

**Madison Presbyterian Church**  
**Sunday, September 24, 2023**  
**17th Sunday after Pentecost**

Prayer of Preparation

Gracious and loving God, our reasons for being here this morning are as many as the number of us here. You alone know the desires of our hearts and the depth of our faith. Where we are empty this day, fill us with new spirit; where we are already overflowing, show us the way to share with those in need. As we gather in your name, renew our spirits for the work you have given us in the name of the Christ, who is our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Welcome and Passing of the Peace

Chiming of the Hour

Opening Voluntary                      *In Faith the Triumph*                      Jason W. Krug

\*Call to Worship (Psalm 145)

We will extol you, our God and King,  
**and bless your name forever and ever.**  
Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;  
**God's greatness is unsearchable.**

One generation shall laud God's works to another.  
**and declare to them God's mighty acts.**

All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord,  
**and all your faithful shall bless you.**

\*Hymn 630                                      *Fairest Lord Jesus*

Prayer of Confession

**Loving and forgiving God, apart from you we are lost and without direction; yet we confess that we imagine ourselves masters of our own destinies. We presume to have power over our lives that rightly is yours, and we work at bending your will to coincide with our own. We shape ourselves and our church around what we want rather than what you require. Forgive us our arrogance, O God, and remind us that you alone have provided us the privilege of obedience and salvation. Let our lives be defined by living your will, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**  
*(We continue in silence.....)*

Assurance of Pardon

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin and alive to all that is good. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

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

\*Response                                      *Gloria Patri*  
***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.***

Time for Young Disciples

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson: Jonah 3:10-4:11  
Epistle Lesson: Philippians 1:21-30

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

Anthem                                      *Holy Manna*                                      George Atkins/Joel Raney

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 20:1-16

Sermon                                      Wild Zucchini                                      Rev. Arch Baker

\*Hymn 629                                      *Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee*

\*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                                      *His Eye is on the Sparrow*                                      Gabriel/arr.Wagner

\*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 435                                      *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

Closing Voluntary                      *Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us*                                      arr. Mark Hayes

Meeting of the Congregation

\*Charge and Blessing

*\*We raise ourselves in body or spirit*

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***Serving in Worship***

Rev. Arch Baker, Interim Pastor  
Christine Smith, Liturgist  
Karisa Seymour, Director of Music  
Meghan Shafer, Organist  
Jake Carlson, Hand Drums  
Handbell Choir—directed by David Boardman  
Tommy Arthur, Communications Technologist

**THIS WEEK**

**Sunday, September 24**

10:00 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Worship Service  
No Afternoon Handbell Rehearsals

**Monday, September 25**

12:30 pm Prayer Ministry (Church Library)

**Tuesday, September 26**

7:30 am Men's Breakfast/Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)  
7:00 pm Pastor Nominating Committee (Library)

**Wednesday, September 27**

7:00 am Youth Breakfast Club (The Sinclair)  
10:30 am Wednesday Morning Bible Study (Library)  
5:15 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)

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**The flowers** are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in celebration of Christie, Brayden and Brooklyn Burke's birthdays by Connie Shumake.

**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.

**Congregational Meeting:** A special meeting of the Madison Presbyterian Church has been called and announced by the Session to be held on TODAY immediately following the worship service for the purpose of hearing and acting upon the final report of the Pastor Nominating Committee and to elect our next pastor and approve terms of call.

**Lessons and Carols Adult Choir Rehearsals** will begin Wednesday, October 11, 7:00—7:45 pm in the choir room. If you are interested in participating please contact Karisa Seymour at kseymourmpc@gmail.com.

## Prayer Requests for Week of September 24, 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
- Joe DiLetto (Latham)

### Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 9/24 Abby Kate Barber  
Alex Pickles  
Connie Shumake
- 9/25 Sydney Griffith
- 9/26 Leighton Berry
- 9/29 Brayden Burke  
Mary Hollis Pugmire
- 9/30 Brooklyn Burke

### Joys and Celebrations

Ben and Katie Tidwell on the birth of their daughter, Lucy Catherine, born August 22.

### Health Concerns/Church Members

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

### 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](http://www.madisonpresbyterian.church)

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**Nicki Peppers**, ADMINISTRATOR  
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**Ashley Brown**, PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR  
[preschoolmpc@gmail.com](mailto:preschoolmpc@gmail.com)

**Christie Shumake**, NURSERY COORDINATOR

**Karisa Seymour**, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

**Meghan Shafer**, ORGANIST

**Julia Butler-Mayes**, VOCALIST

**David Boardman**, HANDBELL CHOIR DIRECTOR

**Tommy Arthur**, COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIST

### ELDERS

**Donna Baddour**, FELLOWSHIP/NEW MEMBERS & EVANGELISM MINISTRIES  
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**Katherine Webster**, CHILDREN'S AND WORSHIP MINISTRIES  
[katherinewebster@gmail.com](mailto:katherinewebster@gmail.com)

Sunday, September 24, 2023

11:00 AM

17th Sunday after Pentecost



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