

THE LORD'S DAY

Worship

August 31, 2025



NORTH MACON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Order of Worship
Sunday, August 31, 2025

*Therefore, since we have been justified through faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand.
And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.
Romans 5:1-2*

Preclude

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Introit

Call to Worship

Psalm 63:1-5

Pastor: O God, you are my God, earnestly I seek you.

People: My soul thirsts for you, my body longs for you, in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

Pastor: I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory.

People: Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you.

Pastor: I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands.

People: My soul will be satisfied as with the richest of foods; with singing lips my mouth will praise you.

*Praise Hymn

#173 - Praise Him! Praise Him!

*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 that there is now no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus,
because through Christ Jesus,
the law of the Spirit of life
set us free from the law of sin and death.

And we know that in all things
God works for the good of those who love him,
who have been called according to his purpose.
For those God foreknew he also predestined
to be conformed to the likeness of his Son,
that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.
And those he predestined, he also called;
those he called, he also justified;
those he justified, he also glorified.

What then, shall we say in response to this?
If God is for us, who can be against us?

For we are convinced
that neither death nor life,
neither angels nor heavenly rulers,
neither the present nor the future,
nor any powers,
neither height nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Before the Throne of God Above

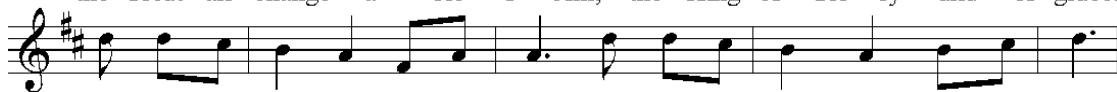
Bancroft/Cook



Be - fore the throne of God a - bove I have a strong and per - fect plea;
When Sa - tan tempts me to des - pair and tells me of my guilt with - in.
Be - hold Him there the ri - sen Lamb, my per - fect spot - less Right - eous - ness;



A great High Priest whose name is love, who ev - er lives and pleads for me.
Up - ward I look and see Him there who made an end of all my sin.
the Great un - change - a - ble I Am, the King of Glo - ry and of grace.



My name is gra - ven on His hands; My name is writ - ten on His heart.
Be - cause the sin - less Sav - ior died, my sin - ful soul is count - ed free.
One with Him - self I can - not die; my soul is pur - chased by His blood.



I know that while in heav'n He stands, **no tongue can bid me thence de - part.**
For God, the just, is sat - is - fied, to look on him and par - don me.
My life is hid with Christ on high, **with Christ my Savi - ior and my God.**

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Call to Confession

Isaiah 55:6-7

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.

Corporate Confession

Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the evil desires of our own hearts. We have willingly broken your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive us all of our sins. Turn our wandering hearts back to you, and lead us by your Holy Spirit in the way of righteousness, holiness, and truth.

Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

Isaiah 43:25

*I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions,
for my own sake,
and remembers your sins no more.*

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

My Savior's Love

Scripture Reading

Genesis 28:10-22

*Hymn of Preparation

#529 - *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

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.

Scrmon

Paul's Affection and Confidence

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Philippians 1:1-8

*Hymn of Response

*We Will Feast
printed on page #6*

*Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up the light of his countenance upon you and give you peace, both 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

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

Sandra McCracken

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with some words in italics to indicate phrasing or emphasis. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

We will feast in the house of Zi - on. We will sing with our
hearts re - stored. He has done great things, we will say to - geth - er; We will feast
and weep no more. We will not be burned — by the fire, He
In the dark of night be - fore the dawn my
Ev - 'ry vow we've bro - ken and be - trayed; You
is the Lord our God. We are not con - sumed — by the
soul be not a - fraid; for the prom - ised morn - ing, oh how
are the faith - ful One. And — from the gar - den to the
flood; Up - held, pro - tect - ed, gath - ered up.
long? O God of Ja - cob be my strength.
grave bind us to - geth - er bring sha - lom.

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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 Preached Word •

Title: *Paul's Affection and Confidence*

Text: Philippians 1:1-8

Pastor: Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Providing a Home

Members of the Week:

Cody & Lucy Varner
Chandler, Kristen & Bear Vaughn
Stewart, Shannon, Stewart, Jr. & Sloan Vernon
Joan Voltmer

Expecting: Hannah Henning (9/5)

Newborns: Emery Ann Sukhia, Elizabeth Leskosky, Everett Freel, Henry Cathey,
Scottie McCommon, Bear Vaughn & Adelaide Foster

Recovering: Bess Baker (stroke); Charlie Parrish (transplant)

Bereaved: Fiona Leggett (mom); Kathy Little (dad); Donna Rohn (Terry); Amy
Drummond (dad); Rebecca Lober (Bill); Sandy Manwaring (Dick);
Sharon Kostedt (brother); Reba Hudson (son); Ron Henning (dad);
Cindy Gibson (Jamic)

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

Proclaiming the Gospel

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

Ministry of the Week: Missions Committee

Partnering with Ministries

Missionaries of the Month:

**Steve Young is now located in Tennessee where he continues his work with
the Japanese*

**Joshua and Ruth Tsavatewa are working among the Yakama Tribe in
Washington State, where Josh is a Teaching Elder with Sacred Road.*

Sister Church of the Week: Covenant Presbyterian Church (Warner Robins)

Local Ministry Partner of the Week: Freedom Collective of Middle Georgia

Discipleship Opportunities

Fall Sunday School Classes

9:30 - 10:30 AM

2-3 Year-Old: *God's Son* (room 112). Teacher: Becky Gorman
4k-2nd Grade: *God Created All Things* (room 121). Teacher: Sara Pyles
3rd-5th Grade: *The Biggest Story* (room 122). Teacher: Beth McSween
6th-12th Grade: *Colossians* (*youth room*). Teacher: Bryce Little

Fall Sunday Adult Communities

9:30 - 10:30 AM

20's-30's: *Romans* (Modular 1)
30's-50's: *Genesis 37-50* (Modular 2)
50's-60's: *The Nicene Creed* (Fellowship Hall)
66 and up: *Galatians* (Conference Room)

Men's Small Groups

(all studies meet at NMPC)

Sundays (5:00-6:30 pm): *Living Life Backwards* (conference room) - **Begins 9/7**
Wednesdays (6:30-7:30 pm): *The Book of James* (music room)
Thursdays (6:45-7:45 am): *Learning Evangelism from Jesus* (conference room)

Ladies' Bible Studies

(all studies meet in the conference room at NMPC)

Tuesdays (10-11:30 am): *Colossians*
Wednesdays (6:30-7:30 pm): *Colossians* (childcare available)
Fridays (10-11:30 am): *Colossians*

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. Along with the studies mentioned above, Rev. Eric Freel will be leading the Bible study in the Fellowship Hall this fall.

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

Menu: Chicken Pot Pie, Rice, Salad Bar, Rolls & Dessert

Announcements

Welcome, Guests! – We are so glad you’ve come to worship with us today! 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@nmpc.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!

Office Closed Tomorrow - The church office will be closed tomorrow for Labor Day. It will reopen at 9:00 am on Tuesday.

No Monday Prayer – Monday Prayer will not meet on Labor Day tomorrow but will 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!

Sunday School & Adult Communities – The fall semester of Sunday School classes for children and youth and our season-of-life based Sunday Communities for adults is now up and running, and we’d love to have you join us. To see a profile of the Adult Communities listed on the Discipleship Opportunities page in today’s bulletin, go to the Adult Christian Education page on the church website, www.nmpc.net, to see which one is the best fit for you!

Small Groups and Bible Studies for Adults – The fall lineup of studies for men and for women is now set, and you’re invited to join us! For a list of available studies, see the Discipleship Opportunities page in today’s bulletin.

NMPC Football Tailgate (Mercer vs. Wofford) – Join us on **September 13th** as we cheer on the Mercer Bears with food and fellowship. Tailgate begins at 4 pm, and kickoff is at 6 pm. Deadline to register is Wednesday, September 10th. The Children’s Ministry is organizing this event, but it is for the entire church family. Sign up on REALM or contact Megan Cathey at megan@nmpc.net.

Wonderfully Made & Built For More – All 3rd-8th grade boys and girls are invited to join us for a special afternoon on **September 21st** at 4:45pm. For our girls, we are kicking off another season of Wonderfully Made where we will explore through creative arts the gospel truths of who God made us to be. In Built For More, our boys will be learning to build their lives on the foundation of Christ through engaging activities and games. Register on REALM and invite a friend!

Finances (7/31) - Income: \$ 810,040	Faith Promise—received by 6/30: \$ 41,370
	Faith Promise—paid out on 6/30: \$ 34,017
Expenses: \$ 788,240	Faith Promise—needed by 12/31: \$ 28,950
	Faith Promise—carried forward: \$ 7,353



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

Jim Gamble
Cal Garretson
Ed Grimsley
Charles Hall
Neal Ham

Tommy James
Paul McCommon
Rob Morton
Charlie Parrish
Howard Reed

Diaconate

Joshua Buckner
Matt Cathey

Rick Funk
Hays Fyke
Jack Pyles

Staff

Every Member, *Ministers*
Hunter Stevenson, *Senior Pastor*
Bob Brunson, *Executive Pastor*
David Todd, *Pastor Emeritus*
Bryce Little, *Interim Youth Director*
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.