

Macon United Methodist Church
190 W Bell Street, Macon, IL 62544; (217) 764-5133
Pastor Terry McDorman; 630-390-0414; accesstogodshouse@gmail.com
July 7, 2024 **Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

“When you dance, your purpose is not to get to a certain place on the floor. It's to enjoy each step along the way.” Wayne Dyer

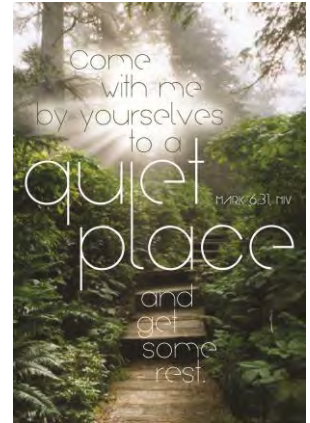
RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

Inviting the entire community to join in worship

PRELUDE

GATHERING

Words of welcome and announcements



***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

***CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)**

The earth is the Lord's! Everything in creation belongs to God.

Lift up your eyes! See the mighty works of the Lord!

This is the Lord's house! All who hope in the Lord will be called children of God.

Lift up your hearts! Receive the gracious gifts of the Lord!

This is the hour for worship and song.

Lift up your voice! Praise the Lord with all your might!

***OPENING HYMN**

“This Is My Father's World”

(UMH # 144)

1. This is my Father's world, And to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings The music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas--His hand the wonders wrought.
2. This is my Father's world: The birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white, Declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass, He speaks to me everywhere.
3. This is my Father's world: O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father's world Why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is King: let the heavens ring! God reigns; let earth be glad!

OPENING PRAYER (unison)

God of all creation, everything that you have made lifts its unique voice to praise you in all of your glory. Even as we worship here, we join our voices to the one true song—the song the morning stars began, the song King David danced, the song the angels echoed at the birth of your Son. Glory to you, Holy God! Glory! Let this hour of worship be wholly to the praise of your glory. 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

Mark 6:30-34 (CEB)

The apostles returned to Jesus and told him everything they had done and taught. Many people were coming and going, so there was no time to eat. He said to the apostles, “Come by yourselves to a secluded place and rest for a while.” They departed in a boat by themselves for a deserted place.

Many people saw them leaving and recognized them, so they ran ahead from all the cities and arrived before them. When Jesus arrived and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd. Then he began to teach them many things.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Holy God, as we come into the presence of your divine holiness, we confess our many shortcomings. Our hands are not clean; our actions do not glorify you; our hearts are not pure; our motivations do not glorify you; our words are not true; our deceitfulness does not glorify you; our allegiance is fickle; our idolatry does not glorify you. By your mercy, O God, give us hands that are clean, hearts that are pure, tongues that are true, and souls that worship you alone, that our whole lives may glorify you. Amen.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 6:53-56 (CEB)

When Jesus and his disciples had crossed the lake, they landed at Gennesaret, anchored the boat, and came ashore. People immediately recognized Jesus and ran around that whole region bringing sick people on their mats to wherever they heard he was. Wherever he went—villages, cities, or farming communities—they would place the sick in the marketplaces and beg him to allow them to touch even the hem of his clothing. Everyone who touched him was healed.

MESSAGE “Come to a Quiet Place and Rest” Marcia Brelsfoard, CLS

HYMN *“Come and Find that Quiet Center”* (FWS #2128)

1. Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead, find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed: clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.

2. Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, touches base,
making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.

3. In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain,
let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain:
there's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare!

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INVITATION TO SHARE

When David danced rejoicing before the Arc of the Covenant, his joy was not complete until he had made an offering of thanks, and distributed gifts of food and drink to all who were in need. Perhaps the most joyful and challenging of all the commandments is to generosity and mutual care: to love one another as God loves us. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude, heartfelt commitment, and praise.

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)**

True God, accept our gifts: gifts of our lives, our souls, and our treasure. Multiply and bless these gifts and consecrate them to the praise of your glory. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC **Erin and Eleanor Moyer (vocalists)**

CLOSING PRAYER (unison)

God of secret purposes and extravagant blessings, we come to praise you. We come because we want to, we sing our songs because we are glad to, we pray for your grace because we need to, and we ask for the love of Christ in our hearts because without it we are a dead loss. Please lift every shutter within our mind, and open every door within our soul, that you, the Lord of glory, the God of countless hosts, may come in. Through Christ Jesus, the joy of loving hearts. Amen!

***CLOSING HYMN “Amazing Grace” (UMH # 378)**

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.
3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
4. The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.
5. Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail, and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess, within the veil, a life of joy and peace.
6. When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we first begun.

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.

Thank you to Marcia Brelsfoard, CLS for filling the pulpit today while Pastor Terry is away. She has been a Certified Lay Speaker for over 25 years. She is a member of the church in Forsyth and enjoys filling the pulpit for clergy when needed.

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.

RICE PACKING

Rice packing for Midwest Missions is Saturday, August 3, from 1:00 to 3:00pm.

PICNIC IN THE PARK

Church Picnic in the Park on Front Street is August 11, 2024 at 11:30 am with church service and praise music. Bring a picnic lunch or purchase lunch at Whit's End.

MENTORING YOUTH

Mentoring the youth is an opportunity to be a direct influence upon the life of the young people of our community. Weekly mentoring, listening and encouraging a youth at the elementary school in Blue Mound. Takes just one hour per week to be a positive influence in a life without many. It all takes place at the school and you will need to undergo a background check as school children are involved. To sign up, contact Christine Cutler or Pastor Terry.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRESENCE AND SERVICE

Sun July 21 9:00 am Sunday School
Sun. July 21 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service
Sun July 28 9:00 am Sunday School
Sun. July 28 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service
Sat. Aug. 03 1:00 pm Rice Packing
Sun. Aug. 04 9:00 am Sunday School
Sun. Aug. 04 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service
Sun. Aug. 11 9:00 am Sunday School
Sun. Aug. 11 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service
Sun. Aug. 11 11:30 am Picnic and Church in the Park

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

July 14	Lorraine Hallam	July 20	David Huggins
July 20	Reagan Hunt	July 07	Charmin Copenhaver

MISSIONS



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