

THE LORD'S DAY

Worship

April 14, 2024



NORTH MACON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Order of Worship
Sunday, April 14

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

Mark 1:14-15

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Bob Brunson

Introit

Call to Worship

Psalm 95:1-7a

Pastor: Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD! Let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation!

People: **Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song!**

Pastor: For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods.

People: **In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him.**

Pastor: The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

People: **Come, let us bow down in worship! Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker!**

Pastor: For he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.

***Praise Hymn**

#53 - Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

*Please turn off all cellular devices during the worship service
and do not bring food or drink into the sanctuary.*

***Invocation**

Dr. David Todd

***Confession of Faith**

Heidelberg Catechism #54

Pastor: What do you believe concerning the “Holy Catholic Church”?

A. We believe that the Son of God through His Spirit and Word, out of the entire human race, from the beginning of the world to its end, gathers, protects, and preserves for Himself a community chosen for eternal life and united in true faith. And of this community I am and always will be a living member.

***Hymn**

#469 - How Sweet & Awesome Is the Place

Gideon Report

Mr. Terry Moore

Call to Prayer

Matthew 9:36-38

When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

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.

** those who are able please stand*

Offertory

Scripture Reading

Mark 4:1-20

*Hymn of Preparation

Speak, O Lord

Speak, O Lord

Townend and Getty

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to re - ceive the food of Your
Teach us Lord full o - be - di - ence, ho - ly rev - er - ence, true hu -
 Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds; Help us grasp the heights of Your
 ho - ly word. Take Your truth, plant it deep in us; Shape and
 mil - i - ty. Test our thoughts and our at - ti - tudes in the
 plans for us. Truths un - changed from the dawn of time, that will
 fash - ion us in Your like - ness, that the light of Christ might be
 ra - di - ance of Your pur - i - ty. Cause our faith to rise, cause our
 e - cho down through e - ter - ni - ty. And by grace we'll stand on Your
 seen to-day in our acts of love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful -
 eyes to see Your ma - je - stic love and au - thor - i - ty. Words of pow'r that can
 pro - mi - ses, and by faith we'll walk as You walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till Your
 fill in us all Your pur - po - ses for Your glo - ry.
ne - ver fail; Let their truth pre - vail o - ver un - be - lief.
 church is built, and the earth is filled with Your glo - ry.

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Prayer for Covenant Children

Rev. Bob Brunson

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

Please check-in your child for Children's Church at the registration station located in the narthex. Also, we have a "Cry Room" for our young families where you can see & hear the service.

Sermon

*The Surprise in a Seed
Mark 4:26-34*

Rev. Bob Brunson

*Hymn of Response

*Father, Long Before Creation
printed on page 5*

*Benediction

Revelation 1:5b-6

Now to him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! 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

Father, Long Before Creation

Andrew Osenga



1. Fa - ther long be - fore cre - a - tion Thou hadst cho - sen us in love,
2. *Though the world may change its fash - ion yet our God is e'er the same;*
3. God's com - pas - sion is my sto - ry, is my boast - ing all the day;
4. *Lov - ing Fa - ther now be - fore Thee we will ev - er praise Thy love,*



And that love so deep, so mov - ing, draws us close to Christ a - bove.
His com - pas - sion and His cov - 'nant through all a - ges will re - main.
Mer - cy free and nev - er fail - ing moves my will, di - rects my way.
And our songs will sound un - ceas - ing 'til we reach our home a - bove.



Still it keeps us, still it keeps us firm - ly fixed in Christ a - lone.
God's own chil - dren, God's own chil - dren must for - ev - er praise His name.
God so loved us, God so loved us that His on - ly Son He gave.
Giv - ing glo - ry, giv - ing glo - ry to our God and to the Lamb.



Chorus: And the world will sing His love, Yes the world will sing His love, _____



And we'll all join hands, ev - ry wom - an ev - ry man to sing His love,



_____ to sing His love. _____

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• The Preached Word •

Title: *The Surprise in a Seed*

Pastor: Rev. Bob Brunson

Text: Mark 4:26-34

pg. 815 in the pew Bible

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 by:

Providing a Home

- Warm & welcoming to all who come
- Connected & caring for one another
- Vulnerable & gracious with one another

Proclaiming the Gospel

- Christ-centered worship & expository preaching
- Classes for all ages to educate, encourage & equip
- Small Groups to disciple & deepen relationships

Partnering with Ministries

- North Macon Preschool
- Global Missionaries & Annual Mission Trip
- Central GA Presbytery & The General Assembly of the PCA
- Ministry Partners
 - Reformed University Fellowship (Mercer, Wesleyan, CSU & VSU)
 - Strong Tower Fellowship
 - Covenant Care Services
 - Evangelism Explosion
 - Campus Clubs
 - Out of Darkness

Prayer Guide

Providing a Home

Members of the Week:

Charles & Myra Baker
Rod & Bess Baker
Mark, Kara & Aliya Ballard
Bert, Anna, Bo & Hatch Barnes

Expecting: Jessie Schnetzer (7/23)

Newborns: Heidi Bentley, Charlee Andree, Grayson Gossett, Perry Singleton,
Eden Lyles, Jack Henning, June Adams & Ryder Newell

Recovering: Dick Manwaring (stroke); Bess Baker (stroke); Bill Lober (surgery)

Bereaved: Cathy Smith (JC); Carol Dawson (sister); Lynn & Aaron Hogg &
Melissa Newell (Jerry); Helen Johnson (mom); Dan Taylor (dad);
Lonnie Dye (sister); Madeline Thompson (dad, mom & sister)

Caring for Loved Ones: Monni Parrish (dad); Joseph Egloff (mom); Rana Munna
(mom); Margaret Rogers (mom); Rod Baker (Bess)

Proclaiming the Gospel

Church's Leaders: The Session, Diaconate, and Staff

Ministry of the Week: Missions Committee BBQ & Bake Sale, 4/20/2024

Partnering with Ministries

Missionaries of the Month:

Jonas & Christina Davison are part of a church planting team in Japan where they use the arts to build bridges for evangelism & discipleship.

Rich & Chrissy Greete have a counseling ministry to MTW missionaries here in the States and on mission fields in other parts of the world.

Sister Church of the Week: Covenant Presbyterian Church - Milledgeville

Campus Ministry of the Week: RUF at Mercer University

Local Ministry Partner of the Week: Strong Tower Fellowship

Discipleship Opportunities

Spring Sunday School

9:30 – 10:30 AM

2-3 Year-Olds: *God's Son* (room 112). Teacher: Amy Peed

4k-2nd Grade: *Jesus is God's Son* (room 121). Teachers: Steven & Jill Bloodworth, Hays & Andrea Fyke, Matt & Megan Cathey

3rd-5th Grade: *The Biggest Story* (room 122). Teachers: Myra Baker, Beth McSween

6th-12th Grade: *I Peter* (youth room). Teachers: Mark Ballard, Bryce Little

Young Adults: *Let's Study I Corinthians* (Modular Classroom 1)

Middle Adults: *The Gospel of Mark* (Fellowship Hall)

Older Adults: *The Good News We Almost Forgot*, part 2 (Modular Classroom 2)

Senior Adults: *The Good News We Almost Forgot*, part 1 (Conference Room)

Women's Bible Studies

Ruth, Wednesday Evenings, 6:30 pm (Conference Room)

Ruth, Friday Mornings, 10 am (Conference Room)

Men's Small Groups

A Study of James, Tuesday mornings, 6:30 am (Conference Room).

A Study of 2 Samuel, Thursday mornings, 6:45 am (Conference Room)

A Study of Daniel, Sunday evenings, 6:15 pm (Conference Room)

What Did You Expect? Redeeming the Realities of Marriage, Wednesday evenings, 6:30 pm (Conference Room)

Chosen By God by R.C. Sproul, Wednesday evenings, 6:30 pm (Old Conference Room).

Wednesday Nights @ NMPC

Join us for dinner with the church family at 5:45, then stay for Catechism Club for children (pre-K - 5th grade), Youth Group (6th-12th grade), or Adult Bible Study in Romans with Eric Freel at 6:30. Dinner is \$5/adults/teen, \$2/child, with a family max \$15.

Menu: Taco Salad & Dessert

Announcements

Welcome, Guests!— We are so glad you've come to worship with us today! Please feel free to speak with one of the pastors after the service. They would be glad to answer any questions you may have and would enjoy meeting you. Be sure to sign the Book of Friendship when it's passed during the offering time this morning so we can say thank you for joining us in worship today.

Monday Prayer— Each Monday we gather at 9 AM in the Conference Room to pray for the needs of the congregation and the work of the church—come join us tomorrow!

Communicant's Class: Today is the last day to sign up for the Communicant's Class taught by Pastor Hunter for students in 5th grade and up who are interested in becoming communing members of NMPC. The class will meet during the Sunday School hour on April 21st- May 12th. Please contact Megan (megan@nmnpc.net) to register.

Mother/Child Mercer Baseball Game— Calling all Mama Bears to cheer on the Mercer Bears this Friday, April 19th at 6pm! Please purchase your tickets on REALM by this Thursday, April 16th. Tickets are \$5 per person with a \$15 family maximum.

BBQ for Missions Tickets Now On Sale- Our annual BBQ fundraiser is planned for Sat, April 20th to raise money for our Sacred Road Mission Team. Tickets can be purchased from any team member or at the Missions Committee table in the narthex: \$10 for a plate, \$12 for a pound, \$9 for a quart & \$5 for a pint of stew, & \$35 for a Boston Butt.

Missions Bake Sale - Today is the last day to sign up and volunteer to provide a treat for our bake sale fundraiser on April 20th. We are in need of pies, cakes, cupcakes, brownies, etc. All money raised will go towards the Sacred Road Mission Trip. For any questions, contact Caitlin Parrish at 478-335-4154.

2024 Sacred Road Mission Team: Mark Ballard, Ben Barton, Adrian Boyd, Clayton Burnett, Sam Copeland, Connor Crosby, Becky Gorman, Hannah & Grant Harmon, Wade Howard, Lydia Johnson, Daniel Jones, Sharon Kostedt, Nicole Parrish, Harvey & Seaborn Roddenberry, and Simon Shepley.

Ladies' Spring Social - A Spring Social will be held for the Ladies' of NMPC on April 27, 2024 at 10:30 at the home of Debi Reed. Please register on Realm or by calling Kathy in the church office at 477-7777.

Flowers - The flowers in the sanctuary today are dedicated to the glory of God and in honor of Seth & Amy Peed's 25th wedding anniversary.

Church App— The best way to stay informed is by downloading our church's app, Realm Connect. Email Monni (monni@nmnpc.net) if you need help to download the app.



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 by providing a home, proclaiming the Gospel, and partnering with ministries.

Session

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

Paul McCommon^{26*}
Rob Morton^{26*}
Charlie Parrish²⁵
Howard Reed^{26*}

Diaconate

Joshua Buckner²⁵
Lee Burch²⁴

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, *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.