

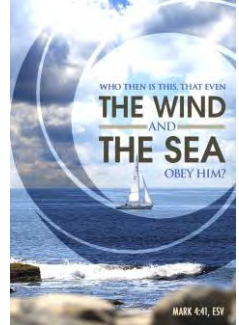
Macon United Methodist Church
190 W Bell Street, Macon, IL 62544; (217) 764-5133
Pastor Terry McDorman; 630-390-0414; accesstogodshouse@gmail.com
June 23, 2024 **Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"The Lord is a safe place for the oppressed – a safe place in difficult times" Psalm 9

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

Inviting the entire community to join in worship



PRELUDE

"You'll Never Walk Alone"

Rogers and Hammerstein

GATHERING

Words of welcome and announcements

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

A word of peace can have awesome power. Let us share signs of this peace in the name of the One we follow. The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

***CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)**

Beloved, when sorrow and hardship abound and events across an ocean and down the block shake our resolve and make us question what good the good news even doing, God calls to us...

Open your heart.

When fear and misinformation infiltrate our relationships, and we don't know who to trust or how to do the next right thing, God calls to us...

Open your heart.

When joy overflows, and we witness the fruit of grace all around us, transforming our lives and our communities into places of connection and flourishing, God calls to us...

Open your heart.

May this time of worship be for each of us a time to listen to God's call to open our hearts and accept the divine invitation to say yes to the work of grace in us, among us, and all around us.

God, we open our hearts to receive your gift of grace, knowing you hold us securely in the palm of your hands that we might have the courage to live in vulnerable community with you and one another. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” (UMH # 526)**

1. What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!

O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,

all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!

2. Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?

We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer!

Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?

Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer!

3. Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?

Precious Savior, still our refuge--take it to the Lord in prayer!

Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer!

In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.

OPENING PRAYER (unison)

Holy God, we extol and honor you for who you are. We praise you for your faithfulness and for your tender mercies that are renewed every morning. We exalt you, Sovereign One, for every blessing of yesterday, the gift of this day, and the promises of our tomorrows. Grant us an enduring faith as we strive against oppression and despair. Endow us with contagious joy that uplifts the downtrodden and inspires hope in you. Increase in us the faith and courage of the prophets, the love of Jesus, and the wisdom of the Holy Spirit. In your majestic name we pray, Amen.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS Let us lift our prayers in thoughts of praise.

SILENT PRAYER Let us share our doubts with God.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (all)

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING 2 Corinthians 6:1-13 (CEB)

Since we work together with him, we are also begging you not to receive the grace of God in vain. He says, *I listened to you at the right time, and I helped you on the day of salvation.* Look, now is the right time! Look, now is the day of salvation!

We don't give anyone any reason to be offended about anything so that our ministry won't be criticized. Instead, we commend ourselves as ministers of God in every way. We did this with our great endurance through problems, disasters, and stressful situations. We went through beatings, imprisonments, and riots. We experienced hard

work, sleepless nights, and hunger. We displayed purity, knowledge, patience, and generosity. We served with the Holy Spirit, genuine love, telling the truth, and God's power. We carried the weapons of righteousness in our right hand and our left hand. We were treated with honor and dishonor and with verbal abuse and good evaluation. We were seen as both fake and real, as unknown and well known, as dying—and look, we are alive! We were seen as punished but not killed, as going through pain but always happy, as poor but making many rich, and as having nothing but owning everything. Corinthians, we have spoken openly to you, and our hearts are wide open. There are no limits to the affection that we feel for you. You are the ones who placed boundaries on your affection for us. But as a fair trade—I'm talking to you like you are children—open your hearts wide too.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Merciful God, when lashed by life's windstorms we often lash out in return. Forgive us when we blame you or others for our troubles. Teach us to find you in the eye of the storm. Show us the calm center that comes from a word of peace.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 4:35-41 (CEB)

Later that day, when evening came, Jesus said to them, "Let's cross over to the other side of the lake." They left the crowd and took him in the boat just as he was. Other boats followed along.

Gale-force winds arose, and waves crashed against the boat so that the boat was swamped. But Jesus was in the rear of the boat, sleeping on a pillow. They woke him up and said, "Teacher, don't you care that we're drowning?"

He got up and gave orders to the wind, and he said to the lake, "Silence! Be still!" The wind settled down and there was a great calm. Jesus asked them, "Why are you frightened? Don't you have faith yet?"

Overcome with awe, they said to each other, "Who then is this? Even the wind and the sea obey him!"

MESSAGE

"Signs of Hope"

Rev. Terry McDorman

HYMN

"Nobody Knows the Trouble I See"

(UMH # 520)

Refrain: Nobody knows the trouble I've seen, Nobody knows my sorrow;
Nobody knows the trouble I've seen, Glory hallelujah!

1 Sometimes I'm up, sometimes I'm down, Oh, yes, Lord!
Sometimes I'm almost to the ground, Oh, yes, Lord!
Nobody knows the trouble I've seen, Nobody knows my sorrow;
Nobody knows the trouble I've seen, Glory hallelujah!

2 Altho' you see me going 'long so, Oh, yes, Lord!
I have my troubles here below, Oh, yes, Lord!
Nobody knows the trouble I've seen, Nobody knows my sorrow;
Nobody knows the trouble I've seen, Glory hallelujah!

3 What makes old Satan hate me so, Oh, yes, Lord!
'Cause he got me once and let me go, Oh, yes, Lord!
Nobody knows the trouble I've seen, Nobody knows my sorrow;
Nobody knows the trouble I've seen, Glory hallelujah!

INVITATION TO SHARE

O God, you have offered unique gifts to each one of us. Teach us to celebrate and share those gifts so that we may create communities of graciousness and love. Through Jesus, we are reminded of the difference that an individual contribution can make. Let us offer our gifts generously for the service of all.

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)**

Merciful God, we thank you for the many ways that gifts are offered in your service; we especially thank you for fathers and elders whose love and wisdom have touched our lives and our church. Accept our gifts, we pray, and bless now this morning's offerings, that we might do your will in this place and in all the world. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Two Winning Hands"

**Charmin Copenhaver, Pianist
by The Hinsons**

CLOSING PRAYER (unison)

It's awesome when all of the people live together in unity! When waters are rough, we hold each other tightly. When the sea begins to swallow us, we hold each other tightly and call on God. But we also need God and each other when there are no looming waves. We can splash and play in the shallow end and venture into deeper waters with trusted friends. Delighting in refreshing currents

of community and savoring each burst of laughter, let's invite others to join in the fun!

***CLOSING HYMN “We Shall Overcome” (UMH # 533)**

1. We shall overcome, we shall overcome, we shall overcome someday!
Oh, deep in my heart I do believe we shall overcome someday!
2. We'll walk hand in hand.
3. We shall all be free.
4. We shall live in peace.
5. God will see us through.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (Please be seated and silent during the Postlude)

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 43 ATTENDANCE GOAL: 70

Special thankyou's to all those that assisted with worship today.

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

MISSION U 2024

Registration is now open for United Women in Faith's Mission u 2024, July 21-23, at the Northfield Inn, Suites and Conference Center in Springfield.

This year, there will be the main study, *Welcome Home*, taught by Rev. Bradley Watkins, II. Everyone will attend this session and then have the option of also participating in one of two breakout studies *Finding Peace in an Anxious World* taught by Rev. Patty Johansen and *Practicing Resurrection-The Gospel of Mark and Radical Discipleship* taught by Rev. Betzy Elifrits Warren.

Registrations must be received and paid for by June 30. Unpaid registrations after that date will be assessed a \$15 late charge but no new registrations will be allowed after June 30.

DARE TO DREAM LIKE JESUS

The North District is hosting a conference-wide laity event on Saturday, August 10, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., featuring author Rebekah Simon-Peter.

Registration is currently underway through July 31. Cost is \$30 including continental breakfast and lunch. Register before July 15 and save \$5 per person. The event is

limited to the first 200 persons registered.

Jesus' biggest dream was "Thy kingdom come, they will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." This dream was so big that it guided his entire ministry, from birth to death, and beyond.

You may be asking: "How do we dream like Jesus when we are just desperate to stay alive?" "How do we dream like Jesus when we have few resources and few people?"

This day-long gathering at Normal: Calvary UMC will free you to Dream Like Jesus and inform you why it is crucial that you do. You will walk away understanding what a Jesus-sized dream is and learn how your church can create a Jesus-sized dream of your own. You will also learn specific actions you and your church can take to create and live out Jesus-sized dreams.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRESENCE AND SERVICE

Sun. June 23 11:00 am Outreach Committee Meeting; pastor's office

Sun June 30 9:00 am Sunday School

Sun. June 30 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service

Sun July 07 9:00 am Sunday School

Sun. July 07 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service

Sun July 14 9:00 am Sunday School

Sun. July 14 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service

Sun July 21 9:00 am Sunday School

Sun. July 21 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service

Sat. Aug. 03 1:00 pm Rice Packing

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

June 24 Ethan Roush

June 25 Evan Rappe`

June 26 Grace Moyer

MISSIONS



Items requested by the food pantry are: Any kind of cereal and/or oatmeal, canned fruit and vegetables, canned soup, and shampoo. Cash donations are always welcome.