

<div>May 18, 2025</div> <div>Fifth Sunday of Easter</div>		
<u>PRELUDE</u>	“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”	Prichard
<u>WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>		
<u>OPENING SENTENCES</u> Alleluia! Christ is alive; let all the people praise him. Let all creation sing with joy. Alleluia! Let us worship God!		
<u>PRAYER OF THE DAY</u>		
+ <u>HYMN</u> : GTG #610	“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”	AZMON
<u>CALL TO CONFESSION</u>		
<u>PRAYER OF CONFESSION</u> God of mercy, your command to love one another across all differences opens us to new horizons, yet we often respond with fear and judgment that hinders your goal for humanity. Forgive our sins, we pray, and give us a true repentance that leads to life for all creation. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.		
<u>SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION</u>		
<u>DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS</u> ... and may you always be known by your love. Thanks be to God! Amen.		
<u>HYMN</u> : GTG #203	“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”	CHEREPO
<u>PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION</u> ... O God of love, Raise us to new life in Christ.		
<u>THE LORD’S PRAYER</u>		
<u>MESSAGE FOR THE CHILDREN</u>	Mary Garland Jackson	
Children and youth are dismissed to Sunday School		
<u>INVITATION TO OFFERING</u>		
<u>OFFERTORY</u>	“Amazing Grace”	NEW BRITAIN
+ <u>RESPONSE</u> : GTG #606	OLD HUNDREDTH	
“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”		
+ <u>PRAYER OF DEDICATION</u>		
+ Those who are able may stand.		
1	GTG = Glory to God (purple hymnal)	

+ <u>AFFIRMATION OF FAITH</u> from <i>The Confession of 1967</i> (United States)		
18. God expressed love for all humankind through Israel, whom God chose to be a covenant people to serve him in love and faithfulness. When Israel was unfaithful, God disciplined the nation with judgment and maintained the covenant through prophets, priests, teachers, and true believers. These witnesses called all Israelites to a destiny in which they would serve God faithfully and become a light to the nations. The same witnesses proclaimed the coming of a new age, and a true servant of God in whom God’s purpose of Israel and for humanity would be realized.		
<u>PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION</u>		
<u>NEW TESTAMENT LESSON</u>	Acts 11:1-18	N.T. page 99
<i>God saves the Gentiles</i>		
<u>PSALM</u>	Psalm 148	
<i>God’s splendor is over earth and heaven</i>		
Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights. Praise the LORD, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven. Praise the LORD, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars. Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens. Let them praise the name of the LORD, who commanded, and they were created, who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law which will not pass away.		
Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps; fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God’s will; mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars; wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds; sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world; young men and maidens, old and young together. Let them praise the name of the LORD, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven. The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah!		

<u>NEW TESTAMENT LESSON</u>	Revelation 21:1-6 New heaven, new earth	N.T. page 205
<u>GOSPEL LESSON</u>	John 13:31-35 Love one another	N.T. page 83
<u>RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE</u>	John 14:1, 6 Jesus said: I am the way, the truth, and the life. Believe in me. Thanks be to God.	
<u>ANTHEM</u>	"All Things New"	Hagenberg
<u>SERMON</u>	"The Christian Hope" part 1 of 3 "God Comes Down"	Rev. Bill Pinches
+ <u>HYMN: GTG #300</u>	THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS "We Are One in the Spirit"	
+ <u>CHARGE</u>	Jesus has loved us so that we may love others. Go forth in peace to love and serve the Lord. Amen.	
+ <u>BLESSING</u>	May God who has made you a new creation give you the grace to grow in faith, hope, love, and justice. Alleluia!	
<u>CHORAL BENEDICTION</u>	Martin / Nyx "Change the World With Love (A Parting Blessing)"	
<u>POSTLUDE</u>	"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"	Holden
 <i>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.</i>		
 <u>SERVING US TODAY</u> Liturgist: Suzanne Lang Greeters: Sally Hughes and Nancy Sue MacDonald Next Week's Greeters: Ron Dlouhy and Jane Hamelink Sound: Tami Subject Livestream: Tami Chapman Security: Tim Hammond		
 Today's flowers are given by Camille Subject in memory of loved ones and by Gerald Richards in memory of Carole Richards		

CHURCH HISTORY IN MINIATURE

#31: Timothy:

Paul meets Timothy, a strong believer, born of a Greek and a Jew. Paul, Silas, and Timothy strengthen the churches throughout Asia Minor. (Acts 16:1-11) (c. AD 50)

THE STUDY CATECHISM

Question 58. Isn’t preaching also the Word of God?

Yes. Preaching and other forms of Christian witness are also God’s Word when they are faithful to the witness of Holy Scripture. By the power of the Spirit, preaching actually gives to us what it proclaims — the real presence of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faith comes by hearing God’s Word in the form of faithful proclamation.

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Mason First Presbyterian Church

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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, 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, Sally Hughes, Debbie Johnson, Issie Nielsen

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Wednesday	Lunch Packing for Advent House	10:15 am
	Prayer Fellowship	12:00 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	
	Bridge Builders for Racial Atonement	6:15 pm

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

May 21: Leah Harkness  
May 21: Evelyn Tayong  
May 24: Jo Hammond

Mason First Presbyterian Church

May 18, 2025  
Fifth Sunday of Easter



*Love One Another As I Have Loved You*  
Sculpture by Noël Bonardi on the Col de Verghio  
Corsica

“I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.”  
(John 13:34)