

Macon United Methodist Church
190 W Bell Street, Macon, IL 62544; (217) 764-5133
Pastor Terry McDorman; 630-390-0414; accesstogodshouse@gmail.com
July 9, 2023 **Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

“More than anything you guard, protect your mind, for life flows from it.”
Proverbs 4:23 CEB

PRELUDE

GATHERING Words of welcome and announcements

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

***CALL TO WORSHIP (unison)**

Welcome to this house of the Lord! Thank you. We are glad to be here this morning. This is a time to offer our praise to God. With joy we thank God for all the blessings that have been poured on us. Come, let us worship God who showers us with mercy. Give praise to God who offers us rest and peace. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” (UMH # 384)**

1. Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven to earth come down;
fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

2. Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit Into every troubled breast!
Let us all in thee inherit; let us find that second rest.
Take away our bent to sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

3. Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never, never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

4. Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.



The LORD, who saved me from
the paw of the lion ... will save me
from the hand of this Philistine.
1 Samuel 17:37, NRSV

INVOCATION (unison)

In times of weakness and hour of need, yours is the strength by which we carry on, the shoulder we rest our head upon. When our load is heavy and too much to bear, yours are the arms stretched out to help us the grace that we depend on. In times of weakness and hour of need, your voice is heard, ‘Come... find rest.’ This is grace divine, the path we tread to wholeness of body and spirit, the path that leads to you, and for which we offer our offering of praise. Amen.

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

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Samuel 17:40-49 (CEB)

He then grabbed his staff and chose five smooth stones from the streambed. He put them in the pocket of his shepherd’s bag and with sling in hand went out to the Philistine.

The Philistine got closer and closer to David, and his shield-bearer was in front of him. When the Philistine looked David over, he sneered at David because he was just a boy; reddish brown and good-looking.

The Philistine asked David, “Am I some sort of dog that you come at me with sticks?” And he cursed David by his gods. “Come here,” he said to David, “and I’ll feed your flesh to the wild birds and the wild animals!”

But David told the Philistine, “You are coming against me with sword, spear, and scimitar, but I come against you in the name of the LORD of heavenly forces, the God of Israel’s army, the one you’ve insulted. Today the LORD will hand you over to me. I will strike you down and cut off your head! Today I will feed your dead body and the dead bodies of the entire Philistine camp to the wild birds and the wild animals. Then the whole world will know that there is a God on Israel’s side. And all those gathered here will know that the LORD doesn’t save by means of sword and spear. The LORD owns this war, and he will hand all of you over to us.”

The Philistine got up and moved closer to attack David, and David ran quickly to the front line to face him. David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone. He slung it, and it hit the Philistine on his forehead. The stone penetrated his forehead, and he fell face down on the ground.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious and loving God, open our hearts so that we are able to admit to you the fullness of our lives--that which is beautiful and good, and that which is hurtful

A MOMENT WITH OUR CHILDREN

“The Names of God--Part Two”
Rev. Terry McDorman

“Just a Closer Walk with Thee”

(FWS #2158)

1. I am weak, but thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong;

I'll be satisfied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.

Refrain: Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
daily walking close to thee: Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

2. Through this world of toil and snares, if I falter, Lord, who cares?

Who with me my burden shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.

Refrain: Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
daily walking close to thee: Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

3. When my feeble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;

guide me gently, safely o'er to thy shore, dear Lord, to thy shore.

Refrain: Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
daily walking close to thee: Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

OFFERTORY

INVITATION TO SHARE

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)**

God of compassion and mercy, you claim each one of us as your children. Like a parent, you are joyful when we find joy and your heart aches when we fall, fail, or feel less than the beloved heirs to the kingdom you meant us to be. The yoke the Bible describes doesn't burden us but reminds us that you yearn for us to be a church, a community that supports, steadies, and sustains when life makes us weary. The gifts we give this day we give in gratitude for this yoke that helps us finish the race in faithfulness. Bless our giving and its use, we pray in Christ's name. Amen

SPECIAL MUSIC

Bells

CLOSING PRAYER (unison)

Living God, give us faith to be sure of what we hope for, and certain of what we do not see; to believe that you are, and that you reward those who truly seek you: that may we please you and receive what you have promised; in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN “Lord, I Want to Be a Christian” (UMH # 402)**

1. Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart. In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.
2. Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart. In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
3. Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart. In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
- 4 Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart. In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

***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: 34

ATTENDANCE GOAL: 70

Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/maconilumc>

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. July 09 9:00 am Sunday School
Sun. July 09 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service
Sun. July 16 9:00 am Sunday School
Sun. July 16 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service
Wed. July 19 10:00 am Community Senior Group at Elwin—Self Defense

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

July 11	Chad and Sheila Rappe`	July 12	Eugene Mura
July 12	Bailey Nixon	July 14	Lorraine Hallam

MISSIONS



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

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.

RICE MEALS



Join us Saturday, August 12, 2023 from 1 to 4 PM at the Macon UMC Fellowship Hall. All are invited to help pack rice meals for the hungry. One bag feeds six people and includes a vitamin packet, dehydrated vegetables, soy, and white rice. The packets are distributed through the Midwest Distribution Center and given to trusted non-profits throughout the world. To help, contact the Methodist outreach committee: Christine Cutler 217 433-4407; ccut31@gmail.com or Lori Nixon 217 972-6069; lawn64@yahoo.com. Please sign-up by August 1.

BACK TO SCHOOL MOVIE NIGHT

The Elwin NOW Committee is hosting an all-church Movie Night on Sunday, August 13 at 6:00 pm showing “The Jesus Revolution.” Elwin invites the Macon and Zion Chapel Churches (including the youth group) to join them at the movie. Popcorn and soda will be provided.

