

July 30, 2023  
9th Sunday after Pentecost

**PRELUDE** "Chorale from Cantata 147" Bach

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**TWO-CENTS-A-MEAL HUNGER OFFERING**

**OPENING SENTENCES**

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good. Ps. 118:1  
**God's steadfast love endures forever.**  
The Lord upholds those who are falling; Ps. 145:14  
**God raises those who are bowed down.**  
If God is for us, who can be against us? Rom. 8:31, 39  
**Nothing can separate us from God's love.**  
Let us worship God!

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

+**HYMN:** GTG #625 "O Lord My God" HOW GREAT THOU ART

**CALL TO CONFESSION** 1 John 1:8-9

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

O Lord our God,  
you call us to proclaim the gospel,  
but we remain silent in the presence of evil.  
You call us to be reconciled to you and one another,  
but we are content to live in separation.  
You call us to seek the good of all,  
but we fail to resist the powers of oppression.  
You call us to fight pretensions and injustice,  
but we sit idly by,  
endangering the lives of people far and near.

Forgive us, O Lord.  
Reconcile us to you by the power of your Spirit,  
and give us the courage and strength  
to be reconciled to others;  
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior.

**SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS** John 3:5, 2 Cor. 5:17  
... In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
Thanks be to God! Amen.

**HYMN:** GTG #730 "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God" GRAND ISLE

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

God of grace, hear our prayer.

...

+ Those who are able may stand. 1

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Children are dismissed to Kids Church

**INVITATION TO OFFERING** Matt. 22:21

**OFFERTORY** "Sarabande in c" Bach

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

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

27. What do you understand by the providence of God?  
**The almighty and ever present power of God by which God upholds, as with his hand, heaven and earth and all creatures, and so rules them that leaf and blade, rain and drought, fruitful and lean years, food and drink, health and sickness, prosperity and poverty—all things, in fact, come to us not by chance but by his fatherly hand.**

28. How does the knowledge of God's creation and providence help us?

**We can be patient when things go against us, thankful when things go well, and for the future we can have good confidence in our faithful God and Father that nothing in creation will separate us from his love. For all creatures are so completely in God's hand that without his will they can neither move nor be moved.**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON** Genesis 29:15-28 O.T. page 20

**PSALM** Psalm 105:1-11, 45b  
Give thanks to the LORD and call upon God's name;  
make known the deeds of the LORD among the peoples.  
**Sing to the LORD, sing praises,**  
**and speak of all God's marvelous works.**  
Glory in God's holy name;  
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.  
**Search for the strength of the LORD;**  
**continually seek God's face.**

Remember the marvels God has done,  
the wonders and the judgments of God's mouth,  
**O offspring of Abraham, God's servant,**  
**O children of Jacob, God's chosen ones.**  
The LORD is our God,  
whose judgments prevail in all the world,  
**who has always been mindful of the covenant,**  
**the promise made for a thousand generations:**  
the covenant made with Abraham,  
the oath sworn to Isaac,

GTG = Glory to God (purple) 2

which God established as a statute for Jacob,  
an everlasting covenant for Israel,  
saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan  
to be your allotted inheritance."  
**Hallelujah!**

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON** Romans 8:26-39 N.T. page 121

**GOSPEL LESSON** Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 N.T. page 11

**RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE**

Holy wisdom, holy word.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC** "Get All Excited" Gaither  
Monte Shuck, Guitar

**SERMON** "More Than Victorious" Rev. Bill Pinches

+**HYMN:** GTG #275 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" EIN' FESTE BURG

+**BLESSING** Rev. 7:17  
... and wiping away every tear.  
**Amen!**

+**CHARGE** 1 Pet. 3:8-9  
... that you might inherit a blessing.  
**Thanks be to God!**

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

**POSTLUDE** "Passacaglia" Handel

**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:** Camille Subject  
**Greeters:** Donna Archer and Monte Shuck  
**Sound:** Andrew Pinches  
**Livestream:** Tami Chapman  
**Security:** Doreen Chapman  
**Today's flowers are given by**  
Suzie Threadgould  
in memory of  
Earl Threadgould

TWC = The Worshiping Church (red) 3

**CHURCH HISTORY IN MINIATURE**

**#45. 2 Thessalonians:**

Paul may also have written his second letter to the church in Thessalonika during his 18-month-long stay in Corinth.

(Acts 18:11) (c. AD 51-52)

**THE STUDY CATECHISM**

**Question 85. What is the nature of resurrection hope?**

Resurrection hope is a hope for the transformation of this world, not a hope for escape from it. It is the hope that evil in all its forms will be utterly eradicated, that past history will be redeemed, and that all the things that ever were will be made new. It is the hope of a new creation, a new heaven and a new earth, in which God is really honored as God, human beings are truly loving, and peace and justice reign on earth.

**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**

<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	
<b>Saturday</b>	Yarners	10:00 am

**BIRTHDAYS**

Richard Abbott	Aug. 1
Jacob Barber	Aug. 2
Kathy Oesterle	Aug. 2
Barry Chapman	Aug. 3
Sandy Leutscher	Aug. 5

**Mason  
First Presbyterian Church**

July 30, 2023  
9th Sunday after Pentecost



*Jacob and Rachel*  
by Tazio da Varallo, c. 1625

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