

**Macon United Methodist Church**  
**190 W Bell Street, Macon, IL 62544; (217) 764-5133**  
**Pastor Terry McDorman; 630-390-0414; accesstogodshouse@gmail.com**  
**October 27, 2024**                      **Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost**

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**

*"I want you to be all love. This is the perfection I believe and teach." - John Wesley*

**RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL**  
**in celebration of all who serve**

**PRELUDE**

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

**\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

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

Jesus is in our midst. Jesus, our healer, deliverer, and friend, is here.

**We have heard so many good things about him, but we long to meet him, to encounter him ourselves.**

Call out to him, and do not be silent. Like Bartimaeus, shout to him and do not allow anyone to silence your voice. Cry out and tell Jesus what you need!

**Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us! We need a touch from you! Touch me; touch us in our need, which we lift right now in our hearts!**

In this time of worship, celebrate God's goodness! In this time celebration of worship, know that Jesus touched your place of need.

**Hallelujah! Amen!**

**\*OPENING HYMN**              ***"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"***              **(UMH # 110)**

**OPENING PRAYER (unison)**

**Lord God, our Provider. We worship you as the one who meets our needs, who grants our daily bread, who restores our humanity. We worship you as the God who knows human need from experience, who knows want, and thirst and humiliation. And we worship you as your people, in a world where wealth is mixed with poverty; where we have all we need, but don't know how to share. Where want, and hunger and thirst and humiliation are hidden from those with the power to offer challenge and bring change. So, open our hearts. Not only that we learn**



sad facts about the world. But that we may feel our place in this world, as your people. Where there is need, teach us to learn where our wealth lies and help us to give. Where there is injustice, teach us to learn the causes and help us to fight. Where there is brokenness, teach us to learn of our own brokenness and help us to bring wholeness. Help us to look to you, that we neither remain ignorant of the world, nor lose ourselves in despair at its brokenness. Show us how to worship you, the crucified God, the risen God, the God who provides. Help us to carry our cross, to accept your gift of new life, to bring that gift to others.

#### **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)**

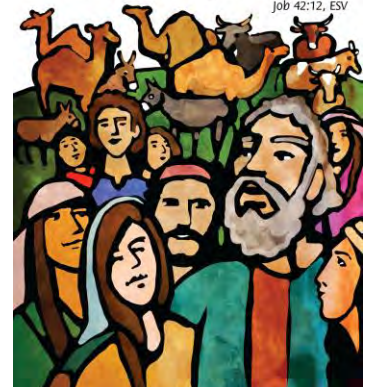
#### **SCRIPTURE READING**

#### **Job: 42:10-17 (CEB)**

Then the LORD changed Job's fortune when he prayed for his friends, and the LORD doubled all Job's earlier possessions. All his brothers, sisters, and acquaintances came to him and ate food with him in his house. They comforted and consoled him concerning all the disaster the LORD had brought on him, and each one gave him a kesitah (a piece of money) and a gold ring. Then the LORD blessed Job's latter days more than his former ones. He had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, one thousand yoke of oxen, and one thousand female donkeys. He also had seven sons and three daughters. He named one Jemimah, a second Keziah, and the third Keren-happuch. No women in all the land were as beautiful as Job's daughters; and their father gave an inheritance to them along with their brothers. After this, Job lived 140 years and saw four generations of his children. Then Job died, old and satisfied.

*The LORD blessed the  
latter days of Job more  
than his beginning ...*

Job 42:12, ESV



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

**When we want to be a church ever-reforming, yet cling to comfortable ways:  
Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us! When we want to honor your “still  
speaking voice,” but are fearful of insights which challenge old assumptions:  
Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us! When we want to live into Jesus’ dream  
of oneness, but fail to listen to voices of difference: Jesus, Son of David, have  
mercy on us!**

#### **MESSAGE**

**Good and Faithful Servants--The Laity”**

**Rev. Terry McDorman**

## HYMN

*“Softly and Tenderly, Jesus Is Calling”*

(UMH # 348)

## INVITATION TO SHARE

*God invites us both individually and collectively to participate in His work and through our offering we are able to help many in His name. Let us give generously to that end.*

## 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, you open our eyes to your truth, and we bring our gifts to you with gratitude. As we reflect on the story of Job, we bring our offerings as a response to your call, a step in faith to follow you more closely. Use these gifts to spread your love and light, helping others to see your grace and mercy. Bless our giving and open our hearts to see the needs around us so that we may serve with compassion and humility. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

## MUSICAL REFLECTION

**Trevor Schaeffer**

### CLOSING PRAYER (unison)

**From the beginning, God entered into covenant with the human family: with Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham and Sarah, Moses, Deborah, Ruth, and Jeremiah. Through baptism, Jesus Christ calls us into the covenant and makes us ministers of Christ's righteousness. All Christian ministry is Christ's work of outreaching love. It demonstrates a common life of gratitude and devotion, witness and service, celebration and discipleship. All Christians are called to Christ's servanthood in the world, to the glory of God and for human fulfillment. The Church, as the community of the new covenant, participates in Christ's ministry of grace. It stretches out to human needs wherever service may convey God's love and ours. In our ministry of servanthood is this ultimate concern: that all may be renewed in the image of their Creator, and that all Christians are called to minister in deeds and words that heal and free. Amen.**

### \*CLOSING HYMN

*“God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale”*

(UMH # 122)

## **BENEDICTION**

## **POSTLUDE**

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

**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 41  
OCTOBER 13: 38**

**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.*

**Today we celebrate Laity Sunday. Thank you for all that you do for the people of Macon UMC.**

**Next Sunday is All Saints Day when we shall take time to remember those from our church family that during the past year have transitioned to eternal life with Jesus.**

**Trunk or Treat this Thursday in Fellowship Hall from 5-7. Lots of goodies and fun for children of all ages. Pass the word to neighbors and friends!**

**Please check the Macon Mission for upcoming events for the rest of 2024!**

**Saturday, November 2, 2024 turn your clocks back one hour!**

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRESENCE AND SERVICE**

Thur.Oct. 31 5:00 pm Annual Trunk or Treat  
Sun. Nov. 3 Daylight-Saving Time Ends  
Sun. Nov. 3 9:00 am Sunday School  
Sun. Nov. 3 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service; All Saint's Day  
Mon.Nov. 4 6:30 pm United Women of Faith meeting; Fellowship Hall  
Sun. Nov. 10 9:00 am Sunday School  
Sun. Nov. 10 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service  
Sun. Nov. 17 7:00 am Men's Breakfast; Fellowship Hall  
Sun. Nov. 17 9:00 am Sunday School  
Sun. Nov. 17 10:00 am Worship and Zoom 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



## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Oct 28 Denise Jones

Nov 02 Isaac Hunt

## 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.

