

March 19, 2023
Fourth Sunday in Lent

PRELUDE "Gymnopedie" Satie

WELCOME

OPENING SENTENCES

The Lord is merciful and gracious, *Ps. 103:8*
slow to anger and abounding in love.
In Christ there is a new creation. *2 Cor. 5:17*
The old has passed away; everything is new!
Live as children of the light. *Eph. 5:8*
Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.
Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

+**HYMN:** GTG #39 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" FAITHFULNESS

CALL TO CONFESSION *Rom. 5:8*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy,
you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost.
We confess that we have strayed from you
and turned aside from your way.
We are misled by pride,
for we see ourselves pure when we are stained,
and great when we are small.
We have failed in love,
neglected justice,
and ignored your truth.

Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin.
Return us to paths of righteousness
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

RESPONSE: GTG #579 KYRIE ELEISON (Orthodox)
"Lord, Have Mercy" (Kyrie eleison)

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

... In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God! Amen. *Rom. 5:5*

HYMN: GTG #834 "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" PRECIOUS LORD

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

+ Those who are able may stand. 1

THE LORD'S PRAYER

MESSAGE TO THE CHILDREN Lucinda Davenport

Children and youth are dismissed to Sunday School

INVITATION TO OFFERING *Matt. 6:21*

OFFERTORY "Valse No. 3" Granados

+**RESPONSE:** GTG #606 OLD HUNDREDTH
"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

+**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** from *The Westminster Shorter Catechism*
(England, 1647; language updated)

Q. Which is the Eighth Commandment?

A. **The Eighth Commandment is, "Thou shalt not steal."**

Q. What is required in the Eighth Commandment?

A. **The Eighth Commandment requires lawful procuring and
furthering the wealth and outward estate of ourselves and others.**

Q. What is forbidden in the Eighth Commandment?

A. **The Eighth Commandment forbids whatever does, or may,
unjustly hinder our own, or our neighbor's, wealth or outward
estate.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON 1 Samuel 16:1-13 O.T. page 203

PSALM: GTG #473 "Shepherd Me, O God" / Psalm 23 SHEPHERD ME

Refrain:

**Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.**

The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not want.

**He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me besides still waters.**

Refrain

He restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.

**Even though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death, I fear no evil,
for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.**

Refrain

Thou preparest a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

GTG = *Glory to God* (purple) 2

Surely goodness and mercy shall
follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house
of the LORD forever.

Refrain

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Ephesians 5:8-14 N.T. page 150

GOSPEL LESSON John 9:1-41 N.T. page 78

RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE *Matt. 4:4*

We live not by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from God.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM "10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)" Myrin / Redman
arr. Sorenson

SERMON "He Put Mud on My Eyes" Rev. Bill Pinches

+**HYMN:** GTG #749 WE ARE CALLED
"Come! Live in the Light! (We Are Called)"

+**BLESSING** *Isa. 58:11*
... in this dry and weary land.
Thanks be to God.

+**CHARGE** *2 Cor. 5:20*
... be reconciled to God.
Amen.

CHORAL BENEDICTION "Amen" AMEN (Harling)

POSTLUDE "Op. 15-1" Schumann

*You are invited to join us
for fellowship and refreshments
after worship in the Memorial Room.
It is not necessary to remain seated during the postlude.*

SERVING US TODAY

Liturgist: Nancy Sue MacDonald

Greeters: Jane Hamelink and Ron Dlouhy

Sound: Marty Subject

Livestream: Tami Chapman

Security: Steve VanDyke

Today's flowers are given by Donna Hujsak
in memory of Bill Hujsak

TWC = *The Worshiping Church* (red) 3

CHURCH HISTORY IN MINIATURE

#27. James the Just:

James, a brother of Jesus who came to faith after the resurrection, becomes the first leader of the church in Jerusalem. His strong virtue led to his nickname.

THE STUDY CATECHISM

Question 61. Doesn't modern critical scholarship undermine your belief that Holy Scripture is a form of God's Word?

No. The methods of modern scholarship are a good servant but a bad master. They are neither to be accepted nor rejected uncritically. Properly used they help us rightly and richly interpret Scripture; improperly used they can usurp the place of faith (or establish an alternative faith). Wise interpreters use these methods in the service of faithful witness and understanding. The methods of modern scholarship remain a useful tool, while Holy Scripture remains reliable in all essential matters of faith and practice.

CREDITS

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Mason First Presbyterian Church

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MINISTERS

All Members

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Bill Pinches
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Charlie Herrick
Spiritual Growth Director: Lori Filka
Office Manager: Sheren Wright
Sanctuary Choir Director / Bell Choir Director: Deb Melse
Choral Music Accompanist / Organist: Feng Kang
Office Assistant: Nancy Sue MacDonald
Sexton: Eric VanDyke
Adult Spiritual Growth Coordinator: Michelle Mackey
Child Care: Aimee Cruickshank, Isaiah Hawkins, Hannah Koutz, Sam Pinches, Lucy Simons

ELDERS

Class of 2023: Bruce Archer, Tim Hammond, Mary Ozee, Steve Sowles.
Class of 2024: Jerry Ambrose, Lucinda Davenport, Loren Harkness, Tonya Seely.
Class of 2025: Anita Cote, Mary Garland Jackson, Monte Shuck.
Elder Elect: Doreen Chapman. **Clerk:** Bruce Archer.

DEACONS

Class of 2023: Lisa Castle, Jay Harkness, Vern Schrock, Steve VanDyke.
Class of 2024: Donna Hujsak, Issie Nielsen, Camille Subject.
Class of 2025: Marge Clarke, Julie Dart, Timothy Pinches.
Deacon Elect: Tom Seely. **Moderator Pro Tem:** Lisa Castle.

DAILY PRAYER

search for "Daily Prayer (Presbyterian Book of Common Worship)" in your podcast app, or go to www.buzzsprout.com/1466482

EVENTS THIS WEEK

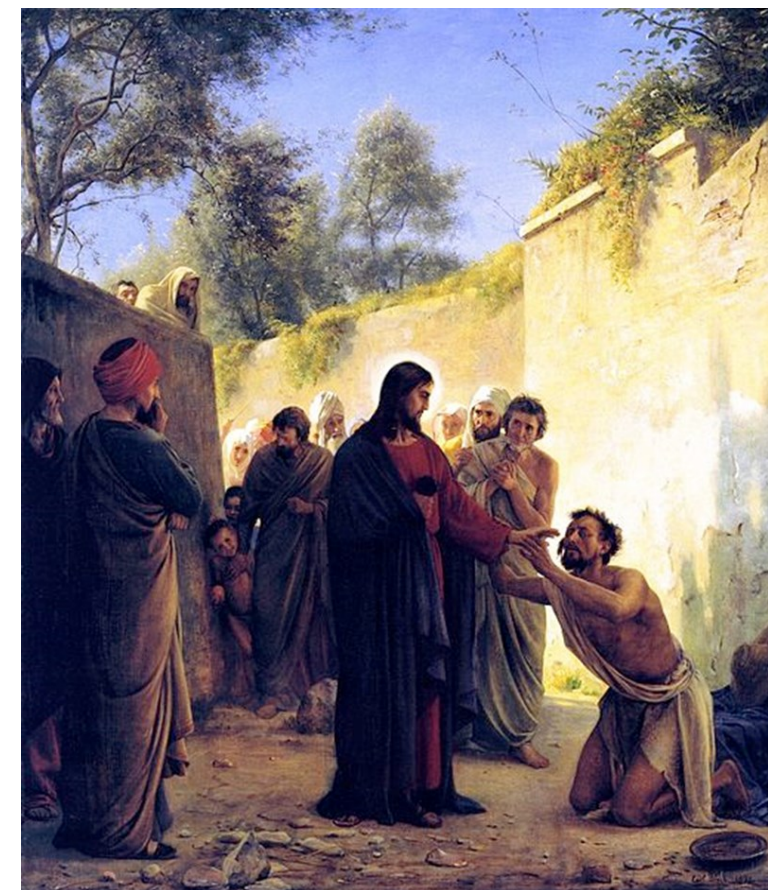
Today	<i>The Chosen</i> adult study	11:15 am
	Explorers Class	11:15 am
Monday	Mission Committee	4:00 pm
Tuesday	<i>Jesus in Me</i> adult study	1:00 pm
Wednesday	Lunch Packing for Advent House	10:30 am
	Prayer Fellowship	12:00 pm
	Wonderful Wednesday (children/youth)	3:15 pm
	Bell Choir Rehearsal	6:00 pm
	Wednesday Night Dinner	6:15 pm
	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	7:00 pm
Thursday	Personnel Committee	5:30 pm
Friday	Church Office closed / Pastor's Sabbath	

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Luke Mackey	March 20
Violet Mackey	March 20
Shirley Day	March 22

Mason First Presbyterian Church

March 19, 2023
Fourth Sunday in Lent



Healing of the Blind Man
by Carl Bloch, 1871

*The fruit of the Spirit
is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity,
faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.
(Galatians 5:22-23)*