

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 celebration of Kennedy Hawk's birthday by Brad and Ashley Hawk. The flowers are placed in the narthex this morning to the glory of God and in honor of Courtney Brown Pittman and family by First Presbyterian Church of Athens.

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 Finance Ministry will meet Monday, November 6, 7:15 pm in the church library.

The Brotherhood Ministry will meet Monday, November 6, 7:00 pm in the fellowship hall. For more information contact Stan Ashley at stanonrebel@gmail.com.

The Ladies Coffee Circle will meet Tuesday, November 7, 10:00 am in the fellowship hall. For more information contact Susan McCullar at srmac49@gmail.com.

Young at Heart will meet Thursday, November 9, 11:30 am at Martha's Restaurant. Followed by dominoes and canasta in the fellowship hall. For more information contact June Jones at jones1959@bellsouth.net.

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. Because they arrive with nothing, they have many needs including clothing, shoes, and toiletries such as soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo for all ages and races.

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 Johnie Sue Moore at 706-318-9204.

This Week's Events

- **Sunday, November 5** 10:00 am Sunday School; 11:00 am Worship Service; 12:15 pm Churhwide Picnic; No Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- **Monday, November 6** 12:30 pm Prayer Ministry; 7:00 pm Brotherhood Ministry; 7:15 pm Finance Ministry
- **Tuesday, November 7** 7:30 am Men's Breakfast/Bible Study; 10:00 am Ladies Coffee Circle
- **Wednesday, November 8** 7:00 am Youth Breakfast Club; 8:00 am Preschool Coffee Talk; 10:30 am Morning Bible Study; 5:15 pm JAM (Children's Ministry Program); 6:00 pm Evening Bible Study; 7:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal
- **Thursday, November 9** 11:30 am Young at Heart (meet at Martha's Restaurant)

Sunday, November 5, 2023

11:00 AM

31st 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

Welcome

*Call to Worship

When we stand at the edge of fear and worry,

God invites us to step into the waters of faith and trust.

When we stand at the edge of the world's pain and need,

Jesus invites us to step into the land of humble service.

When we stand at the edge of our hunger and thirst,

The Spirit invites us to sit at the table of grace.

*Hymn 401

Here in This Place

*Confessing Together

Holy and gracious God, we admit that we are not always trusting in the plans you have for us. We are convinced that we know best. We think that we can do this thing called life on our own. Forgive us for our short-sightedness. Forgive us for our foolish desires and whims of our hearts. Forgive us for the times we do not act as the hands and feet of Jesus Christ on this earth. Renew our spirits and lead us home where we will follow the path you have set before us and work for the betterment of your kingdom. (*We continue in silence.*) AMEN.

*Assurance of God's Love

Hear the good news. We are forgiven! Not once, not twice, but always. Loving us just as we are, God extends God's ever flowing grace to the world. Church, 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: Psalm 18:20-30

Anthem

Home

Ruth Elaine Schram/Aren Newell Williams

Second Reading: Joshua 3:7-17

Sermon

The Road Home

Responding to the Word

*Affirming our Faith

excerpts from Confession of Belbar (PCUSA)

We believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another; that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another; that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another; that we share one faith, have one calling, are of one soul and one mind; that we need one another and upbuild one another, admonishing and comforting one another. Amen.

Invitation to Generosity

*Response (Hymn 606)

Praise God, from all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him, above ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Gratitude

The Eucharist

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

Breaking of the Bread

Prayer After Communion

Being the Church in the World

*Hymn 326 (vs. 1, 3 & 4)

For All the Saints

*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

Acolyte—Martha Kelly

Tommy Arthur—Communications Technologist

Christopher Jones, Allen Orr, Linda Sky, Matthew Smith, Ashley Hawk, Larkin Kelly,

Dan Jones, Becky Thompson, John Moore—Liturgists