

Macon United Methodist Church
190 W Bell Street, Macon, IL 62544; (217) 764-5133
Pastor Terry McDorman; 630-390-0414; accesstogodshouse@gmail.com
June 8, 2025 **Pentecost Sunday**

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

God's awesome love is offered to you, even when you fear or are unsure of your faith. Know that God is with you. Be not afraid. Hallelujah!

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

The Holy Spirit is among us!

PRELUDE



GATHERING **Words of welcome and announcements**

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

When Jesus left his disciples, he did not leave them alone. He promised that the Holy Spirit would be present in their lives, and he gave them an amazing gift: his peace, the peace of Christ. Through the Spirit, this gift lives still, and it is ours to share with others.

***CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)**

Even after the resurrection, when the disciples were weighed down with worry,
Jesus assured them that they were not alone: "The Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you."

Even after the resurrection, when the disciples were burdened by their fears,
Jesus calmed their troubled hearts: "Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

Even after the resurrection, when we struggle with our faith,
Jesus blesses us with comfort and hope: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you."

Especially after the resurrection, when our souls are dry and barren,
the Holy Spirit blows through our lives, bringing us new life. Alleluia!

***OPENING HYMN** **"Love Devine, All Loves Excelling"** **(UMH # 384)**

OPENING PRAYER (unison)

Amazing God, you call us today, just as you called the disciples on the Day of Pentecost. You challenge and support us, revealing the brokenness of our communities; giving us the peace that our world needs. You point us to the pain of the cross, and then remind us of the joy of the resurrection. Transform us, O God, through the power of your Holy Spirit. Help us breathe deeply of the Breath of Life. Blow through our worship and change our lives forever. 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

Acts 2:1-21 (CEB)

When Pentecost Day arrived, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound from heaven like the howling of a fierce wind filled the entire house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be individual flames of fire alighting on each one of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them to speak.

There were pious Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. When they heard this sound, a crowd gathered. They were mystified because everyone heard them speaking in their native languages. They were surprised and amazed, saying, “Look, aren’t all the people who are speaking Galileans, every one of them? How then can each of us hear them speaking in our native language? Parthians, Medes, and Elamites; as well as residents of Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the regions of Libya bordering Cyrene; and visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism), Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the mighty works of God in our own languages!” They were all surprised and bewildered. Some asked each other, “What does this mean?” Others jeered at them, saying, “They’re full of new wine!”

Peter stood with the other eleven apostles. He raised his voice and declared, “Judeans and everyone living in Jerusalem! Know this! Listen carefully to my words! These people aren’t drunk, as you suspect; after all, it’s only nine o’clock in the morning! Rather, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

**THEY SAW WHAT
SEEMED TO BE
TONGUES
OF FIRE
THAT SEPARATED
AND CAME TO REST
ON EACH OF THEM.**

ACTS 2:3, NIV

In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young will see visions. Your elders will dream dreams. Even upon my servants, men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. I will cause wonders to occur in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and a cloud of smoke. The sun will be changed into darkness, and the moon will be changed into blood, before the great and spectacular day of the Lord comes. And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Lord God, you know us too well. You know that we would be like the disciples following the crucifixion and even the resurrection. We would rather hide and mutter and weep, than proclaim the power of your love. The world is a difficult place. We fear so much. We want people to like us, and so we hold back on our proclamation of our faith. We don't want to offend anyone. But your love and presence are not offensive. They are empowering and healing. Bring your holy fire upon us this day to ignite a spark of joy in our hearts and our voices. Bring the power of your rushing wind through our spirits that we may be turned in new directions for service and witness. We pray this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 14:8-17 (CEB)

Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father; that will be enough for us."

Jesus replied, "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been with you all this time? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I have spoken to you I don't speak on my own. The Father who dwells in me does his works. Trust me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or at least believe on account of the works themselves. I assure you that whoever believes in me will do the works that I do. They will do even greater works than these because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask for in my name, so that the Father can be glorified in the Son. When you ask me for anything in my name, I will do it.

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. I will ask the Father, and he will send another Companion, who will be with you forever. This Companion is the Spirit of Truth, whom the world can't receive because it neither sees him nor recognizes him. You know him, because he lives with you and will be with you.



MESSAGE

"The Final Four"

Rev. Terry Mc Dorman

HYMN

“As a Fire Is Meant For Burning”

(FWS #2237)

INVITATION TO SHARE

Today, prepare to give from your spirit as you are inspired by The Spirit.

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)

Pentecost God, take our hearts and set them on fire. Take our lives and transform them. Take our church and resurrect it with your life-giving Spirit. Take our gifts and use them for the fulfillment of your vision of peace and unity. Amen.

MUSICAL REFLECTION

PENTECOST PRAYER (unison)

Spirit of God, we have gathered together in this place, to pray, and to make ourselves ready for your coming. Give us faith, that when you come like the wind, though we do not see you, yet we may hear what you are saying to us and discern your movement. Give us courage, that we may not fear the tongues of flame: let all that is unworthy, impure, and sinful be burned from our lives. May we know that it is love that burns so brightly and love that strips away our sin. Give us an open mind, Lord, that the truth you bring may make its home with us: truth to set us free; truth to guide and inform us; truth to lead us in the way of your will. Give us an open heart, Lord that we may seek all people for your realm, and set no limits to the proclaiming of your word. Holy Spirit, with the whole church we wait for you in every place and in every generation. Come wind. Come fire. Come truth. Come love. In Jesus' name, Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

“Every Time I Feel the Spirit”

(UMH # 440)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

(Please be seated and silent during the Postlude)

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

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 30

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 to submit updates or additions to the church website.

RECEPTION FOR LYNETTE PUCKETT

A reception will be held for Lynette for her many years as the church's treasurer. It will take place on June 22 after worship in the church parlor; it will be a cake and punch reception.

STATE AGENCIES AND ASSISTANCE

The Illinois Assistive Technology Program (IATP) is a statewide nonprofit agency that has been responsible for implementing the AT Act since 1989.

IATP promotes the availability of assistive technology (AT) devices and services for people with disabilities and other health conditions.

IATP offers person-centered services to all people with disabilities or health related illnesses in the state of Illinois, their families, service providers, state agencies, private industry, educators, and other interested individuals, regardless of age or income.

On Sunday, June 15th, Lynette Strode, Program Manager for IATP, will be joining us during worship and will be available afterwards in the parlor to explain the services and answer any questions.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRESENCE AND SERVICE

Sun. June 8 11:00 am Outreach Committee Meeting; Pastor's office

Sun. June 8 11:00 am Choir Practice

Sun. June 15 Father's Day

Sun. June 15 9:00 am Sunday School

Sun. June 15 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service Father's Day

Sun. June 15 11:00 am Choir Practice

Sun. June 22 9:00 am Sunday School

Sun. June 22 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service Father's Day

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

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

June 10 Ross Moyer

June 12 Rene' Knowles

MISSIONS



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.

The Pantry is looking for volunteers to help with the Central Illinois food bank deliveries on the first and third Mondays of each month at 9:00 am.

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. (24/7)