

August 20, 2023
12th Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE "Sonata in D minor, K. 9" Scarlatti

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SENTENCES

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good. Ps. 118:1
God's steadfast love endures forever.
Wisdom had prepared a feast for us; Prov. 9:2, 5
let us eat and drink of God's gifts.
Maintain justice, and do what is right. Isa. 56:1
God our Savior is coming soon.
Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

+**HYMN:** GTG #265 "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun" DUKE STREET

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rom. 3:23-24

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you
with our whole heart and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In your mercy, forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways
to the glory of your holy name.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

... In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. 2 Cor. 5:17
Thanks be to God! Amen.

HYMN: GTG #624 "I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art" TOULON

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

Matt. 10:8

OFFERTORY

"Bids Us Come" Freeman / Johnson

+**RESPONSE:** GTG #606

OLD HUNDREDTH

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

+**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

from *The Heidelberg Catechism*
(Germany, 1563)

33. Why is Jesus called God's "only begotten Son" when we also are God's children?

Because Christ alone is the eternal, natural Son of God. We, however, are adopted children of God—adopted by grace through Christ.

34. Why do you call him "our Lord"?

Because—not with gold or silver, but with his precious blood—he has set us free from sin and from the tyranny of the devil, and has bought us, body and soul, to be his very own.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 45:1-15

O.T. page 33

PSALM

Psalm 133

How good and how pleasant it is,
when kindred live together in unity!
**It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the beard,
upon the beard of Aaron,
flowing down upon the collar of his robe.**

It is like the dew of Hermon
flowing down upon the hills of Zion.

**For there the LORD has commanded the blessing:
life forevermore.**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

N.T. page 122

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 15:21-28

N.T. page 13

RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE

Ps. 85:9

Surely our salvation is at hand.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Bill Pinches

"The Gifts and the Calling of God Are Irrevocable"

+**HYMN:** GTG #826

"Lift High the Cross"

CRUCIFER

+**BLESSING**

May the God of glory,
the Lord of life,
and the Spirit of truth
be with you all.
Amen!

+**CHARGE**

Go in peace
and in the name of Christ,
remember the poor.
Thanks be to God!

+**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:** GTG #748

"Go with Us, Lord"

TALLIS' CANON

POSTLUDE

"Aberystwyth"

Parry

*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 Organist: Laura Johnson

Liturgist: Brandon Leffew

Greeters: Travis Archer and Camille Subject

Sound: Marty Subject

Livestream: Timothy Pinches

Security: Doreen Chapman

Today's flowers are given by

Sandy and Bill Leutscher

in celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary

and by Anne and Lloyd Fett

in honor of the Fett and Schubert families

CHURCH HISTORY IN MINIATURE

#48. Ephesus:

Paul revisits the churches in Galatia and Ephesus. He baptizes the believers in Ephesus whom Apollos had taught, and stays there two years. (Acts 19:1-10) (c. AD 53-55)

THE STUDY CATECHISM

Question 88. Won't heaven be a boring place?

No. Heaven is our true home, a world of love. There the Spirit shall be poured out into every heart in perfect love. There the Father and the Son are united in the loving bond of the Spirit. There we shall be united with them and one another. There we shall at last see face to face what we now only glimpse as through a distant mirror. Our deepest, truest delights in this life are only a dim foreshadowing of the delights that await us in heaven. "You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore" (Ps. 16:11).

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.
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

Tuesday Women's Association Craft & Lunch 10:30 am
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

Suzanne Riley Aug. 22
John Castle Aug. 23
Eva Schlenner Aug. 23
Anne Fett Aug. 25

**Mason
First Presbyterian Church**

**August 20, 2023
12th Sunday after Pentecost**



Joseph Weeps
by Owen Jones, 1869

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