

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 4 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. There is a nursery available for children under 4.

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

Tuesday Morning Bible Study: Join us on Tuesday mornings from 11:00 am—12:00 pm as we study Sarah Bessey's new book, *Field Notes for the Wilderness: Practices for an Evolving Faith*. Our first meeting will be on Tuesday, April 16 and will continue each Tuesday until our last meeting on May 14 (One exception—we will not meet on May 7, but will meet on Thursday, May 9 instead). There is a guided journal that accompanies the book but it is totally OPTIONAL! (Just make sure you are ordering the book and not the journal!) Email Courtney if you have any questions: courtneypittmanmpc@gmail.com

MPC Preschool Sunday: Join us for worship on Sunday, April 21 as we celebrate Madison Presbyterian Church Preschool. We will have special music, pocket-sized guest choir members, liturgists, and ushers. :) There will also be a picnic following worship at Hill Park (more details to follow). We hope to see you there!

MPC Preschool is taking orders for flats of beautiful begonias and mixed master arrangement hanging baskets which would make a great Mother's Day gift. The cost is \$25.00 per flat or basket. Sign up on the church bulletin board or email [Ashley Brown preschoolmpc@gmail.com](mailto:AshleyBrownpreschoolmpc@gmail.com) to place your order. Checks can be made out to MPCP and placed in the envelope on the bulletin or left in the preschool office. The flowers will be ready for pick-up on Friday, May 10, 8:00 am—12:00 pm. just in time for Mother's Day. Deadline for orders is April 22. Thank you in advance for supporting our preschool with this fundraiser.

Madison Presbyterian Church will be on the tour of homes Friday, April 19 and Saturday, April 20. If you would like to volunteer as a docent please contact Johnnie Sue Moore at 706-318-9204 or jsmoore@jasper.k12.ga.us.

Opportunities for Outreach and Mission

April Ministry Bags will support the Morgan County Humane Society. The focus for The Humane Society is to rescue dogs and cats who have been neglected, abused, or lost. After getting the animals healthy and neutered, the goal is to find each dog and cat, no matter the kind, size, age or color, a wonderful new home where they will be loved and cared for in a healthy and safe environment. The following items are needed: kitten food (dry or wet), puppy food (dry or wet), dog toys (large/small, soft/hard), cat toys (all kinds) and dog treats.

Sunday, April 14, 2024
11:00 AM
Third Sunday of Easter



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

Moment for Mission

Morgan County Humane Society

*Call to Worship

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

Come and see the love God has given to us.

Come and see what it means to be children of God.

Come with this hope—that Christ's presence is real.

With joy, we come to see the Lord.

*Hymn 268

Crown Him with Many Crowns

*Confessing Together

Jenny Adams, Church of Scotland

Spirit, Living One, in the beginning, you breathed life; in chaos and darkness, you brought hope; in many tongues, you spread good news. Transform us, your people, as we open our minds and hearts to you. God, Loving Creator, Son and Spirit, we come. Yet we know we come with doubts and fears. We know we come in ignorance. We know we have failed you, your creation and your people in many ways. Trusting in your love, we turn again to you. As we open our hearts to your mercy and forgiveness, grant us your peace. Accept these prayers and accept our worship, through your love....*(We continue in silence....)* Amen.

*Assurance of God's Love

The welcoming grace of God is sure for each and for all. Our dwelling place in God is secure. Receive the forgiveness of God and be restored to right relation with God and with one another. Church, we are forgiven. **We are free to try again. Alleluia, Amen.**

*Response to God's Grace (Hymn 648)

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what God has done. Let everyone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ. Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

*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!

Baptism of Mary McGavock Trulock

*Congregation's Profession of Faith—The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Baptismal Response (Hymn 188)

Jesus loves me! This I know for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Prayer for God's Wisdom

First Reading: 1 John 3:1-3

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

Hallelujah! Resurrection Day

Larry Shockley

Second Reading: Luke 24:36b-48

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Just Here for the Snacks

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 629 (vs. 1,2,3,5)

Jesus the Very Thought of Thee

Prayers of the People and the 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 609)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known; Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*Prayer of Gratitude

Being the Church in the World

*Hymn 610

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

*Charge and Blessing

Postlude

*Please stand in body or in spirit

Serving in Worship

Rev. Courtney Pittman—Senior Pastor

Karisa Seymour—Music Director

Meghan Shafer—Accompanist

Robert Trulock—Baptismal Elder

Lorene Malanowski—Liturgist

Jack Marbutt—Acolyte

Tommy Arthur—Communications Technologist