



THE LORD'S DAY

Worship

November 17, 2024



NORTH MACON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Order of Worship
Sunday, November 17, 2024

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—

his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 12:1-2

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Bob Brunson

Introit

Call to Worship

Psalm 27:1-5

Pastor: The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?

People: **The LORD is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?**

Pastor: When evil men advance against me to devour my flesh, when my enemies and my foes attack me, they will stumble and fall.

People: **Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then will I be confident.**

Pastor: One thing I ask of the LORD, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,

People: **To gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple.**

Pastor: For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling;

People: **He will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock.**

*Praise Hymn

#77 - Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

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

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.*

*Hymn

*Jesus, Thank You
printed on page 3*

** those who are able please stand*

Jesus, Thank You

Pat Sczebel

1. The mys - t'ry of the cross I can - not com - pre - hend,
2. By Your per - fect sac - ri - fice I've been brought near.
the ag - o - nies of Cal - va - ry.
your en - e - my You've made Your friend.
You, the per - fect Ho - ly One, crushed Your Son,
Pour - ing out the rich - es of Your glo - rious grace,
drank the bit - ter cup re - served for me.
Your mer - cy and Your kind - ness know no end.
Chorus: Your blood has washed a - way my sin. Je - sus, thank You. The Fa - ther's wrath
com - plete - ly sat - is - fied Je - sus, thank You. Once Your en - e - my, —
now seat - ed at Your ta - ble, Je - sus, thank You. *2nd time to Bridge*
Bridge: Lov - er of my soul, I want to live for You. *2nd time to Chorus*

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Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon. "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Corporate Confession

O LORD, you have searched us and you know us. You know when we sit down and when we rise up; you discern our thoughts from far away. Even before a word is on our tongues, O LORD, you know it completely. We cannot flee from your Spirit, nor your presence. You search out our paths and our lying down and are acquainted with all our ways. Search us, O God, and know our hearts; test us and know our thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in us and lead us in the way everlasting. Through your Son, Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

Psalm 103:10-12

*He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.
For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.*

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

But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may also be revealed in our mortal body. So then, death is at work in us, but life is at work in you.

It is written: "I believed; therefore I have spoken." Since we have that same spirit of faith, we also believe and therefore speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you to himself. All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.

Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

Hymn of Preparation**#644 - *May the Mind of Christ My SaviorPrayer 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

Thinking Straight in a Crooked World
1 Peter 4:1-6

Rev. Bob Brunson

***Hymn of Response**

*O for a Closer Walk with God
to the tune of O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

*O for a closer walk with God, a calm and heav'nly frame,
a light to shine upon the road that leads me to the Lamb!*

*Return, O holy Dove, return, sweet messenger of rest;
I hate the sins that made thee mourn, and drove thee from my breast.*

*The dearest idol I have known, whate'er that idol be,
help me to tear it from thy throne, and worship only thee.*

*So shall my walk be close with God, calm and serene my frame;
so purer light shall mark the road that leads me to the Lamb.*

***Benediction**

Jude 24-25

To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! 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: *Thinking Straight in a Crooked World*

Text: 1Peter 4:1-6

Pastor: Rev. Bob Brunson

pg. 982 in the pew Bible

Providing a Home

Members of the Week:

Madeline & Will Thompson

Joe Timberlake

John & Ann Timms

David & Murray Todd

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)

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: Youth Ministry

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

Partnering with Ministries

Missionaries of the Month:

*Joshua & Ruth Tsavatewa are working among the Yakama Tribe in Washington State where Josh is a Teaching Elder with Sacred Roads
Trey & Kiki Adams are a part of a church planting team in Bangkok, Thailand*

Sister Church of the Week: Macon Korean Presbyterian Church

Local Ministry Partner of the Week: Strong Tower Fellowship

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)

Wednesdays (6:30-7:30 pm): *The Disciplines of a Godly Man* (sanctuary cry room)

Wednesdays (6:30-7:30 pm): MRGB: *The Bruised Reed* (sanctuary music room)

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)

Tuesdays (10-11:30 am): *Behold & Believe* (childcare available on request)

Wednesdays (6:30-7:30 pm): *Behold & Believe* (childcare available)

Fridays (10-11:30 am): *Aging with Grace*

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: Fried or Grilled Catfish, Roasted Red Potatoes, Turnips, Salad Bar, Hushpuppies & 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.

If you desire to receive email communications from the church, please email Monni Parrish at monni@nmpe.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!

Christmas Shoe Boxes for Sacred Road Ministries – Today is the deadline to help us purchase and assemble gift boxes for the children served by Sacred Road Ministries. If you would like to help financially, you may place your financial gift for the project in today’s offering or give online through Realm.

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 apiece, and you’re welcome to place as many as you would like. To place an order, pick up an order form at the center table in the narthex today. Please turn in your form by December 6.

Ladies’ Christmas Dinner - Our Annual Ladies’ Christmas Dinner will be held here Tuesday, December 10th at 6:30 pm. Ladies may sign up on Realm or the table in the narthex. If you would like to decorate one of our tables for the event, please sign up in Narthex as well or call Debi. Dinner will be provided as well as a celebration of our Savior’s birth!!

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

Wednesday, 12/4 – A Celebration of Lessons & Carols (7 pm)

Sunday, 12/8 – Officer Elections

Tuesday, 12/10 – Ladies Christmas Dinner (6 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!)

Flowers - The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in memory of David Dondes by Cathe Dondes and her family.



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.