

March 16, 2025  
Second Sunday in Lent

**PRELUDE** “I Am His, and He Is Mine (Nocturne)” arr. Berry

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING SENTENCES**

The Psalmist sings, Ps. 27:4  
One thing I asked of the LORD, that I will seek after:  
**to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,  
to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in God’s temple.**  
Sisters and brothers, God is good,  
**and in love and mercy greets us here.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

+ **HYMN: GTG #35** “Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty” LOBE DEN HERREN

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful God, you have made us citizens of heaven, but we confess that we have set our minds on earthly things. We have let our desire for security restrain our commitment to serve the poor. We have let our fear of danger curb our obligation to love our enemies. We have let our love of things dull our generosity to the needy. We have let our craving for public status prevent our honesty about hidden sins. Yet, you know the desires of our heart and nothing is hidden from you. By the power of the Holy Spirit, conform our sin-weakened bodies to the glory of Christ, that we may be the body of Christ for the world. Amen.

**SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

... In Christ we are forgiven and offered the gift of healing repentance.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**HYMN: GTG #440** “Jesus, Lover of My Soul” ABERYSTWYTH

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

... let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**MESSAGE FOR THE CHILDREN**

Mary Garland Jackson

*Children and youth are dismissed to Sunday School*

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY** “Prelude No. 1” J. S. Bach

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

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

+ **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

O God, we have beheld your goodness to us. Accept the offering of the work of our hands, and use us for the sake of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

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

**9. God’s reconciling act in Jesus Christ is a mystery which the Scriptures describe in various ways. It is called the sacrifice of a lamb, a shepherd’s life given for his sheep, atonement by a priest; again it is ransom of a slave, payment of debt, vicarious satisfaction of a legal penalty, and victory over the powers of evil. These are expressions of a truth which remains beyond the reach of all theory in the depths of God’s love for humankind. They reveal the gravity, cost, and sure achievement of God’s reconciling work.**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON** Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 O.T. page 9  
*The covenant with Abram*

**PSALM** Psalm 27  
*The Lord shall keep me safe*

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

**When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh,  
they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.**

Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear.

Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

**One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;  
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;  
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD  
and to seek God in the temple.**

For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,  
hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary,  
and raise me high upon a rock.

**Even now my head is lifted up  
above my enemies who surround me.  
Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary,  
sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.**

Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;  
have mercy on me and answer me.

**My heart speaks your message—“Seek my face.”  
Your face, O LORD, I will seek.**

Hide not your face from me,  
turn not away from your servant in anger.

Cast me not away—you have been my helper;  
forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

**Though my father and mother forsake me,  
the LORD will take me in.**

Teach me your way, O LORD;  
lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.  
**Subject me not to the will of my foes,  
for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.**  
This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the LORD  
in the land of the living!  
**Wait for the LORD and be strong.  
Take heart and wait for the LORD!**

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON** Philippians 3:17-4:1 N.T. page 153  
*Our citizenship is in heaven*

**GOSPEL LESSON** Luke 13:31-35 N.T. page 58  
*A hen gathering her brood*

**RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE** 1 Cor. 1:23-25

We proclaim Christ crucified—the wisdom and power of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC** “Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory” Steffe

**SERMON** “The Fox, the Hen, and the Chicks” Rev. Bill Pinches

+ **HYMN: GTG #49** “The God of Abraham Praise” LEONI

+ **CHARGE**  
Sisters and brothers, stand firm in the Lord. **Amen.**

+ **BLESSING**  
The God of reconciliation bless you, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you, and the power of the Holy Spirit strengthen you this day and forevermore. **Alleluia!**

**POSTLUDE** “Wie Lieblich Sind” from *Ein deutsches Requiem* Brahms

*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:** Rick Cote

**Greeters:** Joann DePeel and Linda Peterson

**Next Week’s Greeters:** Vicki Drown and Kurt Immekus

**Sound:** Marty Subject

**Livestream:** Tami Chapman

**Security:** Isaac Reyes

**Today’s flowers are given by** Donna Hujsak  
in memory of Bill Hujsak  
and by Tammy and Steve Sowles  
in memory of Spencer Sowles

## CHURCH HISTORY IN MINIATURE

### #22: *Astonished:*

After a Roman centurion named Cornelius has a vision of an angel, Peter realizes that the grace and love of Jesus are for all people everywhere. (*Acts 10:1—11:18*)

## THE STUDY CATECHISM

**Question 48. How do you understand the words that “he will come again to judge the living and the dead”?**

Like everyone else, I too must stand in fear and trembling before the judgment seat of Christ. But the Judge is the one who submitted to judgment for my sake. Nothing will be able to separate me from the love of God in Christ Jesus my Lord. All the sinful failures that cause me shame will perish as through fire, while any good I may have done will be received with gladness by God.

## CREDITS

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## Mason First Presbyterian Church

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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

<b>Today</b>	Adult Class ( <i>The False White Gospel</i> )	11:30 am
	Adult Sunday School (Brené Brown)	11:30 am
<b>Wednesday</b>	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
<b>Thursday</b>	Session	7:00 pm
<b>Friday</b>	Church Office closed / Pastor’s Sabbath	
	Women’s Association Craft and Lunch	10:00 am
	Bridge Builders Task Force	6:15 pm
<b>Saturday</b>	Yarners	10:00 am

### BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Mar. 18: Brenda Strayer

Mar. 20: Luke Mackey

Mar. 20: Violet Mackey

Mar. 21: Dan Baker

Mar. 21: Nora Edmondson

Mar. 22: Shirley Day

# Mason First Presbyterian Church

## March 16, 2025 Second Sunday in Lent



*Hen and Fox*  
by Peter Koenig, 20th century

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.... Who is my neighbor?” (*Luke 10:25-37*)