

Madison Presbyterian Church
Sunday, September 10, 2023
15th Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer of Preparation

God of grace and glory, we gather to hear of the mighty acts you perform, and of how you deal justly with your people. By the hands of Christ you lift us up to safe places, and give us a vision of how we may dwell secure in your love. Hear us now as we give thanks for your providence, and praise your glory in our worship and in our prayer. Amen.

Welcome and Passing of the Peace

Chiming of the Hour

Opening Voluntary *Sheep May Safely Graze* Rhodes

*Call to Worship (Psalm 119)

Teach us, O Lord, the way of your statutes,
and we will observe them until the end.

Give us understanding, that we may keep your law
and observe it with our whole heart.

Turn our hearts to your decrees, and not to selfish gain.

Confirm to your servants your promise,
Let your steadfast love come to us, O God,
and your salvation according to your promise.

*Hymn 722 *Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak*

Prayer of Confession

God of all mercy, it is when life becomes difficult that we find it most natural to doubt. You call on us to be courageous, but too often we find our faith lacking. When called on to take risks, we confess that we are more often complacent. We choose to ignore injustice, doing little more than hoping that it will subside. Forgive our reluctance to follow where you have led, and grant us the wisdom to trust in Christ when we most doubt ourselves.

(We continue in silence.....)

Assurance of Pardon

Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life is gone; a new life has begun. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

*Response No. 619 (vs. 1)

Praise, my soul, the God of heaven
Glad of hearts your carols raise;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Who, like me, should sing God's praise?
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the Maker all your days.

Time for Young Disciples

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson: Ezekiel 33:1-7

Epistle Lesson: Romans 13:8-14

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem *My Father's World* arr. Estes

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 18:15-20

Sermon So What..... Rev. Arch Baker

*Hymn 12 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

*Affirmation of 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 on 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

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *The Lord's My Shepherd* Campbell

*Doxology

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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn 744 *Arise, Your Light Is Come!*

Closing Voluntary *Postlude* Ashford

*Charge and Blessing

**We raise ourselves in body or spirit*

Serving in Worship

Rev. Arch Baker, Interim Pastor

Susan McCullar, Liturgist

Karisa Seymour, Director of Music

Meghan Shafer, Organist

Carey Moore, Flute

Tommy Arthur, Communications Technologist

The flowers are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God by Garry and Lissa Phelps.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 10

10:00 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship Service

2:00 pm Youth Kick-off (meet at the church)

4:00 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Room 205)

Monday, September 11

12:30 pm Prayer Ministry (Church Library)

Tuesday, September 12

7:30 am Men's Breakfast/Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 pm Pastor Nominating Committee (Library)

Wednesday, September 13

7:00 am Youth Breakfast Club (The Sinclair)

10:30 am Wednesday Morning Bible Study (Library)

5:45 pm JAM (Wednesday Children's Program—Fellowship Hall)

6:00 pm Wednesday Evening Bible Study Group (Library)

7:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, September 14

11:30 am Young at Heart (meet at Ricardo's)

MPC Preschool Fall Plant Fundraiser MPCP is kicking off our Fall Fundraiser. We are taking orders for flats of beautiful mixed pansies. Each flat consists of 18 locally grown pansies in an eco-friendly biodegradable pot that you plant directly into the soil. The cost is \$25 per flat. Please sign-up on the bulletin board or email Ashley Brown (preschoolmpc@gmail.com) with your orders. The pansies will be ready for pick-up on Friday, October 13, 8:00 am—noon in the church parking lot. The last day to place an order is Friday, September 25. Thank you for your support!

MPC Breakfast Club is Back! Attention MPC Youth: Breakfast Club is back starting Wednesday, September 13 at 7:00 am. For the month of September, middle and high school youth will meet at The Sinclair for breakfast and devotional before school. We need volunteers to lead a devotion for our youth. If you feel led please reach out to Ansley Cochran at ansleyjcochran@gmail.com.

Ministry Bags for September: The month of September focus of our Ministry Bags will be the Madison/Morgan Food Pantry. This ministry began in response to the early months of the pandemic when so many families in our county were experiencing “food insecurity” due to loss of jobs and illnesses. You may remember this grass roots effort began first in Town Park and then moved to the High School. They now have a permanent location in the cafeteria of the old Middle School. They prepare boxes with items for breakfast, lunch, and dinner for several days. Fill your bag with any of these items: cereal, grits (individual packets), oatmeal (individual packets), can meat (chicken, tuna, salmon, spam), can vegetables, can soups, can fruit, dry peas/beans, hamburger helper, peanut butter, jello/pudding.

Save the Date!!! The Churchwide Fall Picnic will be held Sunday, November 5 immediately following the worship service at Garry and Lissa Phelps' Barn. Be sure to watch bulletins for more information.

Thursday Updates from the Pastor Nominating Committee Please check your email inbox for Thursday *Messages from the MPC PNC*. The PNC will be sharing some insights into our work, process, and mission beginning Thursday, August 31. We sincerely hope that these messages will encourage you to know that you are a vital component of the pastor search mission. Hear what God is doing in our midst through this ministry. Continue to pray fervently for the PNC and the one God is preparing to join the MPC family. Know we are praying for you. Allen, Ashley, Becky, Christopher, Dan, John, Larkin, Linda, Matthew

Prayer Requests for Week of September 10, 2023

Health Concerns/Friends

- Clarice Woods (Hayes)
- Dillon Lewis (Phelps)
- Nell Roach (Moore)
- Bonnie Hicky (Connolly)
- Daniel Laughlin (Hume)
- Will Howell (Massey)
- Tommy Buttermore (Buttermore)
- Howard Schwartz (Joy Mattocks' father)
- Dr. Ralph Jensen (Karl Jensen)
- Richard Stroud (Mitchell)
- Mike Rigdon (Allison)
- The Nagel Family (Berry)
- Windy Johnston (Johnston)
- Jane Holland (Kennedy)
- Gaynell Thomas (Evans)
- Madeline Andrews (Chapin)
- Bill Gourley (Hughes)
- Sydney Ozburn (Merritt)
- Ann Hackett (Vaughan)
- Michael Callicutt Family (Orr)
- Sharon Brickell
- Cami Jackson (Lamb)
- George Carlson (Carlson)
- Marilyn Bremer (Steele)
- Diane Arnold (Allison)
- Tinlei Miller (Steele)
- Jeanne Hasty (Wilbanks)
- Janet Morrison (Davie)

Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 9/11 Nancy Pluckhahn
9/13 Erich Booth
Griffith Stamps
9/15 Patrice Brittain
Sarah Coleman
Karen Peters

Witness to the Resurrection

- Grady Bryans
- Lizzie Jones
- Margaret Rayle (mother of Patricia DuBose)

Joys and Celebrations

- Brian and Jessica Lance on the birth of their daughter Eloise Maeve born Sunday, August 20.
- Sutton and Adrienne Trulock on the birth of their daughter, Mary McGavock, born August 27. Grandparents are Robert and Anne Trulock.

Health Concerns/Church Members

- Tim Lamb
- WH Ashburn
- John Moore
- Rose Mary Hughes
- Marshall Bailey
- Marvin Kennedy
- Jim Malanowski
- Lee Warbington
- Pedro Che
- Jeff Dobski

Senior Care/Assisted Living

- Mary Grace Boyd (Jeff Dobski's mother)
- Betty Casaday
- Betty Morris
- Bill and HuEllen Connolly (Connolly)
- Eva Boulter
- Judy Lawton

Serving Our Country

- Parker Jackson—Anderson Air Force Base, Guam (son of Hoyt and Brillo Jackson)
- Major Michael Launius (son of George and Nancy Launius)
- Cpt. Ben Burnum (husband of Megan Hume Burnum) CMR 415 Box 5669, APO AE 09114-0057
- SR Richards, Ian (grandson of Ed and Pam Latham) Ft. Belvoir Community Hospital, Box 471, 9300 Dewitt Loop, Ft. Belvoir, VA 22060

MPC Pastor Nominating Committee

Christopher Jones, (Moderator)
Allen Orr
Ashley Hawk
Becky Thompson
Dan Jones
John Moore
Larkin Kelly
Linda Sky
Matthew Smith
Email: madisongapnc@gmail.com

STAFF

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Sunday, September 10, 2023

11:00 AM

15th Sunday after Pentecost



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