

April 26, 2026
Fourth Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE “Lord, Hold Us Steadfast in Thy Word” Walther

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TWO-CENTS-A-MEAL HUNGER OFFERING

OPENING SENTENCES

The Lord is risen! Alleluia! *Luke 24:34*
Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!
The Lamb of God will be our shepherd; *Rev. 7:17*
he will guide us to the water of life.
Jesus said: I am the good shepherd. *John 10:11*
Christ lays down his life for the sheep.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

+ **HYMN:** GTG #187 “Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us” BRADBURY

CALL TO CONFESSION *1 Pet. 2:24*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made.

Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS *1 Pet. 2:25*

... In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God!

+ **HYMN:** GTG #801 “The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want” CRIMOND

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

... God of new life, **hear our prayer.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Children and youth are dismissed to Sunday School

INVITATION TO OFFERING *Ps. 23:5*

OFFERTORY “Thine Is the Glory” JUDAS MACCABEUS

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

+ **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Adapted from the Belhar Confession (1982)*

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Acts 2:42-47 N.T. page 91
The believers’ common life

PSALM

Psalm 23
My head anointed with oil

The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil;**

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON 1 Peter 2:19-25 N.T. page 184
Follow the shepherd, even in suffering

GOSPEL LESSON John 10:1-10 N.T. page 79
Christ the shepherd

RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE *John 14:1, 6*

Jesus said: I am the way, the truth,
and the life. Believe in me.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM “Shepherd Me, O God” Haugen / arr. Hayes

SERMON “Like a Child at Home” Rev. Dr. Jim Hegedus

+ **HYMN:** GTG #802 “The King of Love My Shepherd Is” ST. COLUMBA

+ **CHARGE** *1 Cor. 16:13; 2 Tim. 2:1; Eph. 6:10;*
Go out into the world in peace; *1 Thess. 5:13-22; 1 Pet. 2:17*

have courage;
hold onto what is good;
return no one evil for evil;
strengthen the fainthearted;
support the weak, and help the suffering;
honor all people;
love and serve the Lord,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

+ **BLESSING** *Rev. 22:13*

The blessing of the eternal, triune God—
Alpha and Omega,
first and last,
beginning and end—
be with you all.
Alleluia!

+ **CHORAL BENEDICTION** Schubert / arr. Hopson
“Christ, Now Go Before Us”

POSTLUDE “The Strife Is O’er” Held

*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: Steve Sowles

Greeters: Susan Chien and Jane Hamelink

Next Week’s Greeters: Debi and Mike Buchman

Sound: Marty Subject

Livestream: Tami Chapman

Security: Dan Baker and Tim Hammond

Today’s flowers are given by
Mary Lou French
in memory of loved ones

CHURCH HISTORY IN MINIATURE

#75: *Matthias*

Early Christian legends say that the apostle Matthias preached in Cappadocia along the coast of the Caspian Sea, and/or in Georgia, and/or in Ethiopia, and was martyred.

THE STUDY CATECHISM

Question 116. What is the tenth commandment?

“You shall not covet what is your neighbor’s” (Ex. 20:17; Deut. 5:21).

Question 117. What do you learn from this commandment?

My whole heart should belong to God alone, not to money or the things of this world. “Coveting” means desiring something wrongfully. I should not resent the good fortune or success of my neighbor or allow envy to corrupt my heart.

CREDITS

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Mason First Presbyterian Church

131 E Maple St, Mason, MI 48854 • (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: Becky Moots

Choral Music Accompanist: Yinzhe Li

Sexton: Eric VanDyke

Adult Spiritual Growth Coordinator: Michelle Mackey

Youth Ministry Coordinator: Sarah Fay-Koutz

Child Care: Jill Castle, Jasmine Leffew,

Violet Mackey, Sam Pinches, Keren Tayong

ELDERS

Class of 2026: Bruce Archer (*Clerk*), Ginnie Gibson,

Jane Hamelink, Tim Hammond

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

Class of 2028: Mary Garland Jackson, Greg Lang, Suzanne Lang, Monte Shuck

DEACONS

Class of 2026: Ron Dlouhy (*Treasurer*), Bill Leutscher, Sandy Leutscher,

Nancy Sue MacDonald (*Secretary*), Laurie McGonigal

Class of 2027: Donna Archer, Rick Cote (*Co-Moderator*),

Sally Hughes, Debbie Johnson, Issie Nielsen

Class of 2028: Sandy Diehl (*Co-Moderator*), Pattie Yanz, Torrie Yanz

EVENTS THIS WEEK

| | | |
|------------------|---|----------------|
| All Week | Pastor Bill on vacation (through May 4) | |
| Today | Adult Sunday School (<i>The Chosen</i>) | 11:30 am |
| | Explorers Class | 11:30 am |
| Wednesday | Lunch packing for Advent House | 10:15 am |
| | Midweek Prayer Service | 12:00 pm |
| | Wonderful Wednesday (K-12) | 4:00 – 6:00 pm |
| | Wednesday Night Dinner | 6:00 pm |
| | Bell Choir Rehearsal | 6:30 pm |
| | Choir Rehearsal | 7:10 pm |
| Friday | Church Office closed / Pastor’s Sabbath | |
| Saturday | Yarners | 10:00 am |

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

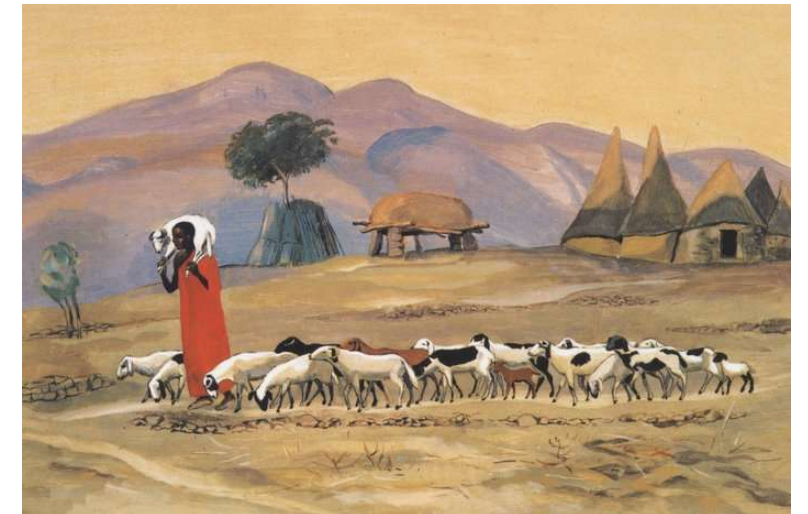
April 29: Scott Robinson

April 30: Suzanne Lang

May 1: Debbie Markiewicz

Mason First Presbyterian Church

April 26, 2026
Fourth Sunday of Easter



The Good Shepherd
by JESUS MAFA, 1973
Cameroon

“He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.”
(John 10:3)