

May 12, 2024
Seventh Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE "Sonata No. 2, mov. III" Chopin

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT "Our God Is an Awesome God" AWESOME GOD

OPENING SENTENCES Ps. 1:1-3

Happy are those who do not ridicule and scoff
but who delight in God's teachings
and meditate on them day and night.
They are like trees planted by streams of water.
They yield fruit in due season,
and their leaves do not wither.
Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

+**HYMN:** GTG #268 "Crown Him with Many Crowns" DIADEMATA

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
God, though you call us
to delight in your teachings,
we can be cynical and full of doubt.
Do not judge us, we pray,
but heal us and restore us to you.
Guard us and protect us from evil,
and sanctify us in truth;
in Jesus' name. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS
... witnesses of God's resurrection power in Jesus Christ.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

HYMN: GTG #462 "I Love to Tell the Story" HANKEY

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

TEACHER APPRECIATION AND BIBLE PRESENTATIONS Lori Filka

Calvin Hammond, Leah Harkness;
Layla Blonshine, Luke Mackey, Violet Mackey,
Ruby Simons, Keren Tayong

Children and youth are dismissed to Sunday School

INVITATION TO OFFERING Acts 1:8

OFFERTORY "Allemande in b" Bach

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

+**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

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

76. What does it mean to eat the crucified body of Christ and to drink
his poured-out blood?

**It means to accept with a believing heart the entire suffering
and death of Christ and thereby to receive forgiveness of sins and
eternal life.**

**But it means more. Through the Holy Spirit, who lives both in
Christ and in us, we are united more and more to Christ's blessed
body. And so, although he is in heaven and we are on earth, we are
flesh of his flesh and bone of his bone. And we forever live on and
are governed by one Spirit, as the members of our body are by one
soul.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Acts 1:1-11 N.T. page 90

PSALM Psalm 47

Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with a joyful sound.

**For the LORD Most High is to be feared:
a great king over all the earth,**
who subdues the peoples under us,
and the nations under our feet;
**who chooses our inheritance for us,
the pride of Jacob, whom God loves.**

God has gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of the ram's horn.

**Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our king, sing praises.**

For God is king of all the earth;
sing praises with a song.

**God reigns over the nations;
God is enthroned on high.**

The nobles of the peoples have gathered
as the people of the God of Abraham.

**The rulers of the earth belong to God,
who is highly exalted.**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Ephesians 1:15-23 N.T. page 148

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 24:44-53 N.T. page 69

RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE Luke 24:48

We are witnesses to these things—
the good news of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM "King of Kings" Ingram / Ligertwood
arr. Bolin

SERMON "Can I Get a Witness?" Rev. Dr. Jim Hegedus

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

+**CHARGE** Eph. 1:15
Grow together in faith and love,
being the church,

which is Christ's body,
the fullness of him who fills all in all. Eph. 1:23
Amen.

+**BLESSING** Eph. 1:18-19
Go forth knowing
the hope to which God has called you,

the glorious inheritance that you have received,
and God's power that is at work for us
through Jesus Christ in the unity of the Holy Spirit.
Alleluia!

CHORAL BENEDICTION "A Song Unending" Rojahn / Dengler

POSTLUDE "Waltz in a" Chopin

**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: Nancy Sue MacDonald
Greeters: Susan Chien and Marge Welch
Next Week's Greeters: Ginnie Gibson and Sally Hughes
Sound: Marty Subject
Livestream: Tami Chapman
Security: Tim Hammond

Today's flowers are given by
Sandy and John Diehl
in memory of
Marian Alborell
and David Diehl

CHURCH HISTORY IN MINIATURE

#84. Jewish Revolt (Part 3):

The Roman general Vespasian invades Galilee and, after a few months, gains control of it. Rebels and thousands of refugees flee to Jerusalem. (AD 67-68)

THE STUDY CATECHISM

Question 8. How do you understand the love and power of God?

Through Jesus Christ. In his life of compassion, his death on the cross, and his resurrection from the dead, I see how vast is God’s love for the world — a love that is ready to suffer for our sakes, yet so strong that nothing will prevail against it.

CREDITS

Opening Sentences, Prayer of the Day, Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, Declaration of Forgiveness, Prayers of Intercession, Invitation to Offering, Prayer of Dedication, Prayer for Illumination, Blessing, and Charge: Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion*. Copyright 2014.

Responsive Psalms, Canticles, and Other Prayers: *Book of Common Worship*, Office of Theology and Worship, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), © 2018 Westminster John Knox Press. Used with permission.

Other Scripture Readings: New Revised Standard Version Bible—Updated Edition, copyright © 2021 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

Affirmation of Faith: From *The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Part I: Book of Confessions*, published by the Office of the General Assembly, © 2016.

The Study Catechism (Full Version): Approved by the 210th General Assembly (1998) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Music: “Sonata No. 2, mov. III.” By Frédéric Chopin. Public domain. “Our God Is an Awesome God.” Text: Rich Mullins, 1988, alt. Music: Rich Mullins, 1988. Text and music © 1988 Universeal Music – Brentwood Benson Publishing. Used with permission, CCLI #2003932. “Crown Him with Many Crowns.” Text: Matthew Bridges, 1851. Music: George Job Elvey, 1868. Public domain. “I Love to Tell the Story.” Text: Katherine Hankey, 1866; ref. William G. Fischer, 1869. Music: William G. Fischer, 1869. Public domain. “Allemande in b.” By Johann Sebastian Bach. Public domain. “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” (*Doxology*). Text: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709. Tune: *Genevan Psalter*, 1551. Public domain. “King of Kings.” Words and music by Jason Ingram, Brooke Ligertwood, and Scott Ligertwood. Arranged by John Bolin. Copyright © 2019 Fellow Ships Music (SESAC)/So Essential Tunes (SESAC) (admin. at EssentialMusicPublishing.com)/Hillsong MP Songs (BMI) (admin. in the US and Canada at CapitolGMBPublishing.com). “Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun.” Text: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt. Music: Attr. John Hatton, c. 1793. Public domain. “A Song Unending.” Words by Joseph D. Rojahn. Music by Lee Dengler. Copyright © 2001 Harold Flammer Music, A Division of Shawnee Press, Inc. “Waltz in a.” By Frédéric Chopin. Public domain.

Art: *The Ascension of Christ*. By Andrea Mantegna, c. 1461. Source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Andrea_Mantegna_012.jpg. Public domain.

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, 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
Tuesday	Friends!	3:30 pm
	Worship and Music Committee	6:00 pm
Wednesday	Lunch Packing for Advent House	10:15 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	Finance Committee	8:00 am
	Session	7:00 pm
Friday	Church Office closed / Pastor’s Sabbath	
Saturday	Yarners	10:00 am
	Spring Work Day at Camp Greenwood	

BIRTHDAYS

Lori Filka May 17

**Mason
First Presbyterian Church**

**May 12, 2024
Seventh Sunday of Easter**



The Ascension of Christ
by Andrea Mantegna, c. 1461

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