

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>.

Language—The words we use are important! So often we go into “autopilot” during worship and we miss the meaning of the words we say each Sunday. In an effort to be more conscious of the language we use during worship, some words in our liturgy will change monthly; but please know that you may pray in whatever way you feel comfortable. We are family here!

Coming Up in the Life of the Church

Please Note!! New flooring will be installed in the downstairs area (including the stairs) of the Education Building from Friday, February 16 (beginning at 1:00 pm) through Sunday, February 25. The downstairs area of the Education Building will be off-limits during this time—the upstairs rooms will still be available and can be accessed through the elevator in the fellowship hall.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study: The Bible—it's one of the most influential books in human history. It explores the big questions of why we exist. It's inspired many people to do amazing things...and it has confused many others. And you've probably got at least one Bible sitting around somewhere. Many of us have read the Bible or heard parts of the Bible read all of our lives...but what is it exactly and where did it come from? Join the Wednesday morning Bible Study as we learn about the Bible—the different literary styles, the plot, the characters, and how it all fits together to tell one big unified story. This is for everyone who wants to know more about how to read the Bible and get the most out of it. Beginners and more experienced readers will find a deeper level of appreciation and understanding of this most powerful and life-changing book. Each Wednesday, **10:00 am—11:30 am in the church library**. Come and bring a friend.

Women's Coffee Morning Thursday, February 29, 8:30 am—10:00 am: We could all use a little more joy in our lives! Join us for coffee, pastries, fellowship and discussion in the Fellowship Hall to discuss “Finding Joy in Sticky Situations.” This is a casual get together, so come as you are and bring a friend if you'd like! Contact Lori Hume (404-432-0684 or LoriDHume@aol.com) if you've got suggestions for future women's events!

Women's Retreat March 8-10: *Finding Joy in Our Stories* This year's women's retreat asks the question, “What's Your Story?” Everyone has one. No matter what your story involves, we want you to feel connected to one another, to embrace one another's stories, to find joy in our story and explore the impact our story has on others. May this brief break from our daily schedule and responsibilities refresh your spirit and provide renewed energy to grow your faith in real and amazing ways. Cost \$250. Contact Lori Hume (404-432-0684 or LoriDHume@aol.com for questions or to confirm attendance.

Ash Wednesday Service and Drive-Thru Imposition of Ashes Ash Wednesday begins the forty-day period of Lent (excluding Sundays), a time of repentance and renewal that leads to Easter. At our Ash Wednesday Service, we impose ashes that remind us of our mortality, “You are dust and to dust you shall return.” The joy of Easter brings us the good news that we are reconciled with God through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Traditional Lenten practices include fasting, deeds of service, almsgiving, prayer, meditation, special Bible study and worship. On Wednesday, February 14 we will have drive-thru imposition of ashes at the portico drive, from 1:00—2:00 pm and our Ash Wednesday service in the sanctuary at 7:00 pm.

Opportunities for Outreach and Mission

Ministry Bags for February: 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 devotional books.

Each ministry of MPC now has their own email address. Please feel free to use these emails with any correspondence/questions you might have.

personnelmadisonpres@gmail.com
congregationallifemadisonpres@gmail.com
faithformationmadisonpres@gmail.com
outreachmadisonpres@gmail.com

communicationsmadisonpres@gmail.com
financemadisonpres@gmail.com
buildingmadisonpres@gmail.com
worshipmadisonpres@gmail.com

Sunday, February 11, 2024

11:00 AM

The Transfiguration of the Lord



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

Rev. Rob Smith

Beyond our busyness, above the cold winter floor there is a glory rising, born of heaven and reaching out to each one of us; **a light that shines through the clouds, an invitation seeking all of who we are that transfigures the world;** that transforms darkness into hope, that brings life from a cross where old life ends and new life is born.

In glory, Jesus meets us here; raising us from depths of the valley to the height of the mountain and carrying the weight of our humanity to the heights of heaven’s glory.

Let us worship from the mountain and hear again—

“This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!”

*Hymn 409

God Is Here!

*Confessing Together

Rev. Nancy J.

God of rainbows and puddles, we confess to you and to one another the many ways we fail to live the lives you want for us. We make ourselves busy with many things, and neglect to listen to your voice. All too often we see the worst in the world around us, and look past your signs of hope. We are quick to voice our dissent with one another, and refuse to see your face in the persons with whom we disagree. We focus on our own hurts, anger, and disappointments, and close our hearts to your transforming grace. O Holy Light of the world, forgive us. Open our eyes to your endless possibilities. Give us courage to listen for your call to us. Take our hearts of stone, and make them new again with your holy love. *(We continue in silence....)* **Amen.**

*Assurance of God’s Love

adapted from Rev. Nancy J.

Do not be afraid. God’s light has come into the world and has scattered the darkness; the morning star rises in our hearts. Rejoice! For God does not hold our sins against us, but embraces us as God’s own beloved. Church, we are forgiven! **We are free to try again. Alleluia, Amen.**

*Response to God’s Grace (Hymn 582, verse 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: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

Majesty

arr. Jack Shrader

Second Reading: Mark 9:2-9

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Won.

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 12

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

*Affirming our Faith

from Confession of 1967

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church’s mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God’s judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church’s own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God’s renewal of human life in society and of God’s victory over all wrong.

Ordination and Installation of Ruling Elder

Constitutional Questions

Congregational Questions

Prayer and Blessing

Prayer of the People and Lord’s Prayer

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; 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

*Response (Hymn 606)

Praise God, from whom 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 192

Lord, the Light of Your Love is Shining

*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

Lori Hume—Liturgist

Fisher Webster—Acolyte

Tommy Arthur—Communications Technologist