

**Macon United Methodist Church**  
**190 W Bell Street, Macon, IL 62544; (217) 764-5133**  
**Pastor Terry McDorman; 630-390-0414; accesstogodshouse@gmail.com**  
**September 15, 2024 WELCOME BACK! Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**

*“Heaven is declaring God’s glory” Psalm 19*

**RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL**

**declaring that Jesus is available to all!**

**PRELUDE**

**GATHERING**      **Words of welcome and announcements**

**\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)**

The heavens shout of God’s glory!

**There is so much beauty in this earth and in the heavens!**

Day by day we are reminded of God’s creative love.

**Day by day we are blessed with large and small visions of God’s glory.**

Come, let us praise the God of creation.

**Let us sing and shout our praises of thanksgiving and joy to God. AMEN.**

**\*OPENING HYMN**      ***“I Sing the Almighty Power of God”***      **(UMH # 152)**

1. I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise,  
that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.

I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;  
the moon shines full at his command, and all the stars obey.

2. I sing the goodness of the Lord who filled the earth with food;  
who formed the creatures through the Word, and then pronounced them good.

Lord, how thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye,  
if I survey the ground I tread or gaze upon the skies.

3. There's not a plant or flower below but makes thy glories known,  
and clouds arise and tempests blow by order from thy throne;  
while all that borrows life from thee is ever in your care,



and everywhere that we can be, thou, God, art present there.  
Psalter Hymnal, 1987

### **OPENING PRAYER (unison)**

**Loving and caring God, we come this morning seeking wisdom and guidance for our lives. Open us to your words of life and love and truth. May we proclaim with our tongues what we know in our hearts. In this time of worship, help us more fully understand what it means to truly be a disciple, a follower of the way of Jesus, a follower of the path of wisdom. May the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to you, our rock and our redeemer. 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**

**Psalms 19:7-14 (CEB)**

The LORD's Instruction is perfect, reviving one's very being. The LORD's laws are faithful, making naive people wise. The LORD's regulations are right, gladdening the heart. The LORD's commands are pure, giving light to the eyes. Honoring the LORD is correct, lasting forever.

The LORD's judgments are true. All of these are righteous! They are more desirable than gold—than tons of pure gold! They are sweeter than honey—even dripping off the honeycomb! No doubt about it: your servant is enlightened by them; there is great reward in keeping them. But can anyone know what they've accidentally done wrong? Clear me of any unknown sin and save your servant from willful sins. Don't let them rule me. Then I'll be completely blameless; I'll be innocent of great wrongdoing.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be pleasing to you, LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)**

**Lord, it is easy for us to say that we will follow you; and then turn our backs and act as though our commitment to you does not mean anything to us. Jesus challenges us to take up our crosses, and when we don't understand what that means, we just shrug and turn away. Forgive us for our lack of commitment and faith. Heal us of our greed and fears. Give us courage to be disciples and enable us to joyfully proclaim your healing mercies and your transformational love. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

## SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

**Mark 8:27-29 (CEB)**

Jesus and his disciples went into the villages near Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” They told him, “Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, and still others one of the prophets.”

He asked them, “And what about you? Who do you say that I am?” Peter answered, “You are the Christ.”

## MESSAGE

**“You Are the Christ”**

**Rev. Terry McDorman**

## HYMN

***“Morning Has Broken”***

**(UMH # 145)**

1. Morning has broken, like the first morning, blackbird has spoken, like the first bird. Praise for the singing, praise for the morning, praise for them springing fresh from the word.

2. Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven, like the first dew fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where His feet pass.

3. Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning, born of the one light Eden saw play. Praise with elation, praise every morning, God's re-creation of the new day.

## INVITATION TO SHARE

We are called to listen to the words of wisdom and to respond with our whole lives. Let us give thanks to God with all that we are and all that we have—in word, thought, and action.

## 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)**

**Divine Source of Wisdom, we bring these offerings with hearts attuned to your call. As we gather in your presence, may our gifts reflect the wisdom and discernment you desire for us. Use these offerings to nurture understanding, compassion, and justice in our world. Guide us to listen and act with insight, spreading your love and grace. Transform our giving into actions that make a difference. Help us grow in our faith and commitment to your ways. In the holy name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.**

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

*(please look at the screen and sing together the words of thanksgiving)  
(tune is "Here I Am Lord")*

## **THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*(All are invited to come forward and partake of the elements. Our bread is gluten free.  
Please advise the usher if you need us to bring the elements to you)*

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

**Bell Choir**

## **CLOSING PRAYER (unison)**

**God of mercy and of hope, be with us this day. We have gathered here to learn of your will for us. Sometimes it is not easy for us to realize that if we are to follow Jesus we will have to make a total commitment to his ways. We will have to actually put into practice the good news of compassionate love, and healing mercies. Our hearts are filled with situations concerning family and friends, concerning neighborhood and world. We seek your healing mercies for these situations. Help us to remember that the same healing mercy is offered to each one of us. Give us strength and courage to really follow Jesus. For it is in His Name, we pray. Amen.**

## **\*CLOSING HYMN**

***"Jesus Shall Reign"***

**(UMH # 157)**

1. All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;  
bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.  
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.
2. Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,  
hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.  
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.
3. Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget the wormwood and the gall,  
go spread your trophies at his feet, and crown him Lord of all.  
Go spread your trophies at his feet, and crown him Lord of all.
4. Let every kindred, every tribe on this terrestrial ball,  
to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all.  
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all.

5. Crown him, ye martyrs of your God, who from his altar call;  
extol the Stem of Jesse's Rod, and crown him Lord of all.  
Extol the Stem of Jesse's Rod, and crown him Lord of all.

6. O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!  
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all.  
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all.

## **BENEDICTION**

## **POSTLUDE**

**(Please be seated and silent during the Postlude)**

**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 28**

**ATTENDANCE GOAL: 70**

*Our sincere appreciation to all those that contributed to this worship experience!*

*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](mailto:webmaster.maconumc@gmail.com) to submit updates or additions to the church website.*

## **BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS**

**Sunday, October 6, immediately following worship, we shall gather outside the church to bless the animals. All of God creatures are invited. You are requested to have them either on a leash or in a cage for their safety.**

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRESENCE AND SERVICE**

Sun. Sept. 15 11:00 am Welcome Back Potluck Lunch; Fellowship Hall

Sun. Sept. 22 7:00 am Men's Breakfast; Fellowship Hall

Sun. Sept. 22 9:00 am Sunday School

Sun. Sept. 22 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service

Wed. Sept. 25 6:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting; Pastor's Office

Wed. Sept. 25 7:00 pm Administrative Council Meeting; Pastor's Office

Sun. Sept. 29 9:00 am Sunday School

Sun. Sept. 29 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service

Sun. Sept. 29 10:00 am Outreach Committee Meeting; Pastor's Office

## **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

Sept 20 Lori Huggins

## 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.

**Macon UMC is collecting canned vegetables for the food pantry for the next two months. Contest between female vs male. Let's have Great Participation!!**

