

Notes about Worship at MPC

Welcome! We are so glad you are here. For those who are visiting MPC, please stop by and introduce yourself to our pastor, Courtney Pittman, or to one of the ushers. We want to celebrate your presence! We know there are a lot of demands on your time, so we are thrilled that you have chosen to spend your Sunday morning at MPC!

Children's Church—Children age 3 and up are invited to join our leaders for fun and faith in Children's Church located in the fellowship building following Let the Children Come. Pick up is immediately following the service in the fellowship hall.

Stewardship—Should you feel called to give today, ushers will be passing around the offering plates during the Invitation to Generosity. Giving is also available online at <https://madisonpresbyterian.church/generosity>.

The flowers are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in memory of Jack and Julia Blackwell and Morris and Mazelle Phelps by Garry and Lissa Phelps.

Coming Up in the Life of the Church

Lessons and Carols Adult Choir Rehearsals each Wednesday, 7:00—7:45 pm in the choir room. If you are interested in participating, contact Karisa Seymour at kseymourmpc@gmail.com

The Brotherhood Ministry will meet Monday, November 20, 7:00 pm in the fellowship hall. For more information contact Stan Ashley at stanonrebel@gmail.com.

There will be a Called Congregational meeting immediately following the worship service TODAY for the purpose of announcing the slate and voting on the new class of Elders.

Commitment Sunday is December 3. Please bring your pledge card as we continue to “Gather and Grow” together.

The American Red Cross is sponsoring a blood drive on Tuesday, December 5, 1:00 pm—6:00 pm in the fellowship hall.

Save the Date! The Women's Retreat will be held March 8-10 with facilitator Kim Ness. Watch upcoming bulletins for more information.

Pastoral Transition

The Pastor Nominating Committee to make the next months easier for both our new Pastor and all of us in the congregation has formed a **Transition Team**.

Those on the team are Robert Trulock, Sydney McWhirter, Jan Wilbanks, and Susan McCullar.

We all want to get to know all of us. There will be many opportunities in the next weeks. She will be meeting in small groups with the Elders, Bible Study groups, Sunday School classes, Circle groups, etc. Look for opportunities soon to sign up for informal meet and greet and question meetings in members' homes and at the church. An email address has been set p for anyone who has questions or comments. The team may be reached at mpctransition@gmail.com.

Opportunities for Outreach and Mission

Ministry Bags for November we will be collecting items for Circle of Love. This is a ministry for women and their children who are victims of domestic violence. Five counties are served by this ministry which is located in a private location to protect these families. Many women and their children arrive searching for safety from an abusive spouse or partner with only the clothes on their backs. At this shelter they find security and safety as well as love and counseling. They are helped to find a new location to live and a new job to get them on the road to a new life. They are in need of toiletry items such as soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo for all ages and races. They are also in need of cleaning products and paper products.

Madison Presbyterian Church will be participating in the Christmas Tour of Homes on Friday, December 1 and Saturday, December 2. Volunteers are needed to docent from 10:00 am—4:00 pm each day. If you are interested in volunteering contact Johnnie Sue Moore at 706-318-9204.

This Week's Events

- **Sunday, November 19** 10:00 am Sunday School; 11:00 am Worship Service; 4:00 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- **Monday, November 20** 12:30 pm Prayer Ministry; 7:00 pm Brotherhood Ministry
- **Tuesday, November 21** 7:30 am Men's Breakfast/Bible Study
- **Wednesday, November 22** Church Office Closed
- **Thursday, November 23** Church Office Closed
- **Friday, November 24** Church Office Closed

Sunday, November 19, 2023

11:00 AM

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



382 South Main Street
Madison GA 30650
(706) 342-2813 phone
(706) 342-4350 fax
www.madisonpresbyterian.church

Gathering as God's Beloved

Gathering Music

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

arr. Grace Kim

Welcome

*Call to Worship

Rev. Dr. Laurel Koepf Taylor

The prophets of old spoke of God's justice, even when it was unwelcome. Who will hear their message?

We will listen and we will hear!

Responding to God's call, Jesus traveled—preaching and teaching to all who would listen. Who will hear this message?

We will listen and we will hear!

Christ sent out disciples two by two, to spread the good news in any place that would welcome them. Who will hear this message?

We will listen and we will hear!

God's prophets are among us still, around the world and in these pews. Who will hear their message?

We will listen and we will hear!

*Hymn 14

For the Beauty of the Earth

*Confessing Together

Thom Shuman

You know how stubborn we can be, Holy God. You call us to serve others, and we stay in the coolness of our own homes. You would send us to where the hopeless live, but we are reluctant to leave the comfort of our complacency. You would feed us on the peace and joy of your word, but we pull our chairs up to the tables of those who serve false promises. Forgive us, Guiding God. Transform our defiance into discipleship, and our rejection of others into the resurrection of welcoming all people as siblings in Christ. Help us to love as faithfully as you have always loved us and send forth to take the good news of Jesus Christ to everyone we meet. (*We continue in silence*) Amen.

*Assurance of God's Love

We open our lips and confess our hearts. God hears our words and make us new, sending us out to bring hope and joy to all the world. Church, we are forgiven!

We are free to try again! Hallelujah. Amen.

Response to God's Grace (Hymn 582, vs.1)

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all!

And also with you!

Proclaiming the Word

Let the Children Come!

Prayer for God's Wisdom

First Reading: Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Anthem

The Gift of Love

arr. Hal Hopson

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:11-22

Sermon

Tattooed Disciples

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 300

We are One in the Spirit

*Affirming our Faith

The Apostle's Creed

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 Ghost, 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 at 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 Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Our Creator 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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory

Violin Sonata, No. 23, Mvt. 2

Mozart

*Response (Hymn 606)

Praise God, from all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Gratitude

Being the Church in the World

*Hymn 726

Will You Come and Follow Me

Called Congregational Meeting

*Charge and Blessing

Postlude

*Please stand in body or in spirit

Serving in Worship

Courtney Pittman—Senior Pastor

Karisa Seymour—Music Director

Meghan Shafer—Accompanist

Alexis Boylan—Violin

Thomas LaMon—Cello

Lorene Malanowski—Liturgist

Auja Sterans—Acolyte

Tommy Arthur—Communications Technologist