

September 22, 2024
18th Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE "Prelude in C Major" Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT "Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God" Lafferty

OPENING SENTENCES

Little children, the one who welcomes you
is here in word and water and bread.

**Little children, young and old, all the baptized:
welcome to the place of hope.**

Little children, Jesus calls us all into the circle of his arms.
Come. Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

+**HYMN:** GTG #12 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" ST. DENIO

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, who makes known to us all truth,
we confess that we are weighed down by our failings:
envy distances us from other people;
greed alerts us only to our own desires.
Where we might bring reconciliation, we create conflicts.
Where you call us to give, we take.
Where your presence beckons, we resist.
Deal with us not as we deserve, O God,
but forgive us, cleanse us, and teach us your way. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

... in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
one God, Mother of all things, now and forever.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

HYMN: GTG #702 "Christ Be Beside Me" BUNESSAN

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

... Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Children and youth are dismissed to Sunday School

MESSAGE FROM THE WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE Monte Shuck

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY "I Believe the Promise" M. L. / Lister

+**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 the Holy Spirit

everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

**The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves
and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.**

The same Spirit

**who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.**

In a broken and fearful world

**the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Proverbs 31:10-31 O.T. page 468
The capable wife

PSALM Psalm 1
The way of the righteous

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

**Their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**

They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither;
everything they do shall prosper.

It is not so with the wicked;

they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright
when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
**For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a N.T. page 181

GOSPEL LESSON Mark 9:30-37 N.T. page 35
Prediction of the passion

RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE Rom. 10:8

This is the word of faith that we proclaim.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM "We Are Called" McDonald

SERMON "Whoever Welcomes One Such Child" Rev. Bill Pinches

+**HYMN:** GTG #188 "Jesus Loves Me!" JESUS LOVES ME

+**CHARGE**

... draw near to God, and God will draw near to you.
Amen.

+**BLESSING**

... to heal relationships and to live in peace.
Alleluia!

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

POSTLUDE "Fly Me to the Moon (In Other Words)" Howard

*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: Greg Lang

Greeters: Sandy Diehl and Barbara Georgescu

Next Week's Greeters: Susan Chien and Kurt Immekus

Sound: Marty Subject

Livestream: Tami Chapman

Security: Barry Chapman

Today's flowers are given by
the Oesterle family
in memory of
Lyle and June Oesterle

CHURCH HISTORY IN MINIATURE

#2. Resurrection Appearances:

The risen Christ appeared to many of his disciples over a period of forty days.

(Matt. 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; John 20-21; Acts 1:1-5; 1 Cor. 15:5-7)

THE STUDY CATECHISM

Question 26. Why then did God create the world?

God’s decision to create the world was an act of grace. In this decision God chose to grant existence to the world simply in order to bless it. God created the world to reveal God’s glory, to share the love and freedom at the heart of God’s triune being, and to give us eternal life in fellowship with God.

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:

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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

Sanctuary Choir Director / Bell Choir Director: Deb Melse

Choral Music Accompanist: Le Ji

Financial Secretary: Frances Miller

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

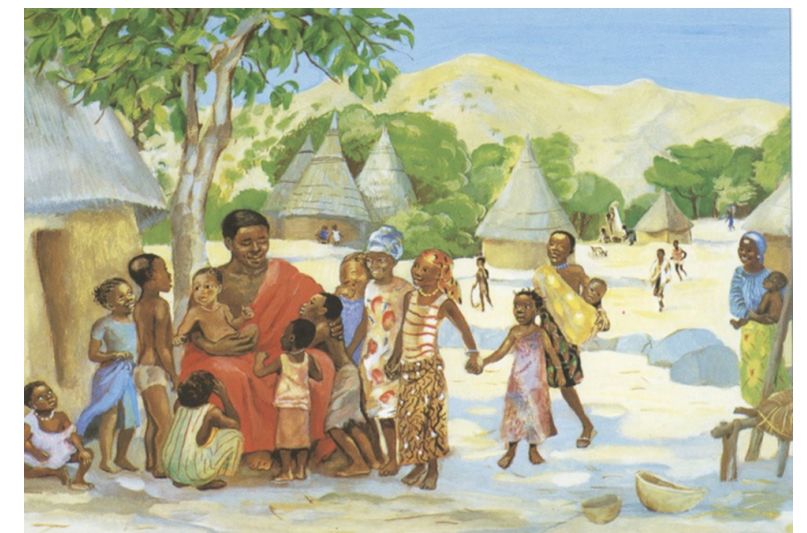
Today	Adult Sunday School (<i>The Chosen</i>)	11:30 am
	Nominating Committee	11:30 am
Wednesday	Hat-Making Project for the Coat Drive	10:00 am
	Lunch Packing for Advent House	10:15 am
	Prayer Fellowship (in the Chapel)	12:00 pm
	Wonderful Wednesday (children/youth)	4:00 pm
	Wednesday Night Dinner	6:00 pm
	Bell Choir Rehearsal	6:30 pm
	Choir Rehearsal	7:10 pm
Thursday	Personnel Committee	5:30 pm
Friday	Church Office closed / Pastor’s Sabbath	

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Gift Tayong	Sept. 22
Marge Clarke	Sept. 23
Tessa Edmondson	Sept. 23
Diane Tayong	Sept. 24
Shirley Kline	Sept. 25
Colin Pinches	Sept. 27
Rebecca Cornish	Sept. 28

**Mason
First Presbyterian Church**

September 22, 2024
18th Sunday after Pentecost



Jesus Welcomes the Children
by JESUS MAFA, 1973
Cameroon

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