

March 9, 2025
First Sunday in Lent

PRELUDE "Adagio" from "Pathetique" Sonata Beethoven

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SENTENCES

The season of Lent sets us on a journey.

The journey begins in the wilderness.

We follow the way of Jesus,
who faced trials, trouble, temptation, and testing.

Like Jesus, we are not alone.

The Holy Spirit is with us. God's word is on our lips.
Our call is to trust in God alone, to do God's will in all things.
**For God leads us not only into the wilderness,
but also through the wilderness.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

+ **HYMN: GTG #336** "We Gather Together" KREMSER

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, our refuge and fortress,
forgive us when we fail to trust in you.
We fall to temptation;
we are swayed by false words; we speak false words of our own.
We choose our ease and comfort
over your demanding claims upon us and upon the world.
In turning from you,
we settle for less than the abundant generosity you intend.
Forgive us, we pray.
Do not let us be put to shame, O God.
Hear us as we call to you and show us your salvation.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

... Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.
Thanks be to God!

HYMN: GTG #166 "Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days" ST. FLAVIAN

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

... Hear our prayer, O God,
our refuge and fortress, our shelter and shade.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Children and youth are dismissed to Sunday School

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

MESSAGE FROM THE MISSION COMMITTEE Debbie Markiewicz

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Prelude No. 10" Bach

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

+ **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

+ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** from *The Confession of 1967*
(United States)

8. In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all kinds of sinful men and women. But his complete obedience led him into conflict with his people. His life and teaching judged their goodness, religious aspirations, and national hopes. Many rejected him and demanded his death. In giving himself freely for them, he took upon himself the judgment under which everyone stands convicted. God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord. The victim of sin became victor, and won the victory over sin and death for all.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Deuteronomy 26:1-11 O.T. page 142
Saved from Egypt

PSALM Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
God shall keep you

You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty—
**you will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my stronghold,
my God in whom I put my trust."**

Because you have made the LORD your refuge,
and the Most High your habitation,
**no evil will befall you,
nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**

For God will give the angels charge over you,
to guard you in all your ways.

**Upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.**

You will tread upon the lion cub and viper;
you will trample down the lion and the serpent.

**I will deliver those who cling to me;
I will uphold them, because they know my name.**

They will call me, and I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.

**With long life will I satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Romans 10:8b-13 N.T. page 122
You will be saved

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 4:1-13 N.T. page 46
The temptation of Jesus

RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE *Matt. 4:4*
We live not by bread alone, but by every word that comes from God.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM "Guide My Feet, Lord" arr. Carter

SERMON "Tested by the Devil" Rev. Bill Pinches

+ **HYMN: GTG #275** "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" EIN' FESTE BURG

+ **CHARGE**

These Lenten days will take us to the cross of Christ.
Go forward, knowing that you do not go this way alone.
Nor do we have to be afraid,
for the Word of God strengthens us and the Holy Spirit sustain us.
Amen.

+ **BLESSING**

May the God of the Exodus lead us into freedom.
May the Holy Spirit bind us to God's will.
May Christ, God's only Son, show us the way of true justice and peace.
Alleluia!

CHORAL BENEDICTION SIYAHAMBA
"We Are Marching in the Light of God"

POSTLUDE "Fairest Lord Jesus" arr. Daub

**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 Markiewicz

Greeters: Susan Chien and Joann DePeel

Next Week's Greeters: Joann DePeel and Linda Peterson

Sound: Marty Subject

Livestream: Tami Chapman

Security: Tim Hammond

Today's flowers are given by
JoAnn and Bob Caltrider in memory of
Millie & Palen Somerville,
Beulah & Delbert Caltrider,
and Sarah Caltrider

CHURCH HISTORY IN MINIATURE

#21: Dorcas:

Preaching along the Mediterranean coast, Peter raises a faithful woman in Joppa (Jaffa) named Tabitha (Dorcas) from the dead. Many believe in Jesus. (Acts 9:31-43)

THE STUDY CATECHISM

Question 47. What do you affirm when you say that “he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father”?

First, that Christ has gone to be with the Father, hidden except to the eyes of faith. Second, however, that Christ is not cut off from us in the remote past, or in some place from which he cannot reach us, but is present to us here and now by grace. He reigns with divine authority, protecting us, guiding us, and interceding for us until he returns in glory.

CREDITS

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 Confession of Faith—Inclusive Language Version* © 2002 Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

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

Music: “*The Adagio from ‘Pathétique’ Sonata, Opus 13.*” By Ludwig van Beethoven. Public domain. “*We Gather Together.*” Text: attr. Adrianus Valerius, c. 1626; trans. Theodore Baker, 1894. Music: *Neder-landtsch Gedenck-Clanck*, 1626; harm. Eduard Kremser, 1877. Public domain. “*Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days.*” Text: Claudia F. I. Hernaman, 1873, alt. Music: *Day’s Psalter*, 1562. Public domain. “*Prelude No. 10.*” 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. “*Guide My Feet, Lord.*” Traditional spiritual; setting by John Carter. Copyright © 2000 Hope Publishing Company. Used with permission, One License #A-717602. “*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God.*” Text: Martin Luther, 1529; trans. Frederick Henry Hedge, 1852. Music: Martin Luther, 1529, alt. Public domain. “*We Are Marching in the Light of God.*” Text: South African; English trans. Gracia Grindal, 1984. Music: South African; arr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984. English trans. and music arr. copyright © 1984 Utryck (admin. Walton Music Corp.). Permission pending. “*Fairest Lord Jesus.*” CRUSADERS’ HYMN. Arranged by Eric Daub. Copyright © 2001 GlorySound (A Division of Shawnee Press, Inc.) Permission pending.

Art: *The Temptation in the Wilderness.* By Briton Rivière, 1898. Source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Briton_Rivi%C3%A8re_-_The_Temptation_in_the_Wilderness.jpg. Public domain.

Mason First Presbyterian Church

131 E Maple St, Mason, MI 48854-1655

(517) 676-9333

office@masonpresbyterian.org

www.masonpresbyterian.org

Office hours: Monday to Thursday, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

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, Hannah Koutz, Jasmine Leffew, Violet Mackey, Sam Pinches, Lucy Simons, Keren Tayong

ELDERS

Class of 2025: Doreen Chapman, Mary Garland Jackson, Greg Lang, Monte Shuck (*Recording Clerk*).

Class of 2026: Bruce Archer (*Clerk*), Ginnie Gibson, Jane Hamelink, Tim Hammond

Class of 2027: Travis Archer, Dan Baker, Evelyn Tayong, Steve Sowles

DEACONS

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

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

Class of 2027: Donna Archer, Rick Cote, Debbie Johnson, Issie Nielsen

EVENTS THIS WEEK

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Today | Adult Class (<i>The False White Gospel</i>) | 11:30 am |
| | Adult Sunday School (Brené Brown) | 11:30 am |
| Tuesday | Friends! | 3:30 pm |
| Wednesday | Lunch Packing for Advent House | 10:15 am |
| | Prayer Fellowship | 12:00 pm |
| | Wonderful Wednesday | 4:00—6:00 pm |
| | Wednesday Night Dinner | 6:00 pm |
| | Bell Choir Rehearsal | 6:30 pm |
| | Choir Rehearsal | 7:10 pm |
| Thursday | Finance Committee | 8:00 am |
| | Spiritual Growth Committee | 6:00 pm |
| Friday | Church Office closed / Pastor’s Sabbath | |
| Saturday | Yarners | 10:00 am |

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Mar. 11: Peter Robinson

Mar. 12: Vern Schrock

Mar. 14: Deb Melse

Mar. 15: Bruce Archer

**Mason
First Presbyterian Church**

**March 9, 2025
First Sunday in Lent**



The Temptation in the Wilderness
by Briton Rivière, 1898

“There is no longer Jew or Gentile, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female, for all of you are one in Christ.”
(Galatians 3:28)