

July 23, 2023
8th Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE "Air on the G string" Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SENTENCES

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good. Ps. 118:1

God's steadfast love endures forever.

In Christ we are no longer strangers; Eph. 2:19

we are members of the household of God.

Surely the Lord is in this place! Gen. 28:16-17

This is the house of God.

Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

+**HYMN:** GTG #15 LASST UNS ERFREUEN

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

CALL TO CONFESSION Rom. 5:8; Heb. 4:16

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty and merciful God,
we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed too much
the devices and desires of our own hearts.

We have offended against your holy laws.

We have left undone those things

which we ought to have done;

and we have done those things

which we ought not to have done.

O Lord, have mercy upon us.

Forgive those who confess their faults.

Restore those who are penitent,

according to your promises declared to the world
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

And grant, O merciful God, for his sake,

that we may live a holy, just, and humble life

to the glory of your holy name.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

... In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Rom. 5:5

Thanks be to God! Amen.

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Children are dismissed to Kids Church

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Rom. 12:1

OFFERTORY

"Menuet in c minor"

Bach

+**RESPONSE:** GTG #606

OLD HUNDREDTH

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

+**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

from *The Heidelberg Catechism*

(Germany, 1563)

26. What do you believe when you say, "I believe in God, the Father
almighty, creator of heaven and earth"?

**That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who out of
nothing created heaven and earth and everything in them, who
still upholds and rules them by his eternal counsel and providence,
is my God and Father because of Christ the Son.**

**I trust God so much that I do not doubt he will provide
whatever I need for body and soul, and will turn to my good
whatever adversity he sends upon me in this sad world.**

**God is able to do this because he is almighty God, and desires
to do this because he is a faithful Father.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Genesis 28:10-19a

O.T. page 19

PSALM

Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

LORD, you have searched me out;

O LORD, you have known me.

You know my sitting down and my rising up;

you discern my thoughts from afar.

You trace my journeys and my resting places

and are acquainted with all my ways.

Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,

but you, O LORD, know it altogether.

You encompass me, behind and before,

and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;

it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

Where can I go then from your Spirit?

Where can I flee from your presence?

If I climb up to heaven, you are there;

if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

(continued on next panel)

If I take the wings of the morning
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

even there your hand will lead me

and your right hand hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me,

and the light around me turn to night,"

darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day;

darkness and light to you are both alike.

Search me out, O God, and know my heart;

try me and know my restless thoughts.

Look well whether there be any wickedness in me

and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Romans 8:12-25

N.T. page 120

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

N.T. page 11

RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Charlie Herrick

"Finding God in Another's Face"

+**HYMN:** GTG #318 "In Christ There Is No East or West"

ST. PETER

+**BLESSING**

+**CHARGE**

+**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:** GTG #748

TALLIS' CANON

"Go with Us, Lord"

POSTLUDE

"Theme in A major"

Mozart

*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: Steve Sowles

Greeters: Susan Chien and Marge Welch

Sound: Tim Hammond

Livestream: Tami Chapman

Security: Will Ozee

Today's flowers are provided by

the whole congregation!

CHURCH HISTORY IN MINIATURE

#44. 1 Thessalonians:

Paul probably wrote his first letter to the church in Thessalonika (the oldest book in the New Testament) during his long stay in Corinth.

(Acts 18:11) (c. AD 51)

THE STUDY CATECHISM

Question 84. What do you mean when you speak of “the resurrection of the body”?

Because Christ lives, we will live also. The resurrection of the body celebrates our eternal value to God as living persons, each one with a unique and distinctive identity. Indeed, the living Savior who goes before us was once heard, seen and touched in person, after the discovery of his empty tomb. The resurrection of the body means hope for the whole person, because it is in the unity of body and soul, not in soul alone, that I belong in life and in death to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ.

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 Lily garden party 1:00—5:00 pm
Today-Tue. Pastor Bill on vacation
Wednesday Lunch Packing for Advent House 10:30 am
Prayer Fellowship 12:00 pm
Thursday Personnel Committee 5:30 pm
Friday Church Office closed / Pastor’s Sabbath

BIRTHDAYS

Jack Davis July 25
Janet Immekus July 26
Michelle Mackey July 26
Carma Philip July 27
Samantha Trout July 27

**Mason
First Presbyterian Church**

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8th Sunday after Pentecost



Jacob’s Dream
by William Blake, 1805

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