

Madison Presbyterian Church
Sunday, September 17, 2023
16th Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer of Preparation

Gracious and living God, you speak in our hearts and minds so that our faith may speak to the lives of others. Open now our eyes and ears to accept your word for our lives, and grant to us the grace of your power that brings forth new life. Make us able to do your will, and make us whole, as true ambassadors of Christ. Let our lives reach out to others in our world through Christ who is our Lord and savior. Amen.

Welcome and Passing of the Peace

Chiming of the Hour

Opening Voluntary *Come Thou Almighty King* Hayes

*Call to Worship (Psalm 103)

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me;

bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget God's mercy.

The Lord is merciful and gracious,

Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

God does not deal with us according to our sins.

For as the heavens are high above the earth,

so great is God's steadfast love toward those who fear him.

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

*Hymn 343 *Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life*

Prayer of Confession

Loving and forgiving God, you called us to be a people of faith and also a people of action; in your Son you taught us that we are what we live. We confess that we fail to live your commandments and embody your grace. We claim our friendships, but too often do not pause to say, "I care." We seek more leisure for life, but do not know how to use the hours we already have. Lord, help us to unwind our tangled lifestyles, that we may lengthen our chances to serve you and encounter those whom you love.

(We continue in silence.....)

Assurance of Pardon

The God of mercy who forgives us all our sins also strengthens us in goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keeps us in eternal life. The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

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

*Response No. 240 (vs. 2)

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord

Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.

Spread the good news, o'er all the earth,

Jesus has died and is risen.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord

Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.

Time for Young Disciples

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 50:15-21

Epistle Lesson: Romans 14:1-12

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

Anthem *Give Me Oil in My Lamp* arr. Martin

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 18:21-35

Sermon *Plowing the Field* Rev. Arch Baker

*Hymn 439 *O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer*

*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 *Sunset Glow* Ashford

*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 634 *To God Be the Glory*

Closing Voluntary *Postlude in Bb Major* Ashford

*Charge and Blessing

**We raise ourselves in body or spirit*

Serving in Worship

Rev. Arch Baker, Interim Pastor

Anne Trulock, Liturgist

Karisa Seymour, Director of Music

Meghan Shafer, Organist

Tommy Arthur, Communications Technologist

THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 17

10:00 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship Service

4:00 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Room 205)

Monday, September 18

12:30 pm Prayer Ministry (Church Library)

7:00 pm Brotherhood Ministry (Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday, September 19

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

7:00 pm Pastor Nominating Committee (Library)

Wednesday, September 20

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)

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 each Wednesday 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. 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 17, 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)
- Pedro Che

Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 9/17 Megan Burnam
9/18 Maddy Berry
9/20 Sarah Vaughn
9/21 Mary Ann Rainey
Christie Burke
9/23 Emily Oglesby

Health Concerns/Church Members

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

The church office is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Office: 706-342-2813

Website: www.madisonpresbyterian.church

Rev. Arch Baker, INTERIM PASTOR
acbaker@hotmail.com

Nicki Peppers, ADMINISTRATOR
nickipeppersmpc@gmail.com

Ashley Brown, PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR
preschoolmpc@gmail.com

Christie Shumake, NURSERY COORDINATOR

Karisa Seymour, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Meghan Shafer, ORGANIST

Julia Butler-Mayes, VOCALIST

Dr. Pedro Che, ACCOMPANIST

David Boardman, HANDBELL CHOIR DIRECTOR

Tommy Arthur, COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIST

ELDERS

Donna Baddour, FELLOWSHIP/NEW MEMBERS & EVANGELISM MINISTRIES
dkbaddour@gmail.com

Larry Berry, PROPERTY MINISTRY
lberry_72@yahoo.com

Connie Booth, CLERK OF SESSION
constancebooth@att.net

Ansley Cochran, YOUTH MINISTRY
ansleycochran@gmail.com

Wilson DuBose, FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY
wdubose@duboselawgroup.net

Christopher Jones, WORSHIP AND OUTREACH MINISTRIES
feefur@bellsouth.net

Jessica Lance, FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP AND PERSONNEL MINISTRIES
jessica@thegoagroup.com

Pam Latham, CHILDREN'S FORMATION AND FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES
pamlatham60@gmail.com

Casey Marbutt, PROPERTY AND FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES
cmarbutt@gmail.com

Kirby Murdoch, ADULT FORMATION MINISTRY
murdoch30650@gmail.com

Dorothy Newton, PERSONNEL MINISTRY
dorothynewtonmcga@gmail.com

Christine Smith, COMMUNICATION/CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRIES
christinetsmith.12@gmail.com

Katherine Webster, CHILDREN'S AND WORSHIP MINISTRIES
katherinewebster@gmail.com

Sunday, September 17, 2023

11:00 AM

16th Sunday after Pentecost



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