

CHRISTMAS EVE

# Worship

December 24, 2023

5:00 PM



**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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*She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus,  
because he will save his people from their sins.  
Matthew 1:21*

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Prelude

Dr. Melanie Buckner & Mrs. Monni Parrish

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Introit

Call to Worship

Luke 1:30-33

Pastor: But the angel said to her, Do not be afraid Mary; you have found favor with God.

People: **You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus.**

Pastor: He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David,

People: **And he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever. His kingdom will never end.**

\*Hymn of Praise

*214 - Angels We Have Heard on High*

\*Invocation

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

*\* those who are able please stand*

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 our church and our denomination, the Presbyterian Church in America.*

\*Hymn

#216 - *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

Scripture Reading

Micah 5:2-5 & Isaiah 53:2-6  
pages 758 and 600 in the pew Bible

## Special Christmas Offering

PCA Ministerial Relief Fund

*The PCA Ministerial Relief Fund is used to provide financial assistance to the widows and orphans of PCA ministers & missionaries and to retired pastors in need. You can give online via REALM or place cash or a check in the offering plate.*

Offertory

*Oh Holy Night*

Dr. Melanic Buckner

\*Hymn

*#203 - Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

Homily

*A Savior Has Been Born to You*  
Luke 2:1-20

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Candle Lighting

\*Hymn of Celebration

*Silent Night! Holy Night*

Silent night, holy night. All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child. Holy Infant so tender and mild  
Sleep in heavenly peace; sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight  
Glories stream from heaven afar Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!  
Christ, the Savior is born; Christ, the Savior is born.

Silent night, holy night. Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face With the dawn of redeeming grace  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

\*Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:14

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. 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

Please take home a poinsettia or two for Christmas!

*Lord Jesus, I want to become your follower. I come to You acknowledging I am a sinner justly deserving eternal condemnation. I realize there is nothing I can do to make myself acceptable to you through my own efforts. I believe you are God the Son who became a man, lived a perfect life, and then allowed Yourself to be crucified. I believe that as You hung on the cross, God the Father, knowing all about me, took all my sins—past, present, and future—and put them on You, and punished You in my place. I believe You took the wrath of God for me, and you died. I believe your body was placed in a tomb, but after paying for all my sins, You came back from the dead and are alive forevermore. I trust You to save me from my sins and the condemnation I deserve. You are able to do that because You were condemned in my place. I ask You to forgive my sins and give me the gift of eternal life with You. I ask You to save me to a new life lived with and for You. Thank You for Your love. Give me the grace I need so that I might learn Your ways and follow You every day. Amen.*

# The Life of Christ, just as the OT Prophets Said

## His Birth:

Promised Seed of the Woman (Genesis 3:15)  
Descendant of Abraham (Genesis 12:3)  
Lion of tribe of Judah (Genesis 49:10)  
Lineage of David (2 Samuel 7:12; Isaiah 9:6)  
Born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2)  
Born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14)  
Called Jesus, "he saves" (Isaiah 53:5-6)  
Called Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14)

## His Ministry:

Forerunner goes before him (Is 40:3; Mal 3:1)  
Filled with the Holy Spirit (Isaiah 11:1)  
Ministry was in Galilee (Isaiah 9:1)  
Powerful Teacher (Deut 18:18)  
Preached the Good News (Isaiah 61:1)  
Light of the world (Isaiah 9:2)  
Bread of life (Exodus 16:31)  
The good shepherd (Micah 5:4)  
Blind see (Isaiah 35:5)  
Deaf hear (Isaiah 35:5)  
Lame walk (Isaiah 35:6)  
Dumb speak (Isaiah 35:6)

## His Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem:

Entered as king (Zechariah 9:9)  
Riding on a donkey (Zechariah 9:9)  
Many praising God (Isaiah 35:10; Ps 118:25-26)  
Cleansing the Temple (Malachi 3:1; Ps 69:9)

## His Betrayal by Judas:

Betrayed by a dear friend (Psalm 41:9)  
For 30 pieces of silver (Zechariah 11:13)  
Money scattered in temple (Zechariah 11:13)  
Disciples abandoned him (Psalm 69:20)

## His Trials before the Sanhedrin & Pilate:

Surrounded by the wicked (Psalm 22:12)  
Falsely accused (Psalm 22:13)  
Silent before accusers (Isaiah 53:7)  
Oppression & violence (Isaiah 53:7)  
The innocent condemned (Isaiah 53:9)

## His Death:

Encircled by the wicked (Psalm 22:16)  
Despised and rejected (Isaiah 53:3)  
Human form marred (Isaiah 52:14)  
Pierced hands & feet (Psalm 22:16)  
Crucified with criminals (Isaiah 53:12)  
Divided up his clothes (Psalm 22:18)  
Cast lots for clothing (Psalm 22:18)  
Scorned (Psalm 22:6)  
Insulted (Psalm 22:7)  
Mocked (Psalm 22:8)  
Gloated over (Psalm 22:17)  
Given vinegar for thirst (Psalm 69:21)  
Died (Isaiah 53:8, 12)  
No broken bones (Ex 12:46; Num 9:12)  
Associated with the wicked & the rich in  
his death (Isaiah 53:9)

## His Resurrection:

Three days in the grave (Jonah 1:17)  
Rose again from the dead (Isaiah 53:11)  
Life was a guilt offering (Isaiah 53:10)  
Justified many (Is 53:11; Ez 36:25)  
Brought us peace (Micah 5:5)  
Made us righteous (Jeremiah 23:6)  
Brought us great joy (Isaiah 35:10)  
Sat at Father's right hand (Psalm 110:1)  
Highly exalted (Isaiah 52:13)

# 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 & 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



# 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>

Paul McCommon<sup>23</sup>

Ed Grimsley<sup>23\*</sup>

Rob Morton<sup>23</sup>

Neal Ham<sup>24\*</sup>

Charlie Parrish<sup>25</sup>

Tommy James<sup>25\*</sup>

Howard Reed<sup>23</sup>

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## Diaconate

Joshua Buckner<sup>25</sup>

Rick Funk<sup>25</sup>

Lee Burch<sup>23\*</sup>

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

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*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*

Kathy Pye, *Church Secretary*

Hunter Stevenson, *Senior Pastor*

Monni Parrish, *Administrator,*

Bob Brunson, *Executive Pastor*

*Financial Director & Pianist*

Mark Ballard, *Youth Director*

Melanie Buckner, *Music Director*

Bryce Little, *Youth Assistant*

Holly Shepley, *North Macon*

Megan Cathey, *Children's Ministry  
Director*

*Preschool Director*

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5707 Rivoli Drive, Macon, GA 31210 | Phone: 478.477.7777 | Website: [www.nmpc.net](http://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.*