

September 8, 2024
16th Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE "Clair de Lune" Debussy

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SENTENCES

Our merciful God, maker of us all, *Prov. 22:2; Jas. 2:13*
pleads the cause of the poor and afflicted. *Prov. 22:22-23*
Open our hearts to demonstrate God's grace *Mark 7:34-35*
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

+HYMN: GTG #20 "All Things Bright and Beautiful" ROYAL OAK

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of favor, we have not been true to you.
You have chosen the poor in the world,
but we have dishonored them.
You plead the cause of the afflicted,
but we crush them.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We have favored the rich and despised the poor.
We have dismissed the needy with empty words.
Soften our hearts and make straight our ways.
Heal our unbelief and turn us back to you. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

... forgiven our sin, healed our sickness, and delivered us from evil.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

HYMN: GTG #610 "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" AZMON

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

... O Lord, plead our cause.
Your name is good.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Children are dismissed to Kids Church

MESSAGE FROM THE MISSION COMMITTEE Rex Hauser

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Bids Us Come" Newton / Johnson

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

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

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *A Brief Statement of Faith*
(United States, 1991)

We trust in God,
whom Jesus called Abba, Father.
In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image,
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.
But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
Ignoring God's commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth,
exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God's condemnation.
Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.
In everlasting love,
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.
Hearing their cry,
God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage.
Loving us still,
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 35:4-7a O.T. page 505
God comes with healing

PSALM Psalm 146 O.T. page 445
Help and hope come from God

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON James 2:1-17 N.T. page 180
Faith without works is dead

GOSPEL LESSON Mark 7:24-37 N.T. page 33
Christ heals a little girl and a deaf man

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

HYMN: GTG #394 WESTMINSTER ABBEY
"Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

SERMON "For the Dogs" Rev. Dr. Jim Hegedus

PRAYER from *A Love Supreme* John Coltrane

Thank you God.
God will wash away all our tears... He always has... He always will.

Seek him everyday. In all ways seek God everyday. Let us sing all songs to God. To whom all praise is due... praise God. No road is an easy one, but they all go back to God. With all we share God. It is all with God. It is all with Thee.

Obeys the Lord. Blessed is He. We are all from one thing... the will of God... Thank you God.

I have seen God—I have seen ungodly—none can be greater—none can compare to God. Thank you God. He will remake us... He always has and He always will. It's true—blessed be His name—Thank you God.

God breathes through us so completely... so gently we hardly feel it... yet, it is our everything. Thank you God. ELATION—ELEGANCE—EXALTATION—All from God. Thank you God. Amen.

+HYMN: GTG #318 "In Christ There Is No East or West" ST. PETER

+CHARGE
... show your faith in acts of kindness, love your neighbor as yourself.
Amen.

+BLESSING
... and a courage that knows no bounds.
Alleluia!

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

POSTLUDE "Crown Him with Many Crowns" Elvey

**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
Guest Musician: Laura Johnson
Liturgist: Bruce Archer
Greeters: Ron Dlouhy and Jane Hamelink
Next Week's Greeters: Debi and Mike Buchman
Sound: Marty Subject
Livestream: Tami Chapman
Security: Will Ozee

Today's flowers are given by
Nancy Sue MacDonald
in memory of
David and Ethel Smale

CHURCH HISTORY IN MINIATURE

(starting over again, and making some adjustments along the way)

#o. *Birth of Christ:*

Jesus was born before Herod the Great died in 4 BC.

The sixth-century monk Dionysius Exiguus, who created our calendar, was several years off in his calculations.

THE STUDY CATECHISM

Question 24. What difference does your faith in God's providence make when you struggle against bitterness and despair?

When I suffer harm or adversity, my faith in God's providence upholds me against bitterness and despair. It reminds me when hope disappears that my heartache and pain are contained by a larger purpose and a higher power than I can presently discern. Even in grief, shame and loss, I can still cry out to God in lament, waiting on God to supply my needs, and to bring me healing and comfort.

CREDITS

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Mason First Presbyterian Church

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www.masonpresbyterian.org

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

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

Monday	Mission Committee	4:00 pm
	Worship and Music Committee	6:00 pm
Tuesday	Friends!	3:30 pm
Wednesday	Lunch Packing for Advent House	10:15 am
	Prayer Fellowship (in the Chapel)	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
Thursday	Finance Committee	8:00 am
Friday	Church Office closed / Pastor's Sabbath	

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Jenny Bond	Sept. 9
Suzie Threadgould	Sept. 10

Mason First Presbyterian Church

September 8, 2024 16th Sunday after Pentecost



Christ and the Canaanite Woman
by Willem van Oordt, c. 1645-1650

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