

**Macon United Methodist Church**  
**190 W Bell Street, Macon, IL 62544; (217) 764-5133**  
**Pastor Terry McDorman; 630-390-0414; accesstogodshouse@gmail.com**  
**October 6, 2024                      Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**

### **THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**

*“Do not be dismayed by the brokenness of the world. All things can be mended. Not with time, as they say, but with intention. So go. Love intentionally, extravagantly, unconditionally. The broken world waits in darkness for the light that is you.”*  
*L. R. Knost*

### **RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL** **a symbol of unity throughout the world**

### **PRELUDE**

**GATHERING              Words of welcome and announcements**

### **\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

*As brothers and sisters in Christ, let us give one another signs of peace: The peace of Christ be with you, always. And also with you.*

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

**How good and pleasant it is for Christians to live together in unity!**

Open the doors and shout greetings to the church across the street.

**How good and pleasant it is for Christians to live together in unity!**

Carry greetings across the railroad tracks to those we never meet.

**How good and pleasant it is for Christians to live together in unity!**

Send messages and e-mails to Good Christian Friends in Africa and Asia, South America and Europe!

**How good and pleasant it is for Christians to live together in unity!**

Extend your hand of fellowship to both the shelters and the mansions, to the projects and the gated communities.

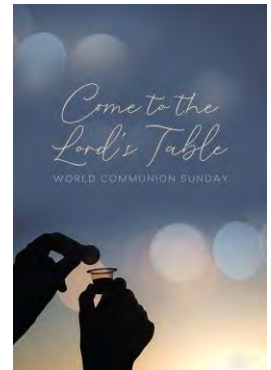
**How good and pleasant it is for Christians to live together in unity!**

Reach out your arms to gather in the little ones and the not-so-little, the vulnerable and the ones who think they have to do it all on their own.

**How good and pleasant it is for Christians to live together in unity!**

Remember that we are one HUGE family!!!

**How good and pleasant it is for Christians to live together in unity!**



**\*OPENING HYMN**

***“Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether”***

**(UMH # 632)**

**OPENING PRAYER (unison)**

**Lord, we come to you today with so many things on our hearts. You call us to be in relationship of trust and love with you and you offer healing to us for those portions of our lives that are broken and injured. Help us to be open to your mercy and healing love. For we ask this in Jesus’ Name. 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**

**Job 1:1; 2:1-10 (CEB)**

A man in the land of Uz was named Job. That man was honest, a person of absolute integrity; he feared God and avoided evil.

One day the divine beings came to present themselves before the LORD. The Adversary also came among them to present himself before the LORD. The LORD said to the Adversary, “Where have you come from?”

The Adversary answered the LORD, “From wandering throughout the earth.”

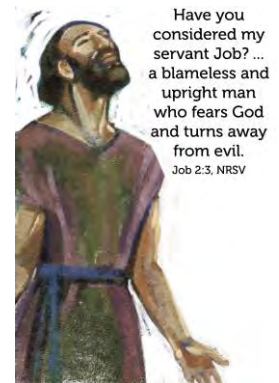
The LORD said to the Adversary, “Have you thought about my servant Job, for there is no one like him on earth, a man who is honest, who is of absolute integrity, who reveres God and avoids evil? He still holds on to his integrity, even though you incited me to ruin him for no reason.”

The Adversary responded to the LORD, “Skin for skin—people will give up everything they have in exchange for their lives. But stretch out your hand and strike his bones and flesh. Then he will definitely curse you to your face.”

The LORD answered the Adversary, “There he is—within your power; only preserve his life.”

The Adversary departed from the LORD’s presence and struck Job with severe sores from the sole of his foot to the top of his head. Job took a piece of broken pottery to scratch himself and sat down on a mound of ashes. Job’s wife said to him, “Are you still clinging to your integrity? Curse God, and die.”

Job said to her, “You’re talking like a foolish woman. Will we receive good from God but not also receive bad?” In all this, Job didn’t sin with his lips.



**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)**

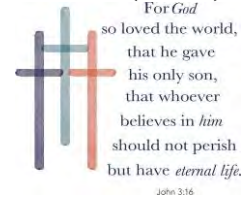
**Merciful Lord, you know that we are stubborn and willful. We believe that we know the right way to do everything and to heal all the troubles of the world. We resort to extraordinary means to provide healing only to find that we have not**

placed our trust in your redeeming love. Our efforts fall far short of the goal of reconciliation. Forgive us our stubbornness and arrogance. Heal our wounded souls and restore hope and compassion to our relationships with you and with each other. Lift us up and cause us to serve you by serving others in this world. Amen.

## SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him won't perish but will have eternal life.

**John 3:16 (CEB)**



## INVITATION TO SHARE

We who have been richly blessed are called to share that blessing with the world. Give freely in the joy of serving your neighbor and your God.

## 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 grace and mercy, as we bring our gifts before you today, we remember your infinite love that welcomes everyone, especially the vulnerable and the overlooked. Just as Jesus embraced the little children, we bring our offerings, hoping to reflect our dedication to living out your kingdom's values. Help us to see and meet the needs around us with open hearts and willing hands, extending your grace and compassion to all. Bless these gifts and use them to further your work in our community and beyond, so everyone may know and feel your love. Amen.

### MESSAGE

**"In Communication with Others"**

**Rev. Terry McDorman**

### HYMN

**"Let Us Break Bread Together"**

**(UMH # 618)**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:

Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give our thanks to the Holy One.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is a right, a good, and a joyful thing,  
always and everywhere to give our thanks to you,  
Ruler of the Universe,  
for you bring forth grain from the earth,  
and fruit from the vine.  
You make the rain to fall in its season,  
and the sun to shine, giving light and warmth  
to all your creatures.  
By your word, the trees give their fruit,  
the crops and grasses flourish,  
and all your creatures grow in grace.  
And so, with your creatures on earth  
and all the heavenly chorus,  
we praise your name  
and join their unending hymn, saying:

**Holy, holy, holy One, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one  
who comes in your holy name.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and holy is your child, Jesus Christ.  
When he saw the little children, he called them to him,  
taking them up in his arms,  
laying his hands on them, and blessing them.  
In his suffering and death,  
he taught us the true meaning of love,  
of accepting and doing your will  
for the healing of the world.

Jesus came to heal the world and so on that very night upon which He gave Himself  
up for us, He took bread, and broke it, gave thanks to the Father, and then gave and  
shared it with His disciples and said: "Take and eat, for this is my body which is given  
for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then, when the supper was completed, He took a cup, gave thanks to the Father, gave it  
to the disciples and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the New

Covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

And so, in remembrance of your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died.**

**Christ has risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,  
that we may become one with Christ;  
one with each other, and one in communion  
with you and with all the world.  
Protector of the innocent, Spirit of grace,  
Bread of heaven, we praise you now,  
tomorrow, and always.  
**Amen.**

### **SHARING COMMUNION:**

All are invited to come forward, taking a piece of bread, dipping into the cup and partaking. If you are unable to come forward, we shall come to you. (The bread is gluten free)

### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

**Trevor Schaefer, Trombone**

### **CLOSING PRAYER (unison)**

**Patient God, we want to have things go well and to have everyone be happy and content, but all too often we stand in the way of peace and hope. We recognize that life is not a fantasy in which everything turns out just right. We know that there is strife and struggles and we stand in the midst of them. Our hearts and spirits carry the scars of the struggles and disappointments we have borne. Today we come to seek restoration, reconciliation, and relationship with you and with others. We want to overcome the barriers which prevent us from being people of compassion and hope. There is so much that needs to be done to aid in the cause of your peace and justice. Help us to become peacemakers and those who would bring hope. Give us courage to become disciples who follow your will and your way. For we ask this in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## **\*CLOSING HYMN**

*“He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands”*

## **BENEDICTION**

## **POSTLUDE**

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

**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 29**

**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, OCTOBER 6.**

Following our worship, Pastor Terry will be blessing pets in front of the church. Please be certain that animals are either **leashed or in a cage**.

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRESENCE AND SERVICE**

Sun. Oct. 06 11:00 am Blessing of the Animals

Sun. Oct. 13 9:00 am Sunday School

Sun. Oct. 13 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service

Sun. Oct. 20 9:00 am Sunday School

Sun. Oct. 20 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service

Sun. Oct. 27 9:00 am Sunday School

Sun. Oct. 27 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service

Thur. Oct. 31 5:00 pm Annual Trunk or Treat

## **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

Oct 12 Sheila Rappe`

## **MISSIONS**



Items requested by the food pantry are: Any kind of cereal and/or oatmeal, canned fruit and vegetables, canned soup, canned pasta, mac and cheese, 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!!**