

October 27, 2024
23rd Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" arr. Nielson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TWO-CENTS-A-MEAL HUNGER OFFERING

OPENING SENTENCES

The Lord has filled our mouths with laughter and our tongues with shouts of joy. Ps. 126:2-3

The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God,
you know us better than we know ourselves.
You see our need when we are blind to it.
You have made us to be yours.
In your compassion,
forgive us for our lack of faith
and the harm we do to others and to your earth.
Forgive us for turning away from your will,
for ignoring the cries of our neighbors,
for failing to listen to what is most nourishing even for ourselves.
Let our faults fall from your eyes as you open ours.
Hear this and answer,
in Jesus' holy name. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

... in the name of the holy Trinity, one God, now and forever.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

HYMN: GTG #418 SOFTLY AND TENDERLY
"Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling"

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

... God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Children and youth are dismissed to Sunday School

MESSAGE FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE Jerry Ambrose

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Fairest Lord Jesus" arr. Willis

+**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 Jeremiah 31:7-9 O.T. page 559
The remnant of Israel is gathered

PSALM Psalm 126
God does great things for us

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

Then they said among the nations,
"The LORD has done great things for them."

The LORD has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.
Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses of the Negeb.
Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.
Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Hebrews 7:23-28 N.T. page 174
Christ, the merciful high priest

GOSPEL LESSON Mark 10:46-52 N.T. page 36
Christ heals blind Bartimaeus

RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE Ps. 85:9
Surely our salvation is at hand. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM "The Blind Man Stood on the Road and Cried" arr. Ehret

SERMON "Son of David, Have Mercy on Me!" Rev. Bill Pinches

+**HYMN: GTG #65** "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" CWM RHONDDA

+**CHARGE**
... and pray for those who have no words today. **Amen.**

+**BLESSING**
... throughout all the ages. **Alleluia!**

+**CHORAL BENEDICTION** "Marvelous Things" anonymous

POSTLUDE "Over the Rainbow" from *The Wizard of Oz* Arlen

*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: Debbie Shellenbarger
Greeters: Sam Pinches and Katharine Wise
Next Week's Greeters: Linda Peterson and Marla St. George
Sound: Marty Subject
Livestream: Tami Chapman
Security: Isaac Reyes

Today's flowers are given by
Ralph Taggart
in memory of Alison Taggart
and by Laurie and Kyle McGonigal
in honor of Matthew and Erin McGonigal

CHURCH HISTORY IN MINIATURE

#6: Pentecost (part 1):

Seven weeks after Christ's death and resurrection, at the annual spring harvest festival in Jerusalem, God blesses the disciples with the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:1-4)

THE STUDY CATECHISM

Question 30. How do you understand the uniqueness of Jesus Christ?

No one else will ever be God incarnate. No one else will ever die for the sins of the world. Only Jesus Christ is such a person, only he could do such a work, and he in fact has done it.

CREDITS

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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

Sanctuary Choir Director / Bell Choir Director: Deb Melse

Office Manager: Jessica Tessman

Financial Secretary: Jess Weber

Choral Music Accompanist: Le Ji

Sexton: Eric VanDyke

Office Assistant: Nancy Sue MacDonald

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	<i>They Even Took the Dirt</i>	11:30 am
Wednesday	Lunch Packing for Advent House	10:15 am
	Prayer Fellowship (in the Chapel)	12:00 pm
	NO Wonderful Wednesday this week	
	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	
	UKirk's fall Trivia Night (at The Presbyterian Church of Okemos)	7:00 pm
Saturday	Yarners	10:00 am

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Kate Barber	Oct. 29
Erin McGonigal	Oct. 30
Bill Pinches	Oct. 30
Tyler Harkness	Oct. 31

**Mason
First Presbyterian Church**

October 27, 2024

23rd Sunday after Pentecost



Jesus Cures the Man Born Blind
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*