

April 28, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE "Piano Sonata No. 8, mov. II" Beethoven

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE Ginnie Gibson

TWO-CENTS-A-MEAL HUNGER OFFERING

OPENING SENTENCES

In the wilderness, water brings life.

Seek us out, O God, and take us to the water.

In the Word of God, the good news gives light.

Seek us out, O God, and fill us with understanding.

Here is the water of life, the word that feeds, the food of eternity.

Come and praise the vine that gives all goodness.

Seek us out, O God, and give us yourself.

Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy,

we confess that we have not borne the fruit of the Spirit.

We have not loved others as you have loved us.

We have denied the promises of baptism

and cut ourselves off from you.

Forgive us, restore us,
that we may abide in your love
and live out your mercy,
for the sake of Jesus Christ,
in whose name we pray. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

... In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

HYMN: GTG #518 "Your Only Son" (Lamb of God) LAMB OF GOD

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

... God, who makes us one,

hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Children and youth are dismissed to Sunday School

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Valse No. 3" Granados

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

+**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

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

74. Should infants also be baptized?

Yes. Infants as well as adults are included in God's covenant and people, and they, no less than adults, are promised deliverance from sin through Christ's blood and the Holy Spirit who produces faith.

Therefore, by baptism, the sign of the covenant, they too should be incorporated into the Christian church and distinguished from the children of unbelievers. This was done in the Old Testament by circumcision, which was replaced in the New Testament by baptism.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Acts 8:26-40 N.T. page 97

PSALM Psalm 22:25-31

From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied.

Let those who seek the LORD give praise!

May your hearts live forever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow before God.

**For dominion belongs to the LORD,
who rules over the nations.**

Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead,
shall kneel before the LORD.

**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

**They shall proclaim God's deliverance
to a people yet unborn,
saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON 1 John 4:7-21 N.T. page 189

GOSPEL LESSON John 15:1-8 N.T. page 84

RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE 1 Cor. 15:1-2

This is the good news we have received,
in which we stand, and by which we are saved.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM "I Am the Vine" Lau

SERMON "What Is to Prevent Me...?" Rev. Bill Pinches

+**HYMN: GTG #450** "Be Thou My Vision" SLANE

+**CHARGE**

Go out with joy that you have been fed and healed,
securely abiding as branches of the true vine.

Go and tell the story of faith

that is given to you by the One who never lets you go.

Seek out those who abound with sacred questions,

and be ready to answer a mystery with love.

Amen.

+**BLESSING**

As Jesus entered into human life,

his life is still alive in you.

The blessing of Almighty God be upon you

today and always.

Alleluia!

CHORAL BENEDICTION "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" Lutkin

POSTLUDE "Prelude in e minor" Bach

*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: Emelia Hammond

Greeters: Dan and Melissa Baker

Next Week's Greeters: Ron Dlouhy and Jane Hamelink

Sound: Marty Subject

Livestream: Tami Chapman

Security: Tim Hammond

Today's flowers are given by
Mary Lou French
in memory of
loved ones

CHURCH HISTORY IN MINIATURE

#82. Jewish Revolt:

Longstanding tensions erupt when the Roman Governor seizes money from the Jewish Temple treasury, and the Jews begin a massive rebellion against Rome. (AD 66)

THE STUDY CATECHISM

Question 5. What does a Christian believe?

All that is promised in the gospel. A summary is found in the Apostles' Creed, which affirms the main content of the Christian faith.

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, Violet Mackey, Sam Pinches, Lucy Simons, Keren Tayong

ELDERS

Class of 2024: Jerry Ambrose, Lucinda Davenport, Loren Harkness, Tonya Seely.
Class of 2025: Doreen Chapman, Mary Garland Jackson, Monte Shuck.
Class of 2026: Bruce Archer (*Clerk of Session*), Ginnie Gibson, Jane Hamelink, Tim Hammond

DEACONS

Class of 2024: Donna Hujsak, Issie Nielsen, Camille Subject.
Class of 2025: Marge Clarke, Julie Dart, Timothy Pinches, Tom Seely (*Moderator*).
Class of 2026: Ron Dlouhy, Bill Leutscher, Sandy Leutscher, Nancy Sue MacDonald, Laurie McGonigal

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today	Adult Sunday School	11:15 am
	Explorers Class	11:30 am
Wednesday	Lunch Packing for Advent House	10:30 am
	Prayer Fellowship (in the Chapel)	12:00 pm
	Wonderful Wednesday (<i>Children/Youth</i>)	4:00 pm
	Wednesday Night Dinner	6:00 pm
	Bell Choir Rehearsal	6:30 pm
	Choir Rehearsal	7:10 pm
Thursday	Board of Deacons	7:00 pm
Friday	Church Office closed / Pastor's Sabbath	
Saturday	Yarners	10:00 am

BIRTHDAYS

Scott Robinson Apr. 29
Suzanne Lang Apr. 30
Debbie Markiewicz May 1
Barb VanDyke May 3

**Mason
First Presbyterian Church**

**April 28, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Easter**



Baptism of the Chamberlain of Queen Candace of Ethiopia
artist unknown; 1615-1635

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