

July 9, 2023
6th Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE "Serenade" Schubert

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SENTENCES

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good. Ps. 118:1
God's steadfast love endures forever.
Who will save us from the ways of death? Rom. 7:24-25
Jesus Christ our Lord; thanks be to God!
Weeping may linger for the night, Ps. 30:5
but joy comes with the morning.
Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

+**HYMN:** GTG #630 "Fairest Lord Jesus" CRUSADERS' HYMN

CALL TO CONFESSION John 3:5

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,
you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you.
We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy.
We have not loved you with a pure heart,
nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We have not done justice, loved kindness,
or walked humbly with you, our God.

Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness.
In your great compassion,
cleansing us from our sin.
Do not cast us away from your presence,
or take your Holy Spirit from us.
Restore to us the joy of your salvation
and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

... through the grace of Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Phil. 3:9
Thanks be to God! Amen.

HYMN: GTG #418 SOFTLY AND TENDERLY
"Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling"

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Children are dismissed to Kids Church

INVITATION TO OFFERING Mic. 6:8

OFFERTORY "Valse No. 3" Granados

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

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

16. Why must the mediator be a true and righteous human?
**God's justice demands that human nature, which has sinned,
must pay for sin; but a sinful human could never pay for others.**

17. Why must the mediator also be true God?
**So that the mediator, by the power of his divinity, might bear
the weight of God's wrath in his humanity and earn for us and
restore to us righteousness and life.**

18. Then who is this mediator—true God and at the same time a true
and righteous human?

**Our Lord Jesus Christ, who was given to us to completely
deliver us and make us right with God.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON O.T. page 15
Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

PSALM Psalm 45:10-17
"Hear, O daughter; consider and listen closely;
forget your people and your father's house."

The king will desire your beauty;
he is your master, so bow before him.
**The city of Tyre brings tribute;
the wealthiest of the people seek your favor."**

All glorious is the princess as she enters;
her gown is cloth-of-gold.
**In embroidered apparel she is brought to the king;
after her the bridesmaids follow in procession.**

With joy and gladness they are brought,
and enter into the palace of the king.
**"In place of ancestors, O king, you shall have sons;
you shall make them princes over all the earth.**

**I will make your name to be remembered
from one generation to another;
therefore nations will praise you forever and ever."**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Romans 7:15-25a N.T. page 120

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 N.T. page 8

RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE Rom. 10:8
This is the word of faith that we proclaim.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON Rev. Dr. Jim Hegedus
"Rebekah and Isaac – A Complicated Love Story"

+**HYMN:** GTG #475 NETTLETON
"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

+**BLESSING** Phil. 4:7
The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of God's Son, Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessings of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
remain with you always.
Amen!

+**CHARGE** Eph. 4:1
Live a life worthy of your calling,
giving glory to God in all things.
Thanks be to God!

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

POSTLUDE "Romance" anonymous

*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: Rev. Bill Pinches
Greeters: Ginnie Gibson and Donna Hujsak
Sound: Tim Hammond
Livestream: Tami Chapman
Security: Andrew Pinches
Today's flowers are given by
Peg Shaub
in memory of Chuck Shaub,
Marian and Bob Shaub,
and Anne and Sam McNaugher

CHURCH HISTORY IN MINIATURE

#42. Athens:

In Athens, a city filled with philosophers and temples to Greek gods, Paul shares the gospel with the city's leaders, and a small church is born.
(Acts 17:10-34) (c. AD 50)

THE STUDY CATECHISM

Question 82. Does your forgiveness of those who have harmed you depend on their repentance?

No. I am to forgive as I have been forgiven. The gospel is the astonishing good news that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Just as God's forgiveness of me is unconditional, and so precedes my confession of sin and repentance, so my forgiveness of those who have harmed me does not depend on their confessing and repenting of their sin. However, when I forgive the person who has done me harm, giving up any resentment or desire to retaliate, I do not condone the harm that was done or excuse the evil of the sin.

CREDITS

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Mason First Presbyterian Church

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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, 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

Today Potluck Dinner for Session and Deacons 11:15 am
Tuesday Vacation Bible School 5:30—8:00 pm
Wednesday Lunch Packing for Advent House 10:30 am
Prayer Fellowship 12:00 pm
Vacation Bible School 5:30—8:00 pm
Thursday Vacation Bible School 5:30—8:00 pm
Friday Church Office closed / Pastor's Sabbath
Saturday Yarners 10:00 am

BIRTHDAYS

Edward Clarke July 9
Loren Harkness July 12
Gladys Welker July 12
Gerald Ambrose July 14

**Mason
First Presbyterian Church**

**July 9, 2023
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Isaac's Servant Tying the Bracelet on Rebecca's Arm
By Benjamin West, 1775

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