

**Macon United Methodist Church**  
**190 W Bell Street, Macon, IL 62544; (217) 764-5133**  
**Pastor Terry McDorman; 630-390-0414; accesstogodshouse@gmail.com**  
**June 22, 2025** **Second Sunday after Pentecost**

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Let go of the demons that bind you in sorrow. Christ has broken those bands and reaches out in love for you. Receive God's loving blessings, for they are given especially for you.*



## RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

# PRELUDE

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

## \*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)**

As we have been baptized into Christ,

## We are clothed with Christ.

And if we belong to Christ,

## Then we are Abraham's offspring

And heirs according to the promise.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*OPENING HYMN**      *“In Christ There Is No East or West”*      (UMH # 548)

**OPENING PRAYER (unison)**

**Holy God, there is much that tries to separate us from one another. Creed and color, gender and nation, class and culture call for our fragmentation, but you call us to live together in your grace. You call us your children. You call us beloved. Today, let the refrain: “There is no longer Jew or Greek; there is no longer slave or free; there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus” (Gal. 3:29) guide us with every step. We pray 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)

### A TIME TO WELCOME A NEW MEMBER

As a member of Christ's universal church, will you be loyal to Christ through the United Methodist Church, and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries?

**I will.**

As a member of this congregation, will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness?

**I will.**

Brothers and sisters, I commend to your love and care Dale whom we this day receive into the membership of this congregation. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope and perfect him in love.

**\*We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**

God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit bless, preserve and keep you, now and forever more.

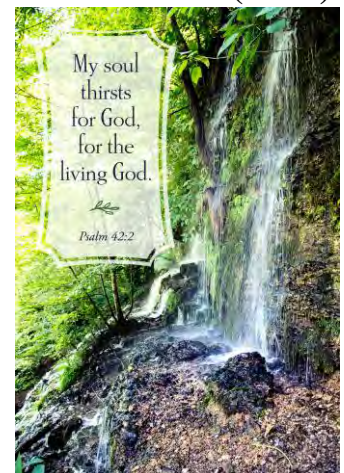
### FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Just like a deer that craves streams of water, my whole being craves you, God. My whole being thirsts for God, for the living God. When will I come and see God's face? My tears have been my food both day and night, as people constantly questioned me, "Where's your God now?"

But I remember these things as I bare my soul: how I made my way to the mighty one's abode, to God's own house, with joyous shouts and thanksgiving songs—a huge crowd celebrating the festival! Why, I ask myself, are you so depressed? Why are you so upset inside? Hope in God! Because I will again give him thanks, my saving presence and my God.

My whole being is depressed. That's why I remember you from the land of Jordan and Hermon, from Mount Mizar. Deep called to deep at the noise of your waterfalls; all your massive waves surged over me. By day the LORD commands his faithful love; by night his song is with me—a prayer to the God of my life.

### Psalm 42 (CEB)



I will say to God, my solid rock, “Why have you forgotten me? Why do I have to walk around, sad, oppressed by enemies?” With my bones crushed, my foes make fun of me, constantly questioning me: “Where’s your God now?”

Why, I ask myself, are you so depressed? Why are you so upset inside? Hope in God! Because I will again give him thanks, my saving presence and my God.

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

**Loving and holy God, we confess that we hold tightly to our pride and resist your transforming grace. You offer us freedom and a welcome place in your family, yet we struggle, trying to earn what you have already given. We cling to our old ways of doing and thinking. You call us your beloved children. Help us hear and claim our new identity. Free us from the bonds of limited imagination and empower us to thrive in your life of faith and grace. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

### **SECOND SCRIPTURE READING**

**Luke 8:26-39 (CEB)**

Jesus and his disciples sailed to the Gerasenes’ land, which is across the lake from Galilee. As soon as Jesus got out of the boat, a certain man met him. The man was from the city and was possessed by demons. For a long time, he had lived among the tombs, naked and homeless. When he saw Jesus, he shrieked and fell down before him. Then he shouted, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don’t torture me!” He said this because Jesus had already commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. Many times it had taken possession of him, so he would be bound with leg irons and chains and placed under guard. But he would break his restraints, and the demon would force him into the wilderness.

Jesus asked him, “What is your name?”

“Legion,” he replied, because many demons had entered him. They pleaded with him not to order them to go back into the abyss. A large herd of pigs was feeding on the hillside. The demons begged Jesus to let them go into the pigs. Jesus gave them permission, and the demons left the man and entered the pigs. The herd rushed down the cliff into the lake and drowned.

When those who tended the pigs saw what happened, they ran away and told the story in the city and in the countryside. People came to see what had happened. They came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had gone. He was sitting at Jesus’ feet, fully dressed and completely sane. They were filled with awe. Those people who had actually seen what had happened told them how the demon-possessed man had been delivered. Then everyone gathered from the region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave their area because they were overcome with fear. So he got into the boat and returned across the lake. The man from whom the demons had gone begged to come



along with Jesus as one of his disciples. Jesus sent him away, saying, “Return home and tell the story of what God has done for you.” So he went throughout the city proclaiming what Jesus had done for him.

**MESSAGE**

**“Don’t Keep It A Secret”**

**Rev. Terry Mc Dorman**

**HYMN**

***“He Touched Me”***

**(UMH # 367)**

**INVITATION TO SHARE**

*Let us share our blessings with each other in our offering*

**PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**(UMH # 94)**

*(you are invited to raise your arms in praise to the Lord)*

**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)**

**Gracious and transforming God, you clothe us in grace and love. Receive these gifts as signs of our desire to live into Christ’s vision of your beloved community. Baptized into your peace and justice, may we shed old divisions and embrace the unity you intend for all people. Use these offerings to build bridges, mend hearts, and proclaim that in Christ, all are one—equal, cherished, and free. May our giving reflect the boundless love you pour into us. We pray this in the name of the one who makes us whole. Amen.**

**MUSICAL REFLECTION**

**A MOMENT OF THANKSGIVING AND CELEBRATION**

**PRAYER**

**We thank you Lord for the many years of dedicated service that Lynette has provided to this church as Treasurer. We are indeed grateful for the talents she has shared in that position for the benefit of this congregation. Together we ask that you continue to bless her in all her future endeavors. Amen.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

***“The Gift of Love”***

**(UMH # 408)**

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

(Please be seated and silent during the Postlude)

*Special thank yous to all those that assisted with worship today.*

**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 36**

**ATTENDANCE GOAL: 70**

*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.*

## RECEPTION FOR LYNETTE PUCKETT

**Today there is a reception for Lynette Puckett in the parlor immediately following worship.**

## RETIREMENT LUNCH

**Next Sunday please plan on joining in Pastor Terry's final worship before his retirement. There will be potluck luncheon immediately following worship.**

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRESENCE AND SERVICE

Sun. June 22 11:00 am Reception for Lynette, Church Parlor

Sun. June 22 11:00 am Choir Practice

Sun. June 29 9:00 am Sunday School

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

Sun. June 29 11:00 am Pastor Terry's Retirement Celebration

Sun. July 06 9:00 am Sunday School

Sun. July 06 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

June 22 Marsha Hedges

June 24 Ethan Roush

June 25 Evan Rappe`

June 26 Grace Moyer

## MISSIONS



LOCAL MISSIONS

Items requested by the food pantry are: Items requested by the food pantry are: Any kind of **cereal**, cereal bars or oatmeal; canned fruits and vegetables; canned soup; canned pasta; shampoo; bar soap; toothpaste, and antiperspirant. Cash donations are always welcome.

## MENTAL HEALTH HOTLINES

**Crisis Text Line:** Text "HOME" to 741741 for free crisis counseling.  
<https://www.crisistextline.org/>. (24/7)

**Disaster Distress Helpline:** Call or text 1-800-985-5990 for free, multilingual, crisis support disaster crisis counseling. <https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/helplines/disaster-distress-helpline> (24/7)

**National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI):**

[A new tool to help plan for crises](#) (article about new smartphone app)

[Getting treatment during a crisis](#) (scroll down to crisis section)

[Navigating a mental health crisis](#) (33 page pdf document)

**National Sexual Assault Hotline and Online Hotline:** 1-800-656-HOPE (4673); Provides confidential crisis support for those who have been sexually assaulted.  
<https://hotline.rainn.org/online>.

**National 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline:** Call or text 988 for free, confidential support; Spanish: 1-888-628-9454; Deaf or Hard of hearing: 1-800-799-4899.  
<https://988lifeline.org/>. (24/7)

**Pathways 2 Promise:** Comprehensive listing of crisis lines and resources.  
<https://www.pathways2promise.org/in-crisis>

**Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)**

**National Helpline:** Call 1-800-662-HELP (4357), TTY: 800-487-4889. For additional information on finding help and treatment options, visit <https://findtreatment.gov/>. General Questions about SAMHSA, including information about mental and substance use disorders: <https://www.samhsa.gov/>; 877-SAMHSA-7 (726-4727); TTY: 800-487-4889 (24/7)

**Trans Lifeline:** 1-877-565-8860. Transgender Suicide Hotline. Confidential peer support for trans and questioning--call even if you are not in crisis. Press option #2 for Spanish. <https://translifeline.org/hotline/>. (available M-F 1-9pm Eastern time except holidays)

**Veteran's Crisis Line:** Call 1-800-273--Talk, then press #1; or dial 988 and press #1. Or text 838255. Available to all veterans. [veteranscrisisline.net](https://veteranscrisisline.net). (24/7)