

July 2, 2023  
5th Sunday after Pentecost

**PRELUDE** "As We Gather" Faye / Coomes

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING SENTENCES**

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good. Ps. 118:1  
**God's steadfast love endures forever.**  
The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; Lam. 3:22  
**the mercies of God never come to an end.**  
Welcome one another in Jesus' name, Matt. 10:40  
**for Christ is truly present among us.**  
Let us worship God!

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

+**HYMN: GTG #337** "My Country, 'Tis of Thee" AMERICA

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

1 John 3:2

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful God,  
in your gracious presence  
we confess our sin and the sin of this world.  
Although Christ is among us as our peace,  
we are a people divided against ourselves  
as we cling to the values of a broken world.  
The profit and pleasures we pursue  
lay waste the land and pollute the seas.  
The fears and jealousies that we harbor  
set neighbor against neighbor  
and nation against nation.  
We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom,  
of intellect and reason,  
and have turned them into bonds of oppression.

Lord, have mercy upon us;  
heal and forgive us.  
Set us free to serve you in the world  
as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.

**SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

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

Rom. 6:8, 11

**HYMN: GTG #340** "This Is My Song" FINLANDIA

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

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

+ Those who are able may stand. 1

Young children are dismissed to Sunday School

**INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE** Luke 13:29; 24:30-31

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts!  
**We lift them to the Lord!**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**  
...

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION** 1 Cor. 11:23-26

**COMMUNION HYMN: GTG #525** LET US BREAK BREAD  
"Let Us Break Bread Together"

All are welcome at the table of the Lord.  
The elements will be passed through the pews.  
A gluten-free option is available  
on the table at the rear of the sanctuary.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

O God, send us out from our Lord's table  
to answer his summons into new life  
and to follow him with joy and gladness.  
Set our feet in his holy way,  
that our lives may be signs of his life  
and all we do may show forth his love. Amen.

Older children are dismissed to Kids Church

**INVITATION TO OFFERING** Acts 20:35

**OFFERTORY** "Daybreak Communion" Trowbridge

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

+**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** from The Heidelberg Catechism  
(Germany, 1563)

12. According to God's righteous judgment we deserve punishment  
both now and in eternity: how then can we escape this punishment and  
return to God's favor?

**God requires that his justice be satisfied. There the claims of  
this justice must be paid in full, either by ourselves or by another.**

13. Can we make this payment ourselves?

**Certainly not. Actually, we increase our debt every day.**

14. Can another creature—any at all—pay this debt for us?

(continued on next panel)

GTG = Glory to God (purple)

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No. To begin with, God will not punish any other creature for  
what a human is guilty of. Furthermore, no mere creature can bear  
the weight of God's eternal wrath against sin and deliver others  
from it.

15. What kind of mediator and deliverer should we look for then?

**One who is a true and righteous human, yet more powerful  
than all creatures, that is, one who is also true God.**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON** Genesis 22:1-18 O.T. page 14

**PSALM** Psalm 13 O.T. page 383

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON** Romans 6:12-23 N.T. page 119

**GOSPEL LESSON** Matthew 10:40-42 N.T. page 8

**RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE** John 6:68-69

The words of eternal life, by which we have come to believe.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** Rev. Bill Pinches  
"But Where is the Lamb for a Burnt Offering?"

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

+**BLESSING** Rom. 15:13  
... by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

+**CHARGE** 2 Tim. 4:2, 5; Luke 18:1  
... of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

+**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: GTG #748** TALLIS' CANON  
"Go with Us, Lord"

**POSTLUDE** "God of Our Fathers" Warren

**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**

**Guest Musician:** Laura Johnson

**Liturgist:** Bruce Archer

**Greeters:** Susan Chien and Vicki Drown

**Communion Servers:** Greg and Suzanne Lang,  
Brandon Leffew, Bill Leutscher, and Debbie Shellenbarger

**Sound:** Andrew Pinches

**Livestream:** Andrew Pinches

**Security:** Steve VanDyke

TWC = The Worshiping Church (red)

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## CHURCH HISTORY IN MINIATURE

### **#41. Thessalonica:**

Paul, Silas, and Timothy bring the Gospel to Thessalonica.  
A mob threatens the new believers, but nevertheless a church is formed.  
(Acts 17:1-9) (c. AD 50)

## THE STUDY CATECHISM

### **Question 81. Does forgiveness mean that God condones sin?**

No. God does not cease to be God. Although God is merciful, God does not condone what God forgives. In the death and resurrection of Christ, God judges what God abhors — everything hostile to love — by abolishing it at the very roots. In this judgment the unexpected occurs: good is brought out of evil, hope out of hopelessness, and life out of death. God spares sinners, and turns them from enemies into friends. The uncompromising judgment of God is revealed in the suffering love of the cross.

## CREDITS

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**The Study Catechism (Full Version):** Approved by the 210th General Assembly (1998) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

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## Mason First Presbyterian Church

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Office hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00-11:30am

### MINISTERS

All Members

### STAFF

**Pastor:** Rev. Bill Pinches  
**Parish Associate:** Rev. Dr. Jim Hegedus  
**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:** Jill Castle, Aimee Cruickshank, Isaiah Hawkins, Hannah Koutz, Sam Pinches, Lucy Simons

### ELDERS

**Class of 2023:** Bruce Archer (clerk), 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.

### DEACONS

**Class of 2023:** Lisa Castle (moderator *pro tem*), 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.

### DAILY PRAYER

*Book of Common Worship: Daily Prayer* (2018)

### EVENTS THIS WEEK

<b>Tuesday</b>	Church Office closed (Independence Day)	
<b>Wednesday</b>	Lunch Packing for Advent House	10:30 am
	Prayer Fellowship	12:00 pm
<b>Thursday</b>	Administration Committee	7:00 pm
	Board of Deacons	7:00 pm
<b>Friday</b>	Church Office closed / Pastor’s Sabbath	

### BIRTHDAYS

Carol Shiery July 8

# Mason First Presbyterian Church

July 2, 2023  
5th Sunday after Pentecost



*Sacrifice of Isaac*  
by Caravaggio, c. 1603

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