

THE LORD'S DAY

Worship

September 1, 2024



NORTH MACON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Order of Worship
Sunday, September 1, 2024

*The LORD your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves.
He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you,
but will rejoice over you with singing.
Zephaniah 3:17*

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Bob Brunson

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

*Invocation

Dr. David Todd

* *those who are able please stand*

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

Pastor: Christian, what do you believe?

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
begotten from the Father before all ages,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God;
begotten, not made; of the same essence as the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation, He came down from heaven;
He became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and was made human.
He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered and was buried;
The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.
He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead.
His kingdom will never end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life.
He proceeds from the Father and the Son,
and with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified;
He spoke through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,
and to life in the world to come. Amen.

The Nicene Creed is a statement of the orthodox faith of the early Christian church in opposition to certain heresies, especially Arianism, which taught that neither Jesus nor the Holy Spirit were divine. In its present form this creed goes back partially to the Council of Nicea (A.D. 325) with additions by the Council of Constantinople (A.D. 381). It was accepted in its present form at the Council of Chalcedon in 451.

*Hymn

#455 - *And Can It Be That I Should Gain*

Call to Confession

Hebrews 4:14-16

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are - yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Corporate Confession

O most great, most just and most gracious God, your eyes are too pure to look at iniquity. Yet you have promised mercy through Jesus Christ to all that repent and believe in him. We confess that we have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. We have neglected and abused your holy worship. We have dealt unjustly and unlovingly with our neighbors. We have not sought first your kingdom. You have revealed your wonderful love to us in Christ and have offered us pardon and salvation in him; but we have turned away. We have run into temptation. The sin that we should have hated, we have committed. Have mercy on us, most merciful Father! In your Son is our salvation, and in your promises are our hope. Remind us that we are your children, and make us alive with your Holy Spirit, and in the end, receive us into your glory, through Jesus Christ our only Savior. Amen.

Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

Hebrews 10:12-14

But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, and since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool. For by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.

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.

Offertory

*Hymn of Preparation

His Mercy is More

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 - scient, 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.

¹²
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.

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 Children's wing. Also, we have a "Cry Room" for our young families where you can see & hear the service.

Sermon

*For a Heart Like Jesus'
Luke 15:1-10*

Rev. Bob Brunson

Sacrament of Communion

All those who have placed their faith and trust in Christ alone for their salvation, are baptized, and are members in good standing of a Bible-believing, evangelical church are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper this morning. All others, please allow the elements to pass, as you consider your relationship with Christ and His Church.

***Hymn of Response**

*Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)
(Printed on page #6)*

***Benediction**

2 Corinthians 13:14

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**

Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

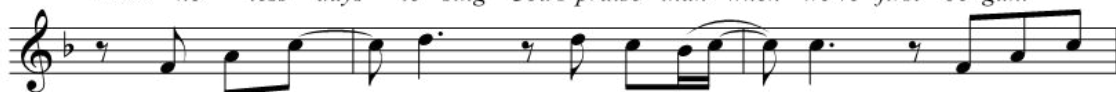
Newton, Tomlin, and Giglio



1. A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears re - lieved.
3. Through ma - ny dan - gers, toils, and snares, I have al - rea - dy come;
4. When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright shin - ing as the sun,



I once was lost, but now I'm found, was blind but now I see. *(to v. 2)*
How pre - cious did the grace ap - pear, the hour I first be - lieved.
'tis grace that brough me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we've first be - gun.



Chorus: My chains are _____ gone. I've been set _____ free. My God, my



Sav - ior has ran - somed _____ me. And like a _____ flood His mer - cy



_____ rains, un - end - ing love, _____ a - maz - ing grace. _____

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• The Preached Word •

Title: *For a Heart Like Jesus'*

Text: Luke 15:1-10

Pastor: Rev. Bob Brunson

pg. 848 in your pew Bible

Prayer Guide

Providing a Home

Members of the Week:

Joe, Mackenzie, Nora, Jane, Simon & Eden Lyles
Dick & Sandy Manwaring
Diane McCallum
Matt & Hannah McCommon

Newborns: Parker Schnetzer, Heidi Bentley, Charlee Andree, Grayson Gossett,
Perry Singleton, Eden Lyles, Jack Henning

Recovering: Dick Manwaring (stroke); Bess Baker (stroke)

Bereaved: Lynn & Aaron Hogg & Melissa Newell (Jerry); Dan Taylor (dad);
Madeline Thompson (dad, mom & sister); Fiona Leggett (mom);
Kathy Little (dad); Bryce Little & Hannah McCommon
(grandfather); Donna Rohn (Terry)

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

Partnering with Ministries

Missionaries of the Month:

Roger and Dianne Smalling write, publish, distribute, and teach Reformed literature in Latin America.

Dal and Beth Stanton have been a part of a church planting team in Sofia Bulgaria. They have recently been called to do a similar work in Ukraine and are transitioning there.

Sister Church of the Week: Northgate PC - Albany

Local Ministry Partner of the Week: Out of Darkness

Discipleship Opportunities

Fall Sunday School
Begins Next Sunday, September 8
9:30 – 10:30 AM

2-3 Year-Olds: *God's Family* (room 112). Teacher: Seth & Amy Peed
4k-2nd Grade: *Growing in God* (room 121). Teacher: Megan Cathey
3rd-5th Grade: *The Biggest Story* (room 122). Teachers: Myra Baker, Beth McSween
6th-12th Grade: *Youth Bible Study* (youth room). Teachers: Mark Ballard, Bryce Little

Community-focused Adult Classes
Begins Sunday, September 8
9:30-10:30 AM

20's-30's: *Let's Study 2 Corinthians* (Modular 1)
30's-50's: *The Good News We Almost Forgot, part 1* (room 125)
50's-60's: *Ecclesiastes, part 2* (Fellowship Hall)
66+: *The Good News We Almost Forgot, part 2* (conference room)

Men's Small Groups
(all studies meet at NMPC)

Wednesdays (6:30-7:30 pm): *The Disciplines of a Godly Man* (TBD)
Wednesdays (6:30-7:30 pm): MRGB: *The Bruised Reed (Modular 1)*
Thursdays (6:30-7:30 am): *Trusting God in the Darkness (Job)* (conference room).
Sundays (6:15-7:30 pm): *The Letters of John* (conference room). Begins tonight.

Ladies' Bible Study
(all studies meet in conference room at NMPC)

Tuesdays (10-11:30 am): *Behold & Believe* (childcare available on request). Begins 9/10
Wednesdays (6:30-7:30 pm): *Behold & Believe* (childcare available).
Fridays (10-11:30 am): *Aging with Grace*. Begins 9/13

Wednesday Nights @ NMPC

Join us for dinner with the church family at 5:45, then stay for groups and studies for children, youth, & adults from 6:30 - 7:30. Adult Bible Study: Ephesians (Eric Freel)

Dinner is \$7/adults/teen, \$3/child, with a family max \$20.

Menu: Chicken w/lemon butter mushroom sauce, rice, green beans, salad bar, rolls, cobbler.

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.

If you desire to receive email communications from the church, please email Monni Parrish at monni@nmnpc.net and she will add you to the distribution list.

Church Office Closed Tomorrow – The church office will be closed tomorrow for the Labor Day holiday. We will reopen on Tuesday at 9 am.

No Monday Prayer – Monday Prayer will not meet on Labor Day tomorrow, but we'll resume the following Monday at 9 AM in the Conference Room to pray for the needs of the congregation and the work of the church. Join us next week!

Deacons Fund – Our deacons have put the challenge before the church to raise \$25,000, and we're almost there! If you'd like to give so that we can help those in need both in the church and the wider community, you can do so by giving on Realm (select Deacon's Fund), or by putting cash or a check in a tithing envelope (labeled "Deacon's Fund") and placing it in the offering plate today.

Women's Ministry Fall Luncheon — Ladies, plan to join us for lunch after worship next Sunday September 8, for good food, fellowship, encouragement, & a preview of what's planned for Women's Ministry at NMPC this fall. Sign up today at the Women's Ministry table in the narthex.

Sunday Serve – NMPC Kids and the Youth Group will be visiting Bolingbroke Nursing & Rehabilitation on Sunday, September 15th @ 2 pm. Youth Group, stay after church to hang out and have lunch! Sign up on REALM or contact Megan Cathey or Mark Ballard.

Family Football Tailgate (Mercer vs. The Citadel) - Families, join us on September 21st as we cheer on the Mercer Bears with food and fellowship. Tailgate begins at 4 pm, and kickoff is at 6 pm. Sign up on REALM or contact Megan Cathey.

Covenant Care Banquet - The annual Covenant Care Adoption Services Banquet will be held on September 24, 2024, at Northway Church at 6:00 pm. Ryan Bomberger will share his story. To reserve a spot, go to <https://bit.ly/CovCareSignup>.

NMPC Finances (07/31) - Income:	\$ 728,405	Faith Promise giving:	\$ 14,600
	Expenses:	Needed by Dec. 31:	\$ 33,750

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 downloading 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*
David Todd, *Pastor Emeritus*
Mark Ballard, *Youth Director*
Bryce Little, *Youth Assistant*
Melanie Buckner, *Music Director*

Megan Cathey, *Children's Ministry Director*
Kathy Pye, *Church Secretary*
Monni Parrish, *Administrator, Financial Director & Pianist*
Holly Shepley, *North Macon Preschool Director*

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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.