

**September 1, 2024**  
**15th Sunday after Pentecost**

**PRELUDE** "Passacaglia in g" Handel

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING SENTENCES**  
Who may abide in the presence of God? Ps. 15:1-2  
**Who may live on God's holy mountain?**  
All those who walk blamelessly and do what is right.  
**All those who speak truth from their heart.**  
Let us worship God!

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**+HYMN: GTG #32** "I Sing the Mighty Power of God" ELLACOMBE

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**  
**God of light,**  
**we confess that we live in the shadows of hypocrisy**  
**and self-righteousness.** Jas. 1:17  
**We honor you with our lips, but we have not**  
**served you in our hearts.** Mark 7:6  
**We are satisfied with human traditions and norms**  
**and avoid your liberating truth.** Mark 7:7-8  
**We have confused meekness with weakness,**  
**holiness with social conformity,**  
**and anger with righteousness.** Jas. 1:19-20  
**Forgive us, we pray.**  
**By the power of your word**  
**save us from the prison of our conceit** Jas. 1:20  
**so that we may serve you with sincere hearts;**  
**through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**  
... In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.  
**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**HYMN: GTG #729** I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN  
"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

... God of light,  
**hear our prayer.**  
  
*Younger children are dismissed to Kids Church*

**INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE** Luke 13:29; 24:30-31

+ Those who are able may stand. 1 GTG = Glory to God (purple)

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**  
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts! **We lift them to the Lord!**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**  
Holy, holy, holy Lord ... raising the dead to life.  
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**  
**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**  
**Hosanna in the highest!**  
**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**  
**Hosanna in the highest!**  
Thank you, Lord ... take our hearts and lives—an offering of praise.  
**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**  
Spirit, come ... forever and ever! **Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION** 1 Cor. 11:23-26

**COMMUNION**  
*All are welcome at the table of the Lord.*  
*Partake of the bread when it comes to you, mindful of your*  
*communion with Christ. Hold the cup and we will all drink*  
*together, mindful of our communion with one another.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**  
**God of grace, you invite us to your table**  
**and welcome us as part of your family.**  
**You feed us with your body**  
**and satisfy our deepest hunger.**  
**We thank you for these gifts.**  
**Now send us out into the world**  
**by the power of your Spirit**  
**that we may be your witnesses,**  
**sharing the life-giving news of the gospel. Amen.**

*Older children are dismissed to Kids Church*

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY** "Waltz No. 2" Schubert

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

**+PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** from A Brief Statement of Faith (1991)  
**We trust in Jesus Christ,**  
**fully human, fully God.**  
**Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:**  
**preaching good news to the poor**  
**and release to the captives,**  
**teaching by word and deed**

**and blessing the children,**  
**healing the sick**  
**and binding up the brokenhearted,**  
**eating with outcasts,**  
**forgiving sinners,**  
**and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**  
**Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,**  
**Jesus was crucified,**  
**suffering the depths of human pain**  
**and giving his life for the sins of the world.**  
**God raised this Jesus from the dead,**  
**vindicating his sinless life,**  
**breaking the power of sin and evil,**  
**delivering us from death to life eternal.**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON** Song of Songs 2:8-13 O.T. page 475  
*Song of love*

**PSALM** Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9 O.T. page 399  
*Anointed with the oil of gladness*

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON** James 1:17-27 N.T. page 180  
*Be doers of the word*

**GOSPEL LESSON** Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 N.T. page 32  
*Authentic religion*

**RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE** Ps. 112:1  
Happy are those who delight in God's word.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM** "Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)" arr. Sorenson  
Lisa Castle, Monte Shuck, Barb VanDyke

**SERMON** "My Beloved" Rev. Bill Pinches

**+HYMN: GTG #630** "Fairest Lord Jesus" CRUSADERS' HYMN

**+CHARGE**

**+BLESSING**

**+CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: GTG #765** ARGENTINA  
*"May the God of Hope Go with Us"*

**POSTLUDE** "Sonata No. 8, mov. II" Beethoven

**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:** Mary Ozee

**Communion Servers:** Ed and Marge Clarke, Mary and Will Ozee

**Greeters:** Peg Shaub and Marge Welch

**Next Week's Greeters:** Ron Dlouhy and Jane Hamelink

**Sound:** Marty Subject

**Livestream:** Tami Chapman

**Security:** Tim Hammond

**Today's flowers are given by**

Dale Miihlbach in memory of Kathleen Miihlbach,  
Ann & Harry Hallenbeck, and Opal & Delbert Miihlbach;  
and by Bill Pinches and family in memory of Sheren Wright

**CHURCH HISTORY IN MINIATURE**

**#100. Revelation to John:** This book was probably written between AD 92-96, near the end of Emperor Domitian's reign. John sent it to seven churches in what is now western Turkey.

**CREDITS**

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**Mason First Presbyterian Church**

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Temporary office hours: some weekday mornings, 9:00–11:00am

**MINISTERS**

All Members

**STAFF**

**Pastor:** Rev. Bill Pinches

**Parish Associate:** Rev. Dr. Jim Hegedus

**Pastor Emeritus:** Rev. Charlie Herrick

**Spiritual Growth Director:** Lori Filka

**Temporary Financial Secretary:** Ginnie Gibson

**Sanctuary Choir Director / Bell Choir Director:** Deb Melse

**Choral Music Accompanist / Organist:** Dr. 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 (*Secretary*), Issie Nielsen, Camille Subject.

**Class of 2025:** Marge Clarke, Julie Dart, Timothy Pinches, Tom Seely (*Moderator*).

**Class of 2026:** Ron Dlouhy (*Treasurer*), Bill Leutscher, Sandy Leutscher, Nancy Sue MacDonald, Laurie McGonigal

**EVENTS THIS WEEK**

<b>Monday</b>	Church Office closed (Labor Day)	
<b>Wednesday</b>	Lunch Packing for Advent House	10:15 am
	Prayer Fellowship (in the Chapel)	12:00 pm
	Bell Choir Rehearsal	6:30 pm
	Choir Rehearsal	7:10 pm
<b>Thursday</b>	Spiritual Growth Committee	6:00 pm
	Administration Committee	7:00 pm
	Board of Deacons	7:00 pm
<b>Friday</b>	Church Office closed / Pastor's Sabbath	
<b>Fri/Sat/Sun</b>	Family Camp at Camp Greenwood	
<b>Saturday</b>	Mason Community Services Golf Scramble	
	Yarners	10:00 am

**BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK**

Tami Chapman	Sept. 3
Ron Dlouhy	Sept. 3
Eleanor Simpson	Sept. 7

**Mason  
First Presbyterian Church**

September 1, 2024

15th Sunday after Pentecost



"Arise, My Love . . . and Come Away"

by Cláudio Pastro

mural from the "Virgin's Monastery" of Benedictine nuns  
Petrópolis, Brazil

*A warm and caring Christ-centered community of faith,  
actively serving and nurturing one another and our neighbors,  
embracing diversity, and fostering spiritual growth*