

November 19, 2023
25th Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE "Andante in G" Mozart

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

INTROIT "Prelude" Helman
Sanctuary Bells

OPENING SENTENCES

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good. Ps. 118:1
God's steadfast love endures forever.
Surely God is our salvation; Isa. 12:2
trust in the Lord and do not be afraid.
Hold fast to your hope without wavering, Heb. 10:23
for God who has promised is faithful.
Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

+**HYMN: GTG #611** "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" HYMN TO JOY

CALL TO CONFESSION Isa. 43:2

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord our God,
you call us to work for a world
where all will be fed and have dignity,
but we find ourselves distracted by our own desires.
You call us to seek justice and peace,
but we are satisfied with injustice and discord.
You call us to bring liberty to the oppressed,
but we do not insist on freedom for all.

Forgive us, O Lord.
Turn us to your will by the power of your Spirit,
so that all may know your justice and peace;
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS Col. 2:12
... In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

HYMN: GTG #453 "Open Your Ears, O Faithful People" YISRAEL V'ORAITA

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

... We pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

+ Those who are able may stand. 1

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Richard Abbott
Sally Hughes
Coley and Debbie Johnson
Brandon Leffew
Abel, Evelyn, Gift, and Keren Tayong
Patty Yanz
Torrie Yanz

... There is one body and one Spirit, Eph. 4:4-6
just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,
one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
one God and Father of all,
who is above all and through all and in all.
...

Children and youth are dismissed to Sunday School

INVITATION TO OFFERING Ps. 24:1

OFFERTORY "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" arr. Forrest

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

+**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** The Apostles' Creed
I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 O.T. page 168

GTG = *Glory to God* (purple) 2

PSALM Psalm 78:1-7 O.T. page 414

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 N.T. page 159

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 25:14-30 N.T. page 22

RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE Matt. 11:4
Go and tell everyone what you have seen and heard.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM "A Servant in your Heavenly House" Choplin

SERMON Rev. Bill Pinches
"The Lord Drove Out Before Us All the Peoples"

+**HYMN: GTG #384** "Soon and Very Soon" SOON AND VERY SOON

+**BLESSING** 1 Thess. 5:23
May the God of peace make you holy in every way
and keep your whole being—spirit, soul, and body—
free from every fault at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen!

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

+**MUSICAL BENEDICTION** "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" Wagner
Sanctuary Bells

POSTLUDE "Salut d'Amour" Elgar

*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: Suzanne Lang
Guest Musicians: Laura Johnson (organ)
and Reed Fitzpatrick (French horn)
Greeters: Sally Hughes and Darlene Martin
Sound: Marty Subject
Livestream: Tami Chapman
Security: Dan Baker

Today's flowers are given by
Steve and Tammy Sowles
in memory of
Spencer Sowles

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CHURCH HISTORY IN MINIATURE

#60. Agrippa:

Paul is brought before Herod Agrippa II, ruler over a portion of Judea, who declares Paul innocent. But, Paul had appealed to the Emperor....
(Acts 25:23—26:32) (AD 59)

THE STUDY CATECHISM

Question 111. What is the eighth commandment?

“You shall not steal” (Ex. 20:15; Deut. 5:19).

Question 112. What do you learn from this commandment?

God forbids all theft and robbery, including schemes, tricks or systems that unjustly take what belongs to someone else. God requires me not to be driven by greed, not to misuse or waste the gifts I have been given, and not to distrust the promise that God will supply my needs.

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, 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

Today	Annual Congregational Meeting	11:15 am
Mon.—Sun.	Pastor Bill on vacation	
Wednesday	Lunch Packing for Advent House	10:30 am
	Prayer Fellowship	12:00 pm
	NO Wonderful Wednesday (children/youth)	
	NO Wednesday Night Dinner	
	NO Bell Choir rehearsal	
	Choir rehearsal	7:10 pm
Thursday	Church Office closed (<i>Happy Thanksgiving!</i>)	
Friday	Church Office closed / Pastor’s Sabbath	

BIRTHDAYS

Mari Nicol	Nov. 19
Laurie McGonigal	Nov. 21
Bob Caltrider	Nov. 23

Mason First Presbyterian Church

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Parable of the Talents
by Annette Gandy Fortt, 1987

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