

THE LORD'S DAY

Worship

December 21, 2025



NORTH MACON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Order of Worship
Sunday, December 21, 2025

*Therefore the LORD Himself will give you a sign:
The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son,
and will call him Immanuel.
Isaiah 7:14*

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Call to Worship

Psalms 118:1-4, 15-16, 22-24

Pastor: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good.
All: His love endures forever.
Pastor: Let Israel say:
Women: His love endures forever.
Pastor: Let the house of Aaron say:
Men: His love endures forever.
Pastor: Let those who fear the LORD say:
All: His love endures forever.
Pastor: Shouts of joy and victory resound in the tents of the righteous:
Men: The LORD's right hand has done mighty things!
Women: The LORD's right hand is lifted high!
All: The LORD's right hand has done mighty things!
Pastor: The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone;
All: The LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes!
Pastor: This is the day the LORD has made;
All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

* *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.*

*Praise Hymn

#208 - O Come, All Ye Faithful

*Invocation

Dr. David Todd

*Confession of Faith

Westminster Shorter Catechism, 21& 22

Q. 21. Christian, who is the Redeemer of God's elect?

A. The only Redeemer of God's elect is the Lord Jesus Christ,
who being the eternal Son of God,
became man, and so was, and continues to be,
God and man in two distinct natures,
and one person, forever.

Q. 22. How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?

A. Christ, the Son of God, became man,
by taking to himself a true body,
and a reasoning soul,
being conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
in the womb of the Virgin Mary,
and born of her,
yet without sin. Amen.

The Westminster Shorter Catechism expresses the truths of the Bible in summary form. It was comprised at the Westminster Assembly in London (1643-1648), and it sets forth the doctrinal standards of our church and our denomination, the Presbyterian Church in America

*Hymn

#225—Once in Royal David's City
vs. 1, 2, 4 & 5

Call to Confession

Hebrews 2:14-18

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death that is, the devil—and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants. For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Corporate Confession

Almighty and merciful Father, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us. Renew us and lead us by your Holy Spirit so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name.

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

Tidings of Comfort & Joy

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 7:1-17

*Hymn of Preparation

#216—*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

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

God With Us
Matthew 1:18-25

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

*Hymn of Response

#203 - *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

*Benediction

Ephesians 3:20-21

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, 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: *God with Us*

Text: Matthew 1:18-25

Pastor: Rev. Hunter Stevenson

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.

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.

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 & Columbus State)
 - Covenant Care Services
 - Freedom Coalition (formerly Out of Darkness)
 - Campus Clubs

Providing a Home

Members of the Week:

Becky Gorman
Skyler, Lizzic & Gray Gossett
Jim Grier
Adam, Joanna, Sam, Breck & Ruthie Griffin

Expecting: Lizzic Gossett (5/11)

Newborns: Shepherd Henning, Emery Sukhia, Elizabeth Leskosky, Everett
Freel, Henry Cathcy, 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); Sandy Manwaring (Dick); Reba Hudson
(son); Ron Henning (dad); Cindy Gibson (Jamic); Barbara Freeman
(Bobby); Jennifer Burch (sister); Rebecca Lober (mom & Bill)

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:

**Tomo Ito is on staff with Sacred Road Ministries in Washington State. He is working to establish a similar ministry to the Native American tribes in Warm Springs, Oregon.*

**Jeff & Jamic are seeking a new field of service after many years in India*

Sister Church of the Week: Perry Presbyterian Church (Perry)

Local Ministry Partner of the Week: Campus Clubs

• Christmas Poinsettias •

To the Glory of God and in Memory of:

Jane & Jim Baird
Isabelle & Allen Fleece
Jane & Bob Dickey
Jean Snow
John Dukes, Sr.

Billy & Beverly Adams

Malvina Owens

Jim & Shari Ardill

Charles R. & Sara C. Baker
T.W. & Marietta F Mixon

Charles & Myra Baker

Ron Barr
Cade Barr

Joan Barr

Jim & Janice Bealle
Bill Ham

The Barton Family

Charlotte Laurens
Betty & Mac Baxter
Margaret & Jake Adams
Jane & Bob Dickey

Mark & Meg Baxter

Dr. Milton Berry & Norma Bowman
Mr. Bruce & Grace Carstarphen

John & Dianne Bowman

Terry Rohn

Josh & Melanie Buckner

Josh, Virginia & Malcolm Davies
Trevor Jr., Agnes & Trevor III Chatfield

Phil & Tina Davies

Larry DeFore

Peggy DeFore

Our Loved Ones

Bill & Glenda Eaves

Tommy Alexander

Eric & Mary Clare Freel

Una Hinson	Russel & Kaleigh Freel
Philip & Norma Elder John & Ella Martha Gamble	Jim & Phyllis Gamble
Garry Garretson Martha Trupia	Cal, Holly, CC & Camp Garretson
Dan Gibson	Barbara Gibson & Family
John & Faye Lee John & Elizabeth Grimsley	The Grimsley Family
Era Trantham & Laurantt McFall - Kelley's grandmothers Lee King - Charles' Grandmother	Charles & Kelley Hall
Mr. & Mrs. Robert C. "Neal" Ham	Neal & Willa Ham
Jay & Benjamin Hawkins	Jason, Allison, Benjamin & Patton Hawkins
Robert & Evelyn Donnelly Jerry Hogg	Lyn, Aaron & Madison Hogg; Melissa, Dustin, Emerson, Lakelyn, Ryder Newell; Harley Langford
Willard Boyett	Eric, Jennifer, Anderson & Benjamin Hornick Nicholas & Abigail McCullough
Bill Lober My Parents	Rebecca Lober
Dick Manwaring	Sandy Manwaring
Larry Kemper	Alan, Kathy, Bryce & Olivia Little; Matt, Hannah & Scottie McCommon
Buck Ream	Boo, Rebecca, Anna Helen & Michael McKelvey Don & Heidi Ream
John McSween	Beth McSween
Tracy & Betty Gibson George & Ernestine Mumford	Lee & Lynn Munford
Mike Odom	Jan Odom

Major & Mrs. Walter Edward Norwood
Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Layton Gorveatte

The Pyles Family

Terry Rohn

Donna Rohn

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Farman
Dr. & Mrs. Loy Strawn

Dan & Connie Strawn

Betty Timberlake
Peggy Timberlake
Walter Leggett

Joe & Mary Jane Timberlake

Albert, Doris & Mike Timms
Harry, Lola & Ronnie Hatfield
Lester Westbrooks

John & Ann Timms

Jerry Willis

Cheryl Willis & Family

• Christmas Poinsettias •

To the Glory of God and in Honor of:

Jim & Phyllis Gamble
Our 17 great grandchildren

Billy & Beverly Adams

Pat Jenkins

Charles & Myra Baker

The Bert Barnes Family
The Jon Andree Family

Naomi Barnes

Liz Ream

Mark & Meg Baxter

The Flower Committee and our Christmas Angels

Phyllis Gamble & Meg Baxter

Our NMPC Family - Merry Christmas

Bob & Karen Brunson

Dr. Melanie Buckner
Drs. Josh & Melanie Buckner

Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Cross

The Turner Family

Peggy DeFore

The Dye Family

Lonnie & Donna Dye

Billy & Beverly Adams
Jake & Laura Adams
Mark & Meg Baxter
Brad & Shannon Bibb
Peggy DeFore
Devlin & Elizabeth Foster
Marshall Keen
Liz Ream

Jim & Phyllis Gamble

Holly Garretson

Cal, CC & Camp

Jacob & Zoie Burnsed

Becky Gorman

Dr. & Mrs. William H. Goodson, Jr.

Neal & Willa Ham

Our Children: John & Allison LaPish, Ben & Brandt LaPish
Clark & Betsy Wiggins
Our Grandchildren: Lauren Elizabeth, John David (Chap),
Hugh Hampton & Eloise Lottie (Weezy) Wiggins

John & Judy LaPish

My Sons: Gary & Stephen My Bible Study Friends	Rebecca Lober
Liz Ream	Boo, Rebecca, Anna Helen & Michael McKelvey Don & Heidi Ream
Deacon & Elder Wives	Beth McSween
Our Pastors & Church Staff	Rob & Anne Morton
Charlie & Monni Parrish Bert & Sharon Kostedt Kate Harrison Emory, Latrisha & Trey Kitchens	Jan Odom
Men's Small Group Leaders: Jake Adams Bob Brunson Rick Funk John Harman Matt Shepley	Charlie Parrish
John & Ann Timms	Charlie & Monni Parrish
Mrs. Joyce Parks Pyles Reverend & Mrs. Tommy Joe Neyman	The Pyles Family
Our Children & Grandchildren Robin Witt & Family Ronda Butler & Family	Howard & Debi Reed Donna Rohn
Mrs. Pat Jenkins Matt & Megan Cathey	The Shepley Family
Heather Stevenson	Hunter Stevenson
Liz Ream	Hunter, Heather, Stone, Abigail & Hunt Stevenson; Mary Rachel, Marshall & Robert Danner; Mia & Chase Garrison
Our Children & Grandchildren Jack Pyles Family	Dan & Connie Strawn
Charlie, Monni & Nicole Parrish Our 10 precious grandchildren Our church staff	John & Ann Timms David & Murray Todd Chuck & Jackie Wachob

Discipleship Opportunities

Sunday School Classes
9:30 - 10:30 AM
Returning Sunday, January 18

NMPC offers Sunday School for children ages 2-5th grade, along with classes for middle school (6th-8th) and senior high students (9th-12th).

Sunday Adult Communities
9:30 - 10:30 AM
Returning Sunday, January 18

We offer 4 season-of-life based Sunday Communities for adults at NMPC.: 20's-30's, 30's-50's, 50's-60's, and 66+.

To see a profile of each Community, go to the Adult Christian Education page on the church website, www.nmpc.net, to see which one is the best fit for you.

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

Men's small groups are on holiday break now—join us in the new year!

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

Ladies' Bible studies are on holiday break now—join us in the new year!

Wednesday Nights @ NMPC

Wednesday Nights @ NMPC will resume on January 14, 2026, with a special church-wide dinner and gathering as part of Global Focus Week. Join us!

Announcements

Welcome, Guests! – We are so glad you've come to worship with us today! If you'd like to receive email communications from the church, please email Monni Parrish at monni@nmipc.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!

Monday Prayer – Join us tomorrow at 9 AM in the Conference Room to pray for the needs of the congregation and the work of the church.

Christmas Eve Service – Join us this Wednesday at 5 pm for our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service in the sanctuary. We will have a nursery for 0-3 year olds. The Christmas Eve offering will again go to the PCA Relief Fund in which we join with hundreds of congregations across the denomination to assist retired pastors, widows, and other PCA ministry staff in financial need. For more information, see the handout you received from the ushers this morning.

Looking Ahead to 2026—Take note of these upcoming dates and events:

- *Prayer for the New Year, Sunday January 4* — Join us as we come together to launch 2026 in united prayer as a congregation during the Sunday School hour, 9:30-10:30 am. Pastor Hunter will preach on The Lord's Prayer in worship.
- *Global Focus Week, 1/11-1/18* — Be sure to be with us for a very special Sunday and Wednesday of that week as we focus on our partnership with missionaries around the globe in the work of world missions. We'll hear a challenge from God's Word, reports from current and future partners, and enjoy good fellowship with them and with each other, all leading up to the launch of the 2026 Faith Promise campaign on Sunday, January 18.
- *2026 Men's Retreat, February 27-March 1* — Details coming soon!

Finances (11/30) - Income: \$ 1,350,005 Faith Promise 2025 Commitment: \$ 65,367
Expenses: \$ 1,215,449 Faith Promise received to date: \$ 60,311
Faith Promise needed by 12/31: \$ 5,056



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
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.