

THE LORD'S DAY

Worship

September 13, 2026



NORTH MACON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Order of Worship
Sunday, September 13, 2026

*As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.
Isaiah 55:9*

Preclude

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Introit

Call to Worship

Romans 11:33-36

Pastor: Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!

People: **How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!**

Pastor: Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?

People: **Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him?**

Pastor: For from him and through him and for him are all things.

People: **To him be the glory forever! Amen.**

*Opening Hymn

#38 – Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

*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.*

Q. Christian, what do you believe about the providence of God?

A. Providence is the almighty and ever present power of God,
by which he upholds—as with his hand—
heaven and earth and all creatures;
and so rules them that leaf and blade, rain and drought,
fruitful and lean years, food and drink,
health and sickness, prosperity and poverty—
all things, in fact,
come to us not by chance, but from his fatherly hand.

Q. How does the knowledge of God's creation and providence help us?

A. We can be patient when things go against us,
thankful when things go well,
and for the future we can have good confidence
in our faithful God and Father,
that nothing will separate us from his love.
All creatures are so completely in his hand,
that without his will, they can neither move nor be moved. Amen.

The Heidelberg Catechism was composed in Heidelberg, Germany in 1563.

*It has been translated into many European, Asian, and African languages
and is the most widely used and most warmly praised catechism of the Reformation period.*

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Chorus

Words and Music by Matt Redman and Jonas Myrin

7 Bless the Lord, oh my soul, oh my soul. Wor-ship His ho - ly name.

11 Sing like ne-ver be-fore, oh my soul. I wor-ship Your ho - ly name.

14 The sun comes up. It's a new day dawn - ing
 You're rich in love and You're slow to an - ger
 And on that day when my strength is fail - ing

16 It's time to sing Your song a - gain. What -
 Your name is great and Your heart is kind. For
 the end draws near and my time has come,

19 ev - er may pass and what - ev - er lies be - fore me,
 all Your goodness I will keep on sing - ing
 Still my soul will sing Your praise un-end - ing

let me be sing - ing when the ev'n - ing comes.
 ten thou - sand rea - sons for my heart to find.
 ten thou - sand years and then for - ev - er more.

To Chorus

Read Elijah Gossett

1. Do you acknowledge that although our children are conceived and born sinners, and therefore subject to the miseries of the fall, yet Christ calls them holy because of their relation to you as members of his church?
2. Do you believe God's covenant promise—to be your God and the God of your children—and thus present your child for holy baptism as the sign and seal of his reception into the covenant family of God?
3. Do you promise, with the help of God, to bring up your child in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, to pray for him and with him, and to make every effort to order your own lives so that you will not cause this little one to stumble?
4. Do you promise to encourage him, as soon as he is able to comprehend its significance, to confess his own faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and become an active member of Christ's church, serving faithfully in his fellowship?
5. To the congregation: Do you receive *Read Elijah Gossett* as a child of this church and promise to surround him with Christian love, to pray for him, and to set an example for him of genuine Christian faith and virtue so that he will early in life know the reality of personal salvation and rich fellowship in the Kingdom of God? If you can say so from your hearts, say "We do."

Congregational Prayer

Take My Life and Let It Be

*Take his life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee
Take his moments and his days; let them flow in ceaseless praise
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.*

Even now, declares the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning. Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity.

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

Zephaniah 3:14-15

Sing, O Daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O Israel! Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, O Daughter of Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away your punishment, he has turned back your enemy. The LORD, the King of Israel, is with you; never again will you fear any harm.

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.

*Hymn of Preparation

Ancient of Days

Ancient of Days



1. Though the na - tions rage, king - doms rise and fall, there is still one
 2. Though the dread of night o - ver - whelms my soul, he is here with
 3. Though I may not see what the fu - ture brings, I will watch and



King reign-ing o - ver all. So I will not fear, for this truth re -
 me, I am not a - lone. Oh, his love is sure, and he knows my
 wait for the Sav - ior King. Then, my joy com - plete, stand-ing face to



mains: that my God is the An - cient of Days. None a - bove him, none be -
 name, for my God is the An - cient of Days.
 face in the pre - sence of the An - cient of Days.



fore him; all of time in his hands. For his throne, it shall re - main and ev - er



stand. All the pow - er, all the glo - ry, I will trust in his



name, for my God is the An - cient of Days.

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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 *God's Mysterious Ways Must Deepen Our Faith* Rev. Hunter Stevenson
Habakkuk 1:12 - 2:5

*Hymn of Response

*Turn Your Eyes
printed on page 6*

*Benediction

Jude 24-25

Now to him who is able to keep you from falling 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 dominion, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.

*Doxology

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

Turn Your Eyes

Turn your eyes up-on Je - sus look full in His won-der-ful
 Turn your eyes to the hill - side where jus - tice and mer-cy em -
 Turn your eyes to the morn - ing and see Christ the li - on a -
 Turn your eyes to the hea - vens, our King will re - turn for His

face. and the things of earth will grow strange - ly dim, in the
 brace. There the Son of God gave His life for us, and our
 wake. What a glo - rious dawn, fear of death is gone, for we
 own. Ev - ery knee will bow, ev - ery tongue will shout "All the

light of His glo - ry and grace. (to 2nd vs.) Je-sus to You we lift our
 mea-sure-less debt was e - rased.
 car - ry His life in our veins.
 glo - ry to Je - sus a - lone!"

eyes. Je-sus our glo-ry and our prize. We a-dore You be-

hold You our Sav-ior ev - er true. Oh Je - sus we turn our eyes to You.

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• The Preached Word •

Title: *God's Mysterious Ways Must Deepen Our Faith*

Text: Habakkuk 1:2 - 2:5

Pastor: Rev. Hunter Stevenson

An Outline of Habakkuk by David Dorsey

- A. 1st complaint (1:2-4): *how long must I wait for Your justice?*
- B. 1st answer (1:5-11): *the unstoppable army of Babylon!*
- C. 2nd complaint (1:12-17): *how can a just God employ a wicked instrument?*
- D. CENTER (2:1-5): ***wait for it; the wicked will be punished; meanwhile, the righteous will live by faith***
- C'. 2nd answer (2:6-20): *5 woes upon the wicked—justice is coming!*
- B'. Final answer (3:1-15): *the unstoppable army of the LORD!*
- A'. Final resolution (3:16-19): *I will wait for the LORD.*

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 by:

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 & an Annual Mission Trip
- Central GA Presbytery & the General Assembly of the PCA
- Local Ministry Partners
 - Campus Clubs (tutoring & discipling students in Pleasant Hill)
 - Covenant Care Adoptions (promoting Christian adoption)
 - Freedom Coalition (caring for trafficking victims)
 - Reformed University Fellowship (Mercer, UNG & Columbus State)

Providing a Home

- Members: Randy & Shelly Gardner
Cal, Holly, Caroline & Camp Garretson
Chase, Mia & Charlotte Garrison
Barbara Gibson
- Expecting: Bonnie Andree (10/7) & Hali Leskosky (10/28)
- Newborns: Charlotte Garrison, Reed Gossett, Isaac Martin, Tommy Swicgood, Shepherd Henning
- Recovering: Bess Baker (stroke); Charlie Parrish (transplant)
- Bereaved: Fiona Leggett (mom); Donna Rohn (Terry); Sandy Manwaring (Dick); Reba Hudson (son); Cindy Gibson (Jamic); Rebecca Lober (mom & Bill); Joan Barr (grandson); Jackie Wachob (Chuck); Ron Henning (dad & mom); Lee Mumford (Aunt Tyresa); Rick Moran (Julic); Jack Pyles (cousin); Rana Munna (mom); Amy Peed (dad)
- Caring for Loved Ones: Kathy Pye (mom); Phil Davies (Tina); Skip Yetter (Debbie); Monni Parrish (dad); Joseph Egloff (mom); Margaret Rogers (mom); Rod Baker (Bess)

Proclaiming the Gospel

- Church's Leaders: The Session, Diaconate, and Staff
- Ministry of the Week: Adult Education Committee

Partnering with Ministries

- Missionary of the Week: Brian & Mandy Stock (MTW): Church Planting in Thailand
- Sister Church of the Week: Redeemer Presbyterian (Macon)
- Local Ministry Partner of the Week: PCA's Mission to North America

Discipleship Opportunities

Sunday School Classes

9:30 - 10:30 AM

*NMPC offers Sunday School for children ages 2-5th grade
and middle & high school students (6th-12th grade).*

Sunday Adult Communities

Fall Term Begins Sunday, August 16!

9:30 - 10:30 AM

*We offer 4 season-of-life based Sunday Communities for adults at NMPC:
20s-30s (Daniel); 30s-50 (John); 50s-60s (Isaiah); and 66+ (John).*

*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 Bible Studies

(all studies meet at NMPC)

Sunday Night, 5 pm – 1st & 2nd Kings (starts 9/6)

Tuesday at Noon – “Brown Bag Theology”: *The Shorter Catechism Made Simple* (starts 9/1)

Wednesday Night, 6:30 pm – *The Godly Man's Picture*

Thursday Morning, 6:45 am – *Encounters with Jesus*

Ladies' Bible Studies

(all studies meet in the conference room at NMPC)

Tuesday morning, 10:00 am - *Turn Your Eyes*

Wednesday Night, 6:30 pm - *Turn Your Eyes*

Friday morning, 10:00 am – *Turn Your Eyes*

Wednesday Nights @ NMPC

Join us for dinner with the church family at 5:45, then stay for small groups and Bible studies for children, youth and adults from 6:30-7:30. Along with the studies mentioned above, Rev. Eric

Freel will be leading a Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall.

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

Menu: Pot Luck

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@nmnpc.net and she will add you to the distribution list. She can also assist you with NMPC'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.

Wonderfully Made & Built For More – All 3rd-8th grade boys and girls are invited to join us this afternoon from 3-4:30 pm. 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. Contact Megan Cathey (Wonderfully Made) or Jake Adams (Built For More) for more information.

Attention men! Join us for the **Men's River Excursion** on Saturday, September 26th, as we paddle down the Ocmulgee River and enjoy the beauty of the Oconee National Forest together. We will meet at 8 AM at Juliette Park, enjoy Chick-fil-A biscuits, and plan to return to the park by noon. Men are encouraged to bring their sons, aged middle school and up. The cost is \$25 per person, which includes all the supplies. Register at the table in the Narthex or on Realm.

Security & Ushers (9/20): Team 6: Hays Fyke, Skylar Gossett, Chase Garrison & Matt Cathey

Finances (8/31) - Income:	\$ 914,662	Faith Promise 2026 Pledged:	\$ 107,770
Expenses:	\$ 921,083	Faith Promise Receipts:	\$ 95,316



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*
Jake Adams, *Director of Student Ministries*
Abigail Stevenson, *Girls Discipleship Coordinator*

Megan Cathey, *Children's Ministry Director*
Melanie Buckner, *Music Director*
Kathy Pye, *Church Secretary*
Monni Parrish, *Admin, Pianist & Financial Director*
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.