bring sha - lom.

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• The Preached Word •

Title: *The Wedding Supper of the Lamb*

Text: Revelation 19:1-10

Pastor: Rev. Hunter Stevenson

pg. 1002 in the pew Bible

Revelation 17-22: A Tale of Two Cities

Babylon the Harlot (17:1-19:10) & Jerusalem the Bride (21:9-22:9)
and the Transition between the Two Cities (19:11-21:8)

Beginning of the section (17:1-19:10)

One of the 7 angels who had the 7 bowls came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the punishment of the great prostitute, who sits on many waters. With her the kings of the earth committed adultery and the inhabitants of the earth were intoxicated with her wine..."

Then the angel carried me away in the Spirit into a desert. There I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was covered with blasphemous names and had 7 heads and 10 horns (17:1-3).

End of the section (17:1-19:10)

And he added, "These are the true words of God."

At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "Do not do it. I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! (19:9b-10).

Beginning of the section (21:9-22:9)

One of the 7 angels who had the 7 bowls full of the 7 last plagues came and said to me, "Come I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb."

And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal (21:9-11).

End of the section (21:9-22:9)

The angel said to me, "These words are trustworthy and true..."

I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I had heard and seen them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who had been showing them to me. But he said to me, "Do not do it! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers the prophets and of all who keep the words of this book. Worship God!" (22:6-9).

Comparing & Contrasting the Harlot & the Bride

- One is clothed with bright & pure linen and adorned with costly jewels, which reflects the glory of God and the righteous deeds of the saints; the other is clothed in purple & scarlet and glittering with gold, precious stones & pearls, which hides her corruption
- One is a pure bride, the 'wife of the Lamb', the true church; the other an impure harlot, 'the Mother of Prostitutes', a counterfeit church
- One faithfully witnesses to the eternal kingdom of God and offers the water of life to the world; the other seduces the world to idolatry, is drunk with the blood of the saints, and by her wine brings death to the world
- The bride is the heart of the new creation; the harlot ends in eternal destruction

The Introduction & Destruction of God's Enemies

Death & Hades (1:18; 6:8)

The Dragon (12:3)

The Beasts (13:1, 11)

Babylon the Harlot (14:8)

Babylon the Harlot (17:1-19:10)

The Beasts (19:11-21)

The Dragon (20:1-10)

Death & Hades (20:11-15)

Therefore, Revelation 17-22 is a fuller treatment of the destruction of God's enemies—in reverse order of which they were introduced—and the ushering in of the New Jerusalem in the New Heavens and New Earth. These chapters are a large interpretive review of the 6th & 7th bowls of God's wrath, which foretold the judgment of Babylon. It is best to view the visions of Revelation 17-22 as varying camera angles on the same, final judgment in which God and His Christ will triumph and bring the consummation of the Kingdom of God (rather than distinct events occurring in strict, chronological succession).

(notes taken from Bauckham, Beale, Johnson & Poythress)

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*
- 19 Missionaries & 2 short-term Mission Trips
- 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

Pray for Our Members:

Skylar & Lizzie Gossett
Jim Grier
Adam, Joanna, Sam, Breck & Ruthie Griffin
Ed & Peggy Grimsley

Pray for Our Missionary of the Month:

Noah & Karleigh Stephens are church planters in Bangkok, Thailand

Pray for Those in Need:

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

Newborns: Jack Henning, June Adams, Ryder Newell, Eleanor Freel & 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 Freel (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); Rebecca Lober (dad)

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

• Discipleship Opportunities •

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: Chicken w/Lemon Butter Mushroom Sauce, Long Grain & Wild Rice, Green Vegetable, Salad Bar & Brownie Bites.

• Financial Update •

September 30, 2023

General Operations		Faith Promise for Missions	
2023 Receipts:	\$ 961,161	Paid out June 30:	\$ 28,950
2023 Expenses:	\$ 957,388	to support our 18 missionaries for the first half of 2023	
		Needed by Dec. 30:	\$ 30,550
		Cash available:	\$ 30,928

• Announcements •

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

Mug and Muffin - Mug and Muffin for NMPC ladies will be October 28 (9-11 AM) at the home of Beth McSween (107 Howard Oaks Drive). Bring your favorite coffee mug and enjoy a fall morning with our ladies and a word from Karen Brunson.

Reformation Day Celebration: Join us on Sunday, October 29th at 5:00 PM for our annual Reformation Day celebration! Come enjoy a BBQ dinner, inflatables, games, snow cones and more! We are asking last names A-L to bring a side dish and M-Z a dessert. Please register on REALM and contact Megan Cathey if you would like to help.

Sacred Road Mission Trip - The 2024 Sacred Road Mission Trip will be June 1-8, 2024. Please contact Bob Brunson (bob@nmnpc.net) if you are interested in participating.

Flowers - The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor of Monni Parrish—our pianist, financial director, and administrative assistant—on her 11th anniversary at North Macon Presbyterian Church.



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.

Session

Cal Garretson²⁵
Ed Grimsley^{23*}
Neal Ham^{24*}
Tommy James^{25*}

Paul McCommon²³
Rob Morton²³
Charlie Parrish²⁵
Howard Reed²³

Diaconate

Joshua Buckner²⁵
Lee Burch^{23*}

Rick Funk²⁵
Hays Fyke^{25*}

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

Staff

Every Member, *Ministers*
Hunter Stevenson, *Senior Pastor*
Bob Brunson, *Executive Pastor*
Mark Ballard, *Youth Director*
Bryce Little, *Youth Assistant*
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*

5707 Rivoli Drive, Macon, GA 31210 | Phone: 478.477.7777 | Website: 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.