

October 29, 2023  
22nd Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE "Sonetto 123" Liszt

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE Jerry Ambrose

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 is our eternal dwelling place; Ps. 90:1-2  
**from age to age, the Lord is our God.**  
Be glad and rejoice in the Lord our God, Joel 2:23  
**who pours down grace in abundance.**  
Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

+HYMN: GTG #305 "Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!" DARWALL'S 148<sup>TH</sup>

CALL TO CONFESSION Rom. 6:3, 6

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.  
**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

+ Those who are able may stand. 1

HYMN: GTG #697 "Take My Life" HENDON

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

... Gracious God,  
**hear our prayer.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Children and youth are dismissed to Sunday School

INVITATION TO OFFERING Jas. 1:17

OFFERTORY "Op. 9-2" Schubert

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

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

54. What do you believe concerning "the holy catholic church"?  
**I believe that the Son of God, through his Spirit and Word, out  
of the entire human race, from the beginning of the world to its  
end, gathers, protects, and preserves for himself, a community  
chosen for eternal life and united in true faith. And of this  
community I am and always will be a living member.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Deuteronomy 34:1-12 O.T. page 151

PSALM Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17

Lord, you have been our refuge  
from one generation to another.  
**Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or the land and the earth were born,  
from age to age you are God.**  
You turn us back to the dust and say,  
"Turn back, O children of earth."  
**For a thousand years in your sight  
are like yesterday when it is past  
and like a watch in the night;  
you sweep them away like a dream,  
they fade away suddenly like the grass:  
in the morning it is green and flourishes;  
in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

Return, O LORD; how long will you tarry?  
Be gracious to your servants.  
**Satisfy us by your steadfast love in the morning;  
so shall we rejoice and be glad all our days.**  
Make us glad as many days as you afflicted us  
and as many years as we suffered adversity.

GTG = *Glory to God* (purple) 2

Show your servants your works,  
and your splendor to their children.

May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us;  
prosper the work of our hands, prosper our handiwork.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 N.T. page 158

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 22:34-46 N.T. page 19

RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE Ps. 85:9

Surely our salvation is at hand.  
**We praise you, O Lord.**

ANTHEM "Guide Us, Lord" Patterson

SERMON "Which Commandment...?" Rev. Bill Pinches

+HYMN: GTG #687 "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past" ST. ANNE

+BLESSING Heb. 13:20-21  
... to whom be the glory forever and ever!  
**Amen!**

+CHARGE Rom. 12:10-11, 18  
Love one another; serve the Lord;  
live peaceably with all.  
**Thanks be to God!**

+CHORAL BENEDICTION "With All My Heart" Mason / arr. Larson

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:** Greg Lang  
**Greeters:** Vicki Drown and Mary Torrey  
**Sound:** Marty Subject  
**Livestream:** Tami Chapman  
**Security:** Doreen Chapman

**Today's flowers are given by**  
Laurie and Kyle McGonigal  
in honor of Matthew's and Erin's birthdays  
and by Ralph Taggart  
in memory of Alison Taggart

TWC = *The Worshiping Church* (red) 3

## CHURCH HISTORY IN MINIATURE

### #58. Felix:

Governor Antonius Felix hears the case against Paul. Felix does not render a verdict but keeps Paul under house arrest in Caesarea for two years. (Acts 24:1-27) (AD 57-59)

## THE STUDY CATECHISM

### Question 104. What is the fifth commandment?

“Honor your father and your mother” (Ex. 20:12; Deut. 5:16).

### Question 105. What do you learn from this commandment?

Though I owe reverence to God alone, I owe genuine respect to my parents, both my mother and father. God wills me to listen to them, be thankful for the benefits I receive from them, and be considerate of their needs, especially in old age.

### Question 106. Are there limits to your obligation to obey them?

Yes. No mere human being is God. Blind obedience is not required, for everything should be tested by loyalty and obedience to God. When it seems as though I should not obey, I should always be alert to possible self-deception on my part, and should pray that we may all walk in the truth of God’s will.

## CREDITS

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## Mason First Presbyterian Church

131 E Maple St, Mason, MI 48854-1655  
(517) 676-9333  
info@masonpresbyterian.org  
www.masonpresbyterian.org  
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, Jasmine Leffew, 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

<b>Today</b>	Adult Sunday School ( <i>The Chosen</i> )	11:15 am
	Explorers Class	11:15 am
<b>Monday</b>	Pastor Bill on vacation	
<b>Wednesday</b>	Lunch Packing for Advent House	10:30 am
	Prayer Fellowship	12:00 pm
	Wonderful Wednesday (children/youth)	4:00 pm
	Wednesday Night Dinner	6:00 pm
	Bell Choir rehearsal	6:30 pm
	Choir rehearsal	7:10 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>	Fall Church Clean-Up Day	
	Yarners	10:00 am

### BIRTHDAYS

Kate Barber	Oct. 29	Erin McGonigal	Oct. 29
Bill Pinches	Oct. 30	Tyler Harkness	Oct. 31
John Zipp	Nov. 1		

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October 29, 2023  
22nd Sunday after Pentecost



*Memorial to Moses  
Mount Nebo, Jordan*

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