

THE LORD'S DAY

Worship

October 18, 2026



NORTH MACON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Order of Worship
Sunday, October 18, 2026

*You will seek Me and find Me
when you seek Me with all your heart.
Jeremiah 29:13*

Preclude

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Introit

Call to Worship

Psalms 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.**

** 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.*

Come Thou Fount

Robinson/Brown



Come thou fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer; hith - er by thy help I'm come;
 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;
 O that day, when freed from sin - ning, I shall see Thy love - ly face;



streams of mer - cy ne - ver ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - d'ring heart to Thee.
 cloth - ed then in blood washed lin - en, how I'll sing Thy sov - 'reign grace.



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove;
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God:
 Prone to wan - der — Lord, I feel it — prone to leave the God I love:
 Come, my Lord, no long - er tar - ry, take my ran - somed soul a - way;



praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.
 here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts a - bove.
 send Thine an - gels now to car - ry me to realms of end - less day.

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 words "He descended into hell" are often misunderstood. Westminster Larger Catechism Q. 50. explains the meaning by asking, **What did Christ's humiliation after his death consist of?*

A. Christ's humiliation after his death consisted in his being buried and continuing in the state of the dead and under the power of death until the third day, which has also been expressed in these words: "He descended into hell."

***The words, the holy catholic church, do not refer to the Roman Catholic Church but to the universal body of Christ, that is, all true believers in every time and place who are united to Christ by faith.*

The Apostles' Creed was not written by the apostles but is a summary of their teachings. It dates 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.

Wonderful, Merciful Savior

1. Won - der - ful, mer - ci - ful Sav - ior, prec - ious 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.

Charlotte Marie Garrison

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 her 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 her and with her, 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 her, as soon as she is able to comprehend its significance, to confess her 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 *Charlotte Marie Garrison* as a child of this church and promise to surround her with Christian love, to pray for her, and to set an example for her of genuine Christian faith and virtue so that she 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 her life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee
Take her moments and her days; let them flow in ceaseless praise
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.*

Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.
 Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them and in whose spirit is
 no deceit. When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.
 For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of
 summer. Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I
 will confess my transgressions to the Lord." And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Corporate Confession

from the Ten Commandments

Most Gracious Lord, we proclaim you to be our King, but our duplicity is
 exposed by your question, "Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I tell
 you?" Forgive us for disobeying the word of the LORD and failing to keep your
 commandments. Have mercy on us

for worshipping the gods of our culture and clinging to our worthless idols,
 for misusing and not defending your name,
 for neglecting your holy day and for carelessness in worship,
 for not honoring our parents or those in authority over us,
 for murderous hearts and actions and for failing to protect innocent life,
 for adulterous thoughts, lustful glances, and impure actions,
 for taking what is not rightfully ours, for cheating, and for dishonest gain,
 for failing to speak the truth and for deceitful words,
 for wanting more than you have given us
 and for coveting what belongs to others.

Cleanse us from our sin and cause us to submit to your kingly rule in our lives.
 Through Jesus Christ, we pray, who ever lives to make intercession for us. Amen.

Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

Ephesians 1:7

*In Christ Jesus we have redemption through his blood,
 the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace.*

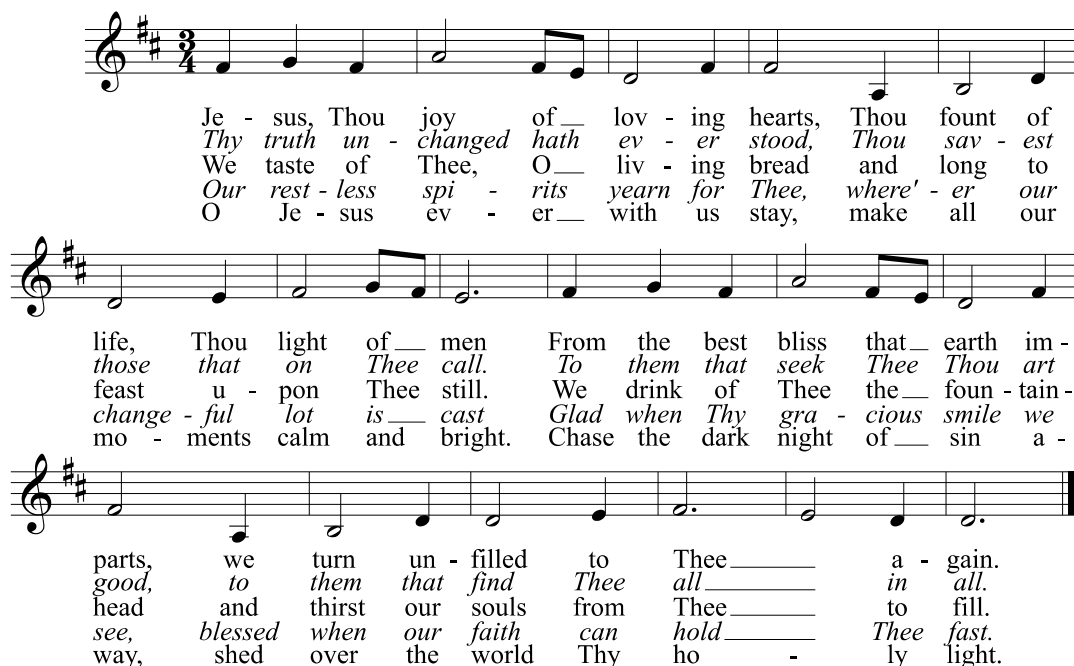
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Offertory

*Hymn of Preparation

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts



Je - sus, Thou joy of lov - ing hearts, Thou fount of
 Thy truth un - changed hath ev - er stood, Thou sav - est
 We taste of Thee, O liv - ing bread and long to
 Our rest - less spi - rits yearn for Thee, where' - er our
 O Je - sus ev - er with us stay, make all our
 life, Thou light of men From the best bliss that earth im -
 those that on Thee call. To them that seek Thee Thou art
 feast u - pon Thee still. We drink of Thee the foun - tain -
 change - ful lot is cast when Thy gra - cious smile we
 mo - ments calm and bright. Chase the dark night of sin a -
 parts, we turn un - filled to Thee a - gain.
 good, to them that find Thee all in all.
 head, and thirst our souls from Thee to fill.
 see, blessed when our faith from Thy can hold Thee fast.
 way, shed over the world Thy ho - ly light.

©Red Mountain Music

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

I Know the Plans I Have for You

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Jeremiah 29:1-14

*Hymn of Response

#642 – Be Thou My Vision

vs. 1 & 2 all, vs. 3 men, vs. 4 women, vs. 5 all

*Benediction

Numbers 6:24-25

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

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: *I Know the Plans I Have for You*

Text: Jeremiah 29:1-14

Pastor: Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Lord Jcsus, 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
- 21 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: Ron & Robin Henning
Ann Herndon
Jacob & Callie Hilson
Lyn Hogg
- Expecting: Hali Leskosky (10/23) & Izzy Sukhia (4/7)
- Newborns: Archer Andree, Charlotte Garrison, Reed Gossett, Isaac Martin,
Tommy Swicegood & 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: Worship & Music Ministry

Partnering with Ministries

- Missionary of the Week: Rohan & Rebecca Crown (MNA): developing an
outreach & discipleship ministry to the Blackfoot
tribe of western Canada
- Sister Church of the Week: Westminster Presbyterian (Columbus)
- Local Ministry Partner of the Week: RUF Mercer (Marlin Harris, Mallory Griffin,
Andrew Burckhalter, and Ann Elizabeth Peed)

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 9:30 - 10:30 AM

We offer 5 season-of-life based Sunday Communities for adults at NMPC: College & Career (Mark); 20s-30s (Daniel); 30s-50s (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*
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 Freeland will be leading a Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall. Dinner is \$7/adults/teen, \$3/child, with a family max \$20.

Menu: BBQ Chicken, Mac & Cheese, Green Beans, Salad Bar & Peanut Butter Cookies

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@nmpc.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.

Wednesday Night Activities – We will resume our Wednesday Night Activities this week. Dinner at 5:45 PM (the menu is on page 13) and classes for all ages at 6:30 PM.

Reformation Celebration – Plan now to be a part of this year's Reformation Celebration on **Sunday, October 25th**. The festivities begin at 5 pm with our second annual Family Fall Games commencing at 5:30 pm. Dinner will be served at 6 pm. We're asking last names A-G to bring a side dish and H-Z to bring a dessert. Register by scanning the QR code.



Men Helping Feed Middle Georgia - Our men's ministry is seeking 16 men to serve at the Middle Georgia Food Bank on **Thursday, October 29th** from 10:30am to 2:30pm where, we will prepare food boxes for local families who have a need. Lunch will be provided. Register at the sign-up table in the Narthex or by scanning the QR code.



New Members Class - If you are interested in learning more about NMPC or becoming a member, you are invited to attend the New Members Class. The class consists of two Sunday night meetings, **November 8th & 15th from 5:30 - 7:45 PM**. Dinner & childcare are provided. (We can offer makeup sessions if you have a conflict one evening.) Register by scanning the QR code.



Flowers – The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God by Hunter & Heather Stevenson in memory of their mothers, Pauline Marie Stevenson and Martha Grogan Trupia.

Security & Ushers (10/25): Team 2: Seth Peed, Paul Johnson, Noah Montgomery, Devlin Foster & John Bowman

Finances (9/30) - Income: \$ 1,093,566 Faith Promise 2026 Pledged: \$ 107,770
Expenses: \$ 1,044,970 Faith Promise Receipts: \$ 98,981



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

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.