

THE LORD'S DAY

Worship

October 6, 2024



NORTH MACON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Order of Worship
Sunday, October 6, 2024

*Jesus Christ is able to save completely those who come to God through him,
because he always lives to intercede for them.
Hebrews 7:25*

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Introit

Call to Worship

Psalm 96:1-4, 9

Pastor: Sing to the LORD a new song! Sing to the LORD, all the earth!

People: **Sing to the LORD! Praise his name! Proclaim his salvation day
after day!**

Pastor: Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among
all peoples!

People: **For great is the LORD and most worthy of praise! He is to be
feared above all gods.**

Pastor: Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness! Tremble before him,
all the earth!

***Praise Hymn**

#173 – Praise Him! Praise Him!

** 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.*

*Confession of Faith

Belgic Confession, Article 20

Pastor: Christian, what do you believe?

People: We believe that God
—who is perfectly merciful and also very just—
sent his Son to assume the nature
in which the disobedience had been committed,
in order to bear in it the punishment of sin
by his most bitter passion and death.
So God made known his justice toward his Son,
who was charged with our sin,
and he poured out his goodness and mercy on us,
who are guilty, and worthy of damnation,
giving to us his Son to die, by a most perfect love,
and raising him to life, for our justification,
in order that by him
we might have immortality and eternal life. Amen.

The Belgic Confession was composed in 1561 by Guido de Brés. It was adopted at the Synod of Dordt in 1619 as one of the doctrinal standards to which all office bearers in the Reformed churches were required to subscribe. The confession stands as one of the best symbolical statements of Reformed doctrine.

Call to Confession

Luke 22:31-32

Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.

Corporate Confession

Gracious Savior and Lord, you have every right to ask us, "Do you love me?" For like Peter, we have denied you with our words and actions. You said that to love you was to keep your commandments, yet we have disobeyed both the letter and the spirit of your holy law. You said that whoever loves you will also love his neighbor, yet we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Forgive us for not taking up our crosses to follow you and for not dying to ourselves. Forgive us for not finding our delight in you. Forgive us for failing to declare your praises and for failing to live as your ambassadors in this world. Forgive us for not seeking first your kingdom nor considering you our most precious treasure. Forgive us for forsaking you, our first love. Cause us to recognize how far we have fallen, to repent of our sins and return to you. Amen.

Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

1 Peter 2:24-25

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

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

*Hymn of Preparation

Before the Throne of God Above

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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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

*The Powerful Prayer of a Righteous Man
1 Kings 18:41-45; James 5:16-18*

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Sacrament of Communion

All those who have placed their faith and trust in Christ alone for their salvation, are baptized, and are members in good standing of a Bible-believing, evangelical church are invited to come forward and partake of the Lord's Supper this morning. All others, please remain in your seat and take this time to consider your relationship with Christ and His Church. There is a prayer on pg. 6 to help you contemplate the gift of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.

*Hymn of Response

*Oh the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus
printed on page 6*

*Benediction

Revelation 1:5b-6

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power 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.

Oh the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

Samuel T. Francis/Bob Kauflin

Oh the deep, deep love of Je - sus, vast un - mea - sured, bound - less free,
Oh the deep, deep love of Je - sus, spread His praise from shore to shore,
Oh the deep, deep love of Je - sus, far sur - pass - ing all the rest,
rol - ling as a might - y o - cean in its full - ness o - ver me,
how He came to pay our ran - som through the sav - ing cross He bore;
it's an o - cean full of bless - ing in the midst of e - very test.
un - der neath me all a - round me is the cur - rent of Your love,
how He watch - es o'er His loved ones, those He died to make his own,
Oh the deep, deep love of Je - sus, might - y Sav - ior pre - cious friend,
lead - ing on - ward, lead - ing home - ward to Your glo - rious rest a - bove.
how for them He's in - ter - ce - ding plead - ing now be - fore the throne.
You will bring us home to glo - ry where Your love will ne - ver end.

Oh the deep, deep love, all I need and trust is the deep, deep love of Je - sus.

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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: *The Powerful Prayers of a Righteous Man* **Text:** 1 Kings 18:41-45; James 5:16-18

Pastor: Rev. Hunter Stevenson

pg. 285 in your pew Bible

Providing a Home

Members of the Week:

Jack, Sara, Maggie & Katie Pyles

Liz Ream

Howard & Debi Reed

Chip & Cathy Ridley

Expecting: Elizabeth Bowen Foster & Kristen Vaughn

Newborns: Parker Schnetzer, Heidi Bentley, Charlee Andree, Grayson Gossett,
Perry Singleton, Eden Lyles, Jack Henning

Recovering: Dick Manwaring (stroke); Bess Baker (stroke)

Bereaved: Lynn & Aaron Hogg & Melissa Newell (Jerry); Dan Taylor (dad);
Madeline Thompson (dad, mom & sister); Fiona Leggett (mom);
Kathy Little (dad); Bryce Little & Hannah McCommon
(grandfather); Donna Rohn (Terry); Anna Barnes (grandmother)

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: Adult Christian Education Committee & Adult
Community Class Teachers

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

Partnering with Ministries

Missionaries of the Month:

Noah & Karleigh Stephens are church planters in Bangkok, Thailand

Steve Young ministers to a Japanese community in Tennessee

Sister Church of the Week: St. Andrews Presbyterian Church (Americus)

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: *Let's Study 2 Corinthians* (Modular 1)

30's-50's: *The Good News We Almost Forgot, part 1* (Modular 2)

50's-60's: *Ecclesiastes, part 2* (Fellowship Hall)

66+: *The Good News We Almost Forgot, part 2* (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 Freil)

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

Menu: Hamburger Steak, Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad Bar, Rolls, 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.

New Members Class - If you are interested in learning more about NMPC or joining our membership, you are invited to attend the New Members Class—which is comprised of two Sunday night meetings, on Oct 20 & Nov 3 from 5:30 - 7:45 PM. Dinner & childcare are provided. **The notebooks for the Class are available on the buffet beside Pastor Hunter's office.** (We provide makeup-sessions if you have a conflict one of those evenings.)

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!

Hurricane Helene – NMPC is working with the PCA's relief agency, MNA Disaster Response, to provide help and supplies to those affected by Hurricane Helene in Georgia and around the southeast. To give toward this effort, you can put your gift in today's offering or online through the Realm Connect app (be sure to select "Disaster Relief" from the dropdown menu). If you give by cash or check, be sure to include 'Disaster Relief' on the offering envelope or in the memo line of your check so that we can direct it properly. To see the latest on the PCA's recovery efforts and other ways you can get involved, visit www.pcamna.org/ministry/mna-disaster-response.

Ladies' Mug & Muffin - Ladies, join us for the Mug and Muffin this Saturday, October 12 (10:30 am) at the home of Holly Garretson (7247 Rivoli Road). Bring your favorite coffee mug and enjoy a fall morning with our ladies. Register on Realm or with Kathy Pye in the office.

Men's Chili Cookoff - Guys, join us for the Men's Ministry Chili Cookoff on Saturday, October 26, 6-9 pm, at the home of Cal Garretson (7247 Rivoli Road). Stay tuned for details!

Reformation Celebration - Join us on Sunday, October 27 at 5:00 pm for our annual Reformation Celebration! Come enjoy a BBQ dinner, inflatables, games, snow cones and more! We are asking last names A-L to bring a side dish and M-Z a dessert. Please register on REALM and contact Megan Cathey if you would like to help.

Lunch on the Grounds - Join us for lunch after church on Sun, Nov 10 to celebrate NMPC's 37th anniversary and our newly elected Pastor Emeritus, David Todd, and his wife, Murray.

Flowers - The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in memory of Jerry Willis by Cheryl Willis & 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.