September 20, 2026
17th Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE *"The Road Home"* Martin

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SENTENCES
Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good. *Ps. 118:1*
God's steadfast love endures forever.
The Lord raises the poor from the dust *Ps. 113:7*
and lifts up the needy from the ashes.
The last are first in the realm of God; *Mark 9:35-37*
the least are welcomed in Jesus' name.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

+ **HYMN: GTG #41** *"O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!"* LYONS

CALL TO CONFESSION *Rom. 3:23-24*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS *Col. 2:12*
... In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

+ **HYMN: GTG #701** *"Christ Be Beside Me"* BUNESSAN

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION
... God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

MESSAGE FOR THE CHILDREN Mary Garland Jackson

Children and youth are dismissed to Sunday School

INVITATION TO OFFERING *2 Cor. 9:7*

OFFERTORY *"O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go"* arr. Keveren

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

+ **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

+ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** from *A Brief Statement of Faith* (1991)
We trust in God,
whom Jesus called Abba, Father.
In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image,
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.
But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
Ignoring God's commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth,
exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God's condemnation.
Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.
In everlasting love,
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.
Hearing their cry,
God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage.
Loving us still,
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Exodus 16:2-15 O.T. page 48
Manna in the wilderness

PSALM Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45 O.T. page 427
Remembering the Wilderness

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Philippians 1:21-30 N.T. page 152
Standing firm in the gospel

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 20:1-16 N.T. page 17
The parable of the vineyard workers

RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE *Ps. 112:1*
Happy are those who delight in God's word.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *"So the Last Shall Be First"* Sternberg

SERMON "What Are You Doing, God?" Rev. Karen Kelley

+ **HYMN: GTG #509** *"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"* HOLY MANNA

+ **CHARGE** *1 Cor. 16:13; 2 Tim. 2:1; Eph. 6:10; 1 Thess. 5:13-22; 1 Pet. 2:17*
Go out into the world in peace;
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** *Jude 24-25*
Now to the One who is able
to keep you from falling,
and to make you stand without shame
in the presence of God's glory with rejoicing,
to the only God our Savior,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
be glory, majesty, power, and authority,
before all time and now and forever.
Alleluia!

CHORAL BENEDICTION *"O God Beyond All Praising"* arr. Schwoebel

POSTLUDE *"Just As I Am"* arr. Keveren

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: Nancy Sue MacDonald
Greeters: Rex Hauser and Mary Garland Jackson
Next Week's Greeters: Sally Hughes and Nancy Sue MacDonald
Sound: Marty Subject
Livestream: Tami Chapman
Security: Tim Hammond and Doreen Chapman

Today's flowers are given by
the Oesterle family
in memory of
Lyle and June Oesterle

Church History in Miniature

95: John, Apostle and Evangelist:
John settled in Ephesus and was later exiled on the island of Patmos. He was the only apostle who was not executed, and lived to a very old age.

The Study Catechism

Question 4. How do you live in the communion of the Holy Spirit?

By the Holy Spirit, I am made one with the Lord Jesus Christ. I am baptized into Christ's body, the church, along with all others who confess him by faith. As a member of this community, I trust in God's Word, share in the Lord's Supper, and turn to God constantly in prayer. As I grow in grace and knowledge, I am led to do the good works that God intends for my life.

Credits

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Mason First Presbyterian Church

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Ministers
All Members

Staff
Pastor: Rev. Bill Pinches
Spiritual Growth Director: Lori Filka
Sanctuary Choir Director / Bell Choir Director: Deb Melse
Office Manager: Kathryn Loffreda
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
Parish Associate: Rev. Dr. Jim Hegedus
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Charlie Herrick

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

Wednesday	Lunch Packing for Advent House	10:15 am
	Wonderful Wednesday (grades K-12)	4:00 pm
	Wednesday Night Dinner	5:45 pm
	Bell Choir Rehearsal	6:30 pm
	Choir Rehearsal	7:10 pm
Thursday	Personnel Committee	5:30 pm
Friday	Office Closed / Pastor's Sabbath	

Birthdays This Week
Sept. 22: Diane Tayong
Sept. 22: Gift Tayong
Sept. 23: Marge Clarke
Sept. 23: Tessa Edmondson
Sept. 25: Shirley Kline

Mason
First Presbyterian Church

September 20, 2026
17th Sunday after Pentecost

The Israelites Gathering Manna
by Ercole de' Roberti, c. 1490

When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat." (Exodus 16:15)