Macon United Methodist Church 190 W Bell Street, Macon, IL 62544; (217) 764-5133

Pastor Terry McDorman; 630-390-0414; accesstogodshouse@gmail.com June 18, 2023 Third Sunday after Pentecost/Father's Day

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

The God of Hagar and Sarah, the God of Isaac and Ismael continues to call us into community across boundaries, providing water in the desert and the promise of a

future. Let us believe that grace is working in our lives, opening hearts, restoring justice, making all things new in Christ Jesus.

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

Inviting all in the community to come and be with us as together we worship God

PRELUDE

GATHERING Words of welcome and announcements

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*CALL TO WORSHIP (unison)

The sun shines more brightly. Its warmth stays with us for so many more hours. So we shake free of our routines. In this new moment, we wander about the wilderness: hoping God will open our eyes; praying God will make us worthy; wanting to grow with God. Let us grow together in the wild ways of our God.

*OPENING HYMN

"Jesus Shall Reign"

(UMH # 157)

GENESIS 18:14

- 1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run; his kingdom spread from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
- 2. To Jesus endless prayer be made, and endless praises crown his head; his name like sweet perfume shall rise with every morning sacrifice.
- 3. People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song; and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.
- 4. Blessings abound where'er he reigns; all prisoners leap and loose their chains; the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.

5. Let every creature rise and bring honors peculiar to our King; angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen!

INVOCATION (unison)

Wild God, you do great and wonderful things. It's what makes you our God. There is nothing else in this world like you. There's nothing else like your love. Wild God, come and worship with us. Help us to grow in your love.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Let us lift our prayers in thoughts of praise.

SILENT PRAYER

Communicate with God about your faith.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-3 (CEB)

The LORD appeared to Abraham at the oaks of Mamre while he sat at the entrance of his tent in the day's heat. He looked up and suddenly saw three men standing near him. As soon as he saw them, he ran from his tent entrance to greet them and bowed deeply. He said, "Sirs, if you would be so kind, don't just pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought so you may wash your feet and refresh yourselves under the tree. Let me offer you a little bread so you will feel stronger, and after that you may leave your servant and go on your way—since you have visited your servant."

They responded, "Fine. Do just as you have said."

So Abraham hurried to Sarah at his tent and said, "Hurry! Knead three seahs of the finest flour and make some baked goods!" Abraham ran to the cattle, took a healthy young calf, and gave it to a young servant, who prepared it quickly. Then Abraham took butter, milk, and the calf that had been prepared, put the food in front of them, and stood under the tree near them as they ate.

They said to him, "Where's your wife Sarah?"

And he said, "Right here in the tent."

Then one of the men said, "I will definitely return to you about this time next year. Then your wife Sarah will have a son!"

Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were both very old. Sarah was no longer menstruating. So Sarah laughed to herself, thinking, I'm no longer able to have children and my husband's old.

The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Me give birth? At my age?' Is anything too difficult for the LORD? When I return to you about this time next year, Sarah will have a son."

Sarah lied and said, "I didn't laugh," because she was frightened.

But he said, "No, you laughed."

The LORD was attentive to Sarah just as he had said, and the LORD carried out just what he had promised her. She became pregnant and gave birth to a son for Abraham when he was old, at the very time God had told him. Abraham named his son—the one Sarah bore him—Isaac.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Abraham was very distressed. Because his son, Ishmael, was cut out of the community. Because Sarah could no longer tolerate Hagar. So Sarah threw her out into the wilderness. And this is distressing; we are distressed whenever relationships are broken. Still, we confess to God that there are family and friends we have cast out. Remind us Lord to be in unity with all others because, as your children, we are all in unity with you.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 9:35-10:8(CEB)

Jesus traveled among all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, announcing the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every sickness. Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion for them because they were troubled and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The size of the harvest is bigger than you can imagine, but there are few workers. Therefore, plead with the Lord of the harvest to send out workers for his harvest."

He called his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits to throw them out and to heal every disease and every sickness. Here are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, who is called Peter; and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee; and John his brother; Philip; and Bartholomew; Thomas; and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus; and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean; and Judas, who betrayed Jesus.

Jesus sent these twelve out and commanded them, "Don't go among the Gentiles or into a Samaritan city. Go instead to the lost sheep, the people of Israel. As you go, make this announcement: 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those with skin diseases, and throw out demons. You received without having to pay. Therefore, give without demanding payment.

A MOMENT WITH OUR CHILDREN

MESSAGE

"Fathers and Families" Rev. Terry McDorman

HYMN "The Summons" (FWS #2130)

- 1. Will you come and follow me if I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown? Will you let my name be known, will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
- 2. Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare? Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?
- 3. Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name? Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same? Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen, and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?
- 4. Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name? Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same? Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around, through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?
- 5. Lord your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me turn and follow you and never be the same. In Your company I'll go where Your love and footsteps show. Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

OFFERTORY

INVITATION TO SHARE

Jesus Christ has invited us to go and spread the good news to all. Please contribute as you can so that as a church we may live out that invitation.

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS:

*DOXOLOGY (UMH # 94)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

For the blessings of this and all our days, we thank you, gracious God. Accept, we pray, not just this money but also our lives freely offered in gratitude for all you have done for us. Use them both, in this place and wherever you might take us. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Randy and Leo

CLOSING PRAYER (unison)

Fatherhood does not come with a manual, and reality teaches us that some fathers excel while others fail. We ask for Your blessings for them all--and forgiveness where it is needed. This Father's Day we remember the many sacrifices fathers make for their children and families, and the ways--both big and small--they lift children to achieve dreams thought beyond reach. So too, we remember all those who have helped fill the void when fathers pass early or are absent--grandfathers and uncles, brothers and cousins, teachers, pastors and coaches--and the women of our families. For those who are fathers, we ask for wisdom and humility in the face of the task of parenting. Give them the strength to do well by their children and by You. In Your Holy name, O God, we pray. Amen --Rev. Chuck Currie

*CLOSING HYMN

"Lift High the Cross"

(UMH # 159)

Refrain:

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.

- 1. Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod, our King victorious, Christ, the Son of God.

 Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.
- 2. All newborn servants of the Crucified bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died.

 Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.
- 3. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, your death has brought us life eternally. Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.
- 4. So shall our song of triumph ever be:praise to the Crucified for victory.Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

All are invited to sit and reflect during the Postlude

*Please rise as you are able

Special thankyous to all those that assisted with worship today.

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 29 ATTENDANCE GOAL: 70

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Be certain to check the church website, https://maconilumc.net/for update information about the church, events and news. Please use webmaster.maconumc@gmail.com to submit updates or additions to the church website.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRESENCE AND SERVICE

Sun. June 18 9:00 am Sunday School

Sun. June 18 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service

Sun. June 25 9:00 am Sunday School

Sun. June 25 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service

Sun. June 25 11:00 am Community Picnic and Ice Cream Social

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

June 18 Rev. Terry and Maureen June 20 Mike and Connie Baker McDorman

June 20 Mike and Debbie Stewart June 22 Marsha Hedges

MISSIONS



Items requested by the food pantry are: Vegetable, chickennoodle and tomato soups, any kind of cereal and/or oatmeal, canned fruit, toilet paper and dish liquid. Cash Donations are always welcome.

MACON UMC'S COMMUNITY PICNIC

All Church Picnic/Ice Cream Social is next Sunday, June 25 at 11 a.m. Please bring a dish to share. Rain or shine as we shall dine in Fellowship Hall. Please contribute to the Ice Cream fund in the basket in the rear of church.

CHURCH BENCH

Plastic cap and lid collection continues. We still need about forty pounds of plastic bottle caps and lids to reach our goal so that we may obtain a bench in front of the church (made from recycled plastic). Be certain to wash the items thoroughly. The bench will be available to anyone that needs a respite while walking or running through town, a simple place to rest or to meditate.

FINANCE REPORT

April/May expenses were \$14,150 while April/May incomes were \$19,295.