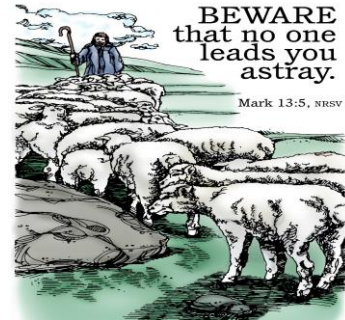


Macon United Methodist Church
190 W Bell Street, Macon, IL 62544; (217) 764-5133
Pastor Terry McDorman; 630-390-0414; accesstogodshouse@gmail.com
November 17, 2024 Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Cultivate the habit of being grateful for every good thing that comes to you, and to give thanks continuously. And because all things have contributed to your advancement, you should include all things in your gratitude
—RALPH WALDO EMERSON



RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL
announcing a time to gather to all that hear it

PRELUDE

GATHERING Words of welcome and announcements

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Welcome each other. Welcome the stranger. Welcome all who come. Welcome all in the gift of Thanksgiving! Welcome all in peace.

***CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)**

Children of God, when wars and rumors of wars circle all around, Jesus says:

Do not be alarmed. This is not the end.

When earthquakes, hurricanes, fires, famines, and floods produce chaos and destruction, Jesus says:

Do not be alarmed. This is not the end.

When misinformation and disinformation try to dismantle relationships of trust in our families, churches, cities, and nation, Jesus says:

Do not be alarmed. This is not the end.

Children of God, whatever leaves you feeling unsteady, insecure, scared, and confused today--do not be alarmed. This is not the end.

We come to worship God who inscribes our ending, our beginning, and everything in-between in Love. Thanks be to God! Amen.

***OPENING HYMN "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" (UMH # 139)**

OPENING PRAYER (unison)

Holy One, there is no God like you. In praise and thanksgiving, we come before you ready to learn of your power, ready to follow your path for our lives. Through days of jubilation as well as dejection, help us realize your influence in the world. We ask simply for ears to hear, eyes to see, and minds to comprehend the blessings you bestow. 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

1 Timothy 2:1-6 (CEB)

First of all, then, I ask that requests, prayers, petitions, and thanksgiving be made for all people. Pray for kings and everyone who is in authority so that we can live a quiet and peaceful life in complete godliness and dignity. This is right and it pleases God our savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. There is one God and one mediator between God and humanity, the human Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a payment to set all people free. This was a testimony that was given at the right time.



PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Sower of Creation, we admit that we are not sure where all our food comes from. We do not always know who prepared it, or whether those who grow and prepare our food have enough food themselves. To You, who crafted each of us by hand, we confess that we do not always care for our bodies, that we sometimes eat what is easy rather than what is healthy, and that in doing so we have disrespected your gifts to us. Help us to appreciate the good food you have provided for us, heighten our awareness of the ways we benefit from labor in farm and factory. Remind us of the miracle that brings us nourishment each day, and make us truly thankful today and every day. Amen.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 13:1-8 (CEB)

As Jesus left the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Teacher, look! What awesome stones and buildings!”

Jesus responded, “Do you see these enormous buildings? Not even one stone will be left upon another. All will be demolished.”

Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives across from the temple. Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, “Tell us, when will these things happen? What sign will show that all these things are about to come to an end?”

Jesus said, “Watch out that no one deceives you. Many people will come in my name, saying, ‘I’m the one!’ They will deceive many people. When you hear of wars and reports of wars, don’t be alarmed. These things must happen, but this isn’t the end yet. Nations and kingdoms will fight against each other, and there will be earthquakes and famines in all sorts of places. These things are just the beginning of the sufferings associated with the end.



MESSAGE

“When Will These Things Happen?”

Rev. Terry McDorman

HYMN

“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot”

(UMH # 703)

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)

Weaver of all life, in this joyous season we offer our heartfelt thanks for the abundance that surrounds us and ask that you remind us to extend the season of thanksgiving as we share these your gifts with your people that they may know a better harvest.

MUSICAL REFLECTION

CLOSING PRAYER (responsively)

When the skies grow dark, and buildings fall, then hear us:

have mercy on us, Lord.

When deceivers come, and the nations rise in anger, then hear us:

have mercy on us, Lord.

When famines begin, and when the earth shakes to bring the future to birth, then hear us:

have mercy on us, Lord.

When we take our stand to witness to your truth, when our people are arrested and betrayed, then hear us:

have mercy on us, Lord.

When the sun is darkened, and the moon fails to give us light, and when the stars fall from the sky, then hear us:

have mercy on us, Lord.

When you come in your great power and glory with your angels from heaven:

Then, Lord, gather us from the four winds—from the ends of the earth, to be with you for ever and ever. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

(UMH # 140)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

(Please be seated and silent during the Postlude)

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 34

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 to submit updates or additions to the church website.

HANGING OF THE GREENS

Our annual event to transform the sanctuary for the season of Advent will take place immediately following worship next Sunday. Many hands make for quick work. Pizza lunch will happen after.

BIBLE STUDY

Pastry with the Pastor bible study begins Tuesday, November 26 at 9:30 and runs for four weeks. Nothing to bring but yourself and maybe a friend or two.

A SERVICE OF CHRISTMAS PEACE

A service will be held on Monday, December 16 at the First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Decatur. Doors open at 6:30 and the service will start at 7 pm. The service is promised to be a very low-key time of reflection and contemplation. This is an ecumenical service welcoming people of all faiths. If the hubbub of the season is just too much; if you are grieving; if worry has its grip on you; this service is meant for you. Pastor Terry and Pastor Rita Augsburgers will be leading the service. There will be pastoral care folks available afterwards should you feel the need. The Decatur Police Department is graciously planning to have a patrol vehicle stationed in the church parking lot during the service.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRESENCE AND SERVICE

Sun. Nov. 24 9:00 am Sunday School
Sun. Nov. 24 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service
Sun. Nov. 24 11:00 am Hanging of the Greens
Tue. Nov. 27 9:00 am Advent "Pastry with the Pastor" Bible Study
Sun. Dec. 01 9:00 am Sunday School
Sun. Dec. 01 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service Advent Begins
Sun. Dec. 08 9:00 am Sunday School
Sun. Dec. 08 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service
Sun. Dec. 08 11:00 am Annual Cookie Walk

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Nov 17	Ruth Hilvety	Nov 19	Ida Boggs
Nov 20	Eric Nixon	Nov 21	Neal and Irma Stombaugh
Nov 23	Matthew Schmahl		

MISSIONS



LOCAL MISSIONS

Items requested by the food pantry are: Any kind of cereal and/or oatmeal, canned fruit and vegetables, canned soup, canned pasta, macaroni and cheese, and shampoo. Cash donations are always welcome. **Thanksgiving needed items: pie filling or frozen pies, cake mixes, frostings, and boxes of Jello and pudding mixes; all are due on November 16 for distribution on November 23.**