

**April 23, 2023**  
**Third Sunday of Easter**

**PRELUDE**            “Air from *Orchestral Suite No. 3*”            Bach

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING SENTENCES**

The Lord is risen! Alleluia!            *Luke 24:34*

**Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!**

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain.            *Rev. 5:12-13*

**Blessing and honor and glory to God!**

When Jesus speaks, our hearts burn within us;            *Luke 24:31-32*

**our eyes are opened when he breaks the bread.**

Let us worship God!

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

+**HYMN: GTG #643**            NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

“Now Thank We All Our God”

**CALL TO CONFESSION**            *Rev. 22:17*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Almighty God,  
in raising Jesus from the grave,  
you shattered the power of sin and death.  
We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear,  
bound by the ways that lead to death.  
We overlook the poor and the hungry,  
and pass by those who mourn;  
we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed,  
and indifferent to calls for peace;  
we despise the weak,  
and abuse the earth you made.

Forgive us, God of mercy.  
Help us to trust your power  
to change our lives and make us new,  
that we may know the joy of life abundant  
given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.

**SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

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

**HYMN: GTG #629**    “Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee”            ST. AGNES

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

...By your grace, O God,  
**raise us from death to life.**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

*Children and Youth are dismissed to Sunday School*

**RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

Susan Chien  
Ron Dlouhy and Jane Hamelink  
Bill and Sandy Leutscher

There is one body and one Spirit,            *Eph. 4:4-6*  
just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,  
**one Lord, one faith, one baptism,**  
**one God and Father of all,**  
**who is above all and through all and in all.**

...

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**            *Ps. 23:5*

**OFFERTORY**            “Minuet in g”            Bach

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

+**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**            *The Apostles’ Creed*  
I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON**    Acts 2:14a, 36-41            N.T. page 91

**PSALM**            Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19            O.T. page 433

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON**    1 Peter 1:17-23            N.T. page 183

**GOSPEL LESSON**            Luke 24:13-35            N.T. page 69

**RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE**            *Luke 24:46, 48*

We are witnesses to these things:  
the Messiah is risen from the dead.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN: GTG #729**            I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN  
“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”

**SERMON**            “And They Recognized Him”            Rev. Bill Pinches

+**HYMN: GTG #839** “Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!”            ASSURANCE

+**BLESSING**            *Rev. 22:13*

... be with you all.

**Alleluia!**

+**CHARGE**            *Rev. 22:20*

Come, Lord Jesus!  
**Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**            “Asturiana”            Falla

*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:** Monte Shuck  
**Greeters:** Mary Ozee and Monte Shuck  
**Sound:** Marty Subject  
**Livestream:** Tami Chapman  
**Security:** Steve VanDyke  
**Today’s flowers are given by**  
Marge and Ted Welch  
in memory of Florence Fletcher  
and Gladys Burroughs

## Mason First Presbyterian Church

131 E Maple St, Mason, MI 48854-1655  
(517) 676-9333  
info@masonpresbyterian.org  
www.masonpresbyterian.org  
Office hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00-11:30am

### 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:** Doreen Chapman, Anita Cote, Mary Garland Jackson,  
Monte Shuck. **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, 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](http://www.buzzsprout.com/1466482)

### EVENTS THIS WEEK

<b>Today</b>	<i>The Chosen</i> adult study	11:15 am
	Confirmation Class	11:15 am
<b>Tuesday</b>	<i>Jesus in Me</i> adult study	1:00 pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	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
<b>Thursday</b>	Personnel Committee	5:30 pm
<b>Friday</b>	Church Office closed / Pastor's Sabbath	
<b>Saturday</b>	Family Game Night	5:30 pm

### BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Lucinda Davenport Apr. 23  
Scott Robinson Apr. 29

### CHURCH HISTORY IN MINIATURE

#### #32. James, Son of Zebedee:

Herod Agrippa I (grandson of Herod the Great)  
launches a persecution against Christians and  
has the apostle James executed. (*Acts 12:1-2*) (c. AD 44)

### THE STUDY CATECHISM

#### Question 67. How do you enter into communion with Christ and so with one another?

By the power of the Holy Spirit as it works through Word and  
sacrament. Because the Spirit uses them for our salvation, Word and  
sacrament are called "means of grace." The Scriptures acknowledge two  
sacraments as instituted by our Lord Jesus Christ — baptism and the  
Lord's Supper.

### CREDITS

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# Mason First Presbyterian Church

April 23, 2023  
Third Sunday of Easter



*The Emmaus Disciples*  
by Abraham Bloemaert, 1622

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