



THE LORD'S DAY

Worship

December 1, 2024



NORTH MACON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Order of Worship
Sunday, December 1, 2024

*I will exalt you, my God the King! I will praise your name for ever and ever.
Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever.
Psalm 145:1-2*

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Introit

Call to Worship

Psalm 107

Pastor: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever!

People: **Let the redeemed of the LORD say so!**

Pastor: Some wandered in desert wastelands, hungry and thirsty, and their lives ebbed away. Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress.

People: **Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men!**

Pastor: Some sat in darkness and the deepest gloom. Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress.

People: **Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men!**

Pastor: Some became fools through their rebellious ways and suffered affliction because of their iniquities. Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress.

People: **Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men!**

*Praise Hymn

#125 - Let All Things Now Living

*Invocation

Rev. Bob Brunson

* 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.

Wonderful, Merciful Savior

1. Won - der - ful, mer - ci - ful Sav - ior, pre - cious Re - deem - er and
 2. Coun - se - lor, Com - fort - er, Keep - er, Spir - it we long to em -
 3. Al - might - y, in - fin - ite Fa - ther, faith - ful - ly lov - ing Your

Friend; — Who would have thought that a Lamb could res - cue the
 brace; — You of - fer hope when our hearts have hope - less - ly
 own; — Here in our weak - ness You find us fall - ing be -

souls of men? Oh, — You res - cue the souls of men. — (to vs. 2)
 lost the way. Oh, — we hope - less - ly lost the way. —
 fore Your throne. Oh, — we're fall - ing be - fore Your throne. —

You are the One that we praise, — You are the One we a - dore. —

— You give the heal - ing and grace our hearts al - ways hun - ger

for, oh, — our hearts al - ways hun - ger for.

Praise the LORD, my soul! All my inmost being, praise his holy name! Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits—

who forgives all your sins,
who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with love and compassion,
who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

The LORD works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel: The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

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

*Hymn of Preparation

*Only a Holy God
printed on page #5*

Only a Holy God

Farren, Robinson, Smith, and Thompson

1. Who else com - mands all the hosts of heav - en?
2. *What oth - er beau - ty de - mand such prais - es?*
3. What oth - er glo - ry con - sumes like fi - re?
4. *Who else could res - cue me from my fail - ing?*

Who else could make ev - 'ry king bow down?
What oth - er splen - dor out - shines the sun?
What oth - er pow - er can raise the dead?
Who else would of - fer His on - ly Son?

Who else can whis - per and dark - ness trem - bles? On - ly a Ho - ly God. *(to v. 2)*
What oth - er maj - es - ty rules with just - ice? On - ly a Ho - ly God.
What oth - er name re - mains un - de - feat - ed? On - ly a Ho - ly God.
*Who else in - vites me to call Him Fa - ther? *On - ly my Ho - ly God.**

Come and be - hold Him, the One and the On - ly. Cry out, sing
ho - ly, for - ev - er a Ho - ly God. Come and wor - ship the Ho - ly God.

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Prayer for Covenant Children

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

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

*Fire From Heaven
2 Kings 1:1-18*

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

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 come forward and partake of the Lord's Supper this morning. All others, please remain in your seat and take this time to consider your relationship with Christ and His Church.

*Hymn of Response

#98 - Now Thank We All Our God

*Benediction

Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory 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

• The Preached Word •

Title: *Fire From Heaven*

Text: 2 Kings 1:1-18

Pastor: Rev. Hunter Stevenson

pg. 290 in the pew Bible

Providing a Home

Members of the Week:

Joan Voltmer
 Chuck & Jackie Wachob
 Helen Watson
 Cheryl Willis

Expecting: Elizabeth Bowen Foster (11/13), Kristen Vaughn (3/2) & Hannah McCommon (3/22)

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

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

Bereaved: Madeline Thompson (dad, mom & sister); Fiona Leggett (mom); Kathy Little (dad); Bryce Little & Hannah McCommon (grandfather); Donna Rohn (Terry); Amy Drummond (dad)

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: Adult Christian Education Committee

Officer Training: Jim Gamble, Ed Grimsley & Charles Hall (elder nominees); Matt Cathey & Jack Pyles (deacon nominees)

Partnering with Ministries

Missionaries of the Month:

Julia and Rachel are part of a church planting team in Brussels. Rachel also works with Community Bible Study International.

Stan & Connie Beasley are mobilizers for MTW's Southeast Hub, focusing on a culture of missions among presbyteries, churches, seminaries and colleges.

Sister Church of the Week: First Presbyterian Church (Macon)

Local Ministry Partner of the Week: RUF Columbus State

Discipleship Opportunities

Fall Sunday School

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: *Gospel of Mark* (youth room). Teachers: Mark Ballard, Bryce Little

Community-focused Adult Classes

9:30-10:30 AM

20's-30's: *Luke* (Modular 1)

30's-50's: *The Good News We Almost Forgot, part 1* (Modular 2)

50's-60's: *Let's Study Mark* (Fellowship Hall)

66+: *Let's Study the Letters of John* (conference room)

Men's Small Groups

(all studies meet at NMPC)

Thursdays (6:45-7:45 am): *Trusting God in the Darkness (Job)* (conference room)

Sundays (6:15-7:30 pm): *The Letters of John* (conference room)

Ladies' Bible Study

(all studies meet in conference room at NMPC)

Our Ladies' Bible Study will resume in January

Wednesday Nights @ NMPC

Wednesday Night Dinner & Activities are now on break for the holiday season. All groups and studies for men, women, children, youth, & the Fellowship Hall study for adults will resume on Wednesday, January 8, 2025. Thanks for a wonderful fall semester!

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. She can also assist you with signing up for the church’s app, Realm Connect, as well!

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!

Lessons & Carols – Join us this Wed, Dec 4, for an “Evening of Lessons and Carols” at 7:00 PM. (Dinner will not be served beforehand.) This will be a special Christmas service filled with Scripture and singing featuring our children, the ensemble, and instrumentalists. Invite a friend!

Christmas Poinsettias - Once again we will be decorating the church for the holidays with poinsettias placed in honor or memory of someone for Christmas. Each poinsettia will cost \$15. Pick up an order form in the narthex today. Please turn in your form by December 6.

Congregational Meeting on Dec 8 - Immediately following the worship service next Sun, Dec 8, we will have a congregational meeting to elect officers. Our elder nominees are Jim Gamble, Ed Grimsley, and Charles Hall; our deacon nominees are Matt Cathey & Jack Pyles.

“Wonderfully Made” “Wonderfully Made,” a time for 3rd – 8th grade girls to come together to be reminded of the truths of who God created them to be through Bible study and creative arts, will meet on Sunday, December 8th from 4 – 6 pm at NMPC.

Ladies' Christmas Dinner - Our Annual Ladies' Christmas Dinner will be on Tues, Dec 10th at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Ladies may sign up on Realm or in the narthex. If you would like to decorate one of our tables for the event, please sign up in narthex or call Debi.

Advent Season Dates to Save – As you plan your celebration of the Christmas season, be sure keep the following events and services in mind:

Wednesday, 12/4 – An Evening of Lessons & Carols (7 pm)

Sunday, 12/8 – Officer Elections

Tuesday, 12/10 – Ladies Christmas Dinner (6:30 pm)

Sunday, 12/15 – Annual Christmas Fellowship Brunch (during the Sunday School hour)

Tuesday, 12/24 – Christmas Eve Service (5 pm)

Friday, 12/27 – Timberlake/Leggett Wedding (11am - the congregations is invited!)

Sunday, 12/29 – Worship & Celebration of the Lord's Supper (10:45 am)



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 Garretson
Neal Ham
Tommy James

Paul McCommon
Rob Morton
Charlie Parrish
Howard Reed

Diaconate

Joshua Buckner
Lee Burch

Rick Funk
Hays Fyke

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*

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.