

Macon United Methodist Church
190 W Bell Street, Macon, IL 62544; (217) 764-5133
November 2, 2025 **All-Saints Sunday**

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Follow God's purpose for you, and He can use you to change the world.
-- St. Catherine of Siena

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

PRELUDE

GATHERING
Celebrations

Welcome, Announcements,

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

***CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)**

On this all-saints Sunday, we gather to remember teachers and storytellers who made God's stories come alive for us.

We give thanks!

We remember choir members, praise bands, pianists, and all musicians who sang and played your praises.

We give thanks!

We remember preachers and lay leaders who led our worship through the years.

We give thanks!

We remember parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, siblings, who showed us how to hold fast to the faith.

We give thanks!

We remember our church families--this one and others we have loved. We remember all those who have been a part of this faith family with whom we grew our faith and our love for God and neighbor.

We give thanks!

We remember our ancestors in the faith whose courage enables us to be here today.

We give thanks for the saints who came before us, are present here with us, and will continue after us. Thanks be to God!

***OPENING HYMN**

"His Name is Wonderful"

(UMH # 174)

His name is wonderful; His name is wonderful His name is wonderful; Jesus my Lord
He is the mighty King; Master of everything His name is wonderful; Jesus my Lord



He's the great Shepherd; The Rock of all ages Almighty God is He
Bow down before Him; Love and adore Him His name is wonderful; Jesus my Lord
His name is wonderful; His name is wonderful His name is wonderful; Jesus my Lord

OPENING PRAYER (pastor)

Sovereign of creation, all that we have comes from you. We gather in your presence surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses. People from every tribe and nation. Every kindred and tongue to lift our voices in praise; to be transformed into your saints; to be sent out to gather others; to share the eternal banquet. Receive the praise we offer. Work in us and through us. You alone are holy. You alone are the most high. You alone are worthy of our praise. Glory to you, oh God! And to the lamb, our shepherd and to the spirit that unites us all today and evermore. Amen.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS (pastor)

SILENT PRAYER (pastor)

THE LORD'S PRAYER (all)

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 119: 137-144 (CEB)

¹³⁷ Lord, you are righteous,
and your rules are right.
¹³⁸ The laws you commanded are righteous,
completely trustworthy.
¹³⁹ Anger consumes me
because my enemies have forgotten what you've said.
¹⁴⁰ Your word has been tried and tested;
your servant loves your word!
¹⁴¹ I'm insignificant and unpopular,
but I don't forget your precepts.
¹⁴² Your righteousness lasts forever!
Your Instruction is true!
¹⁴³ Stress and strain have caught up with me,
but your commandments are my joy!
¹⁴⁴ Your laws are righteous forever.
Help me understand so I can live!



SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

2 Thessalonians 1: 1-4, 11-12 (CEB)

To the church of the Thessalonians, which is in God our Father, and in the Lord Jesus Christ. ² Grace and peace to all of you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³ Brothers and sisters, we must always thank God for you. This is only right because your faithfulness is growing by leaps and bounds, and the love that all of you have for each other is increasing. ⁴ That's why we ourselves are bragging about you in God's churches. We tell about your endurance and faithfulness in all the harassments and trouble that you have put up with.

¹¹ We are constantly praying for you for this: that our God will make you worthy of his calling and accomplish every good desire and faithful work by his power. ¹² Then the name of our Lord Jesus will be honored by you, and you will be honored by him, consistent with the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.



MESSAGE

“Saintly Endeavors”

Beverly J. Matthews, PsyD

Certified Lay Minister, Assigned Supply Pastor

HYMN

“Love Divine All Love Excelling”

(UMH # 384)

1. Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven to earth come down;
fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.
2. Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit Into every troubled breast!
Let us all in thee inherit; let us find that second rest.
Take away our bent to sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.
3. Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never, never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.
4. Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

HOLY COMMUNION

Table I, (UMH # 9)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.
When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.
You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God,
and spoke to us through your prophets.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
and to announce that the time had come
when you would save your people.
He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.
When the Lord ascended, he promised to be with you always
in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his 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 these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving

as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is 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 be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.
By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.
Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father (God), now and forever. **Amen.**

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

***DOXOLOGY**

(UMH # 95)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)**

Gracious God of every growing gift, you call forth saints not with perfection, but with purpose--to grow in faith, abound in love, and serve with steadfastness. Receive these offerings as signs of our gratitude, given by those you are shaping for good works in Christ. Use them to build up your church, to bless the world, and to honor those who have taught us to love more deeply. May our generosity today reflect your glory and strengthen us to walk ever more faithfully in your way. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

MUSICAL REFLECTION

CLOSING PRAYER (pastor)

***CLOSING HYMN “*Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*” (UMH # 133)**

1. What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms;
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.
Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms; leaning, leaning,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

2. O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, leaning on the everlasting arms;
O how bright the path grows from day to day, leaning on the everlasting arms.
Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms; leaning, leaning,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting arms.
Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms; leaning, leaning,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

BENEDICTION

Beloved, now we are the saints of God, and it does not yet appear what we shall be. But we know when we let Jesus reign in our hearts, we will appear to others as a reflection of God's son. We leave this place determined to imitate Christ.

POSTLUDE

Beverly J, Matthews, PsyD
Certified Lay Minister, Assigned Supply Pastor
217 825 9010

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 37

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.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MISSIONS

The following information is provided in the event that you would want to donate to any or all of the nonprofit organizations who serve our greater communities.

Love Packages

220 Union St.

Butler, IL 62015

2175326701

www.lovepackages.org

Global Ministries

UMCOR

PO Box 9068

New York, NY 10087-9068 designate Texas Floods or another focus

Africa University Development Office

Africa University (TN) Inc.

PO Box 340007

Nashville, TN 37203-0007

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRESENCE AND SERVICE

Sat. Nov. 8 8:00 am Volunteer at Interchurch Pantry
Sun. Nov. 9 9:00 am Sunday School
Sun. Nov. 9 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service
Mon. Nov. 10 6:00 pm United Methodist Women; Fellowship Hall
Sat. Nov. 15 8:00 am Volunteer at Interchurch Pantry
Sun. Nov. 16 9:00 am Sunday School
Sun. Nov. 16 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service
Sat. Nov. 22 8:00 am Volunteer at Interchurch Pantry
Sun. Nov. 23 8:00 am Men Breakfast; Fellowship Hall

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Nov 05 Donna Hays

MISSIONS



Items requested by the food pantry are: Any kind of cereal, cereal bars or oatmeal; canned fruits and vegetables; canned soup; canned pasta; mac and cheese; shampoo; and antiperspirant. Cash donations are always welcome. **For holidays:** instant mashed potatoes, evaporated milk, cake mixes, pie filling, French style green beans, canned cream corn, canned sweet potatoes, canned pineapple, jello and pudding mixes. **The Wee Care Fund** serves children in the Meridian School District and the Stonington areas. The two programs are “Back to School” and “Operation Christmas Gifts.” The funds are getting depleted, and the Christmas season is rapidly approaching. Our wonderful shopping volunteers will begin shopping in late November. Please consider a donation to the Wee Care Fund for them to purchase Christmas gifts to children in need.

SPEAKER SCHEDULE

Nov. 9 Kirk Yenerall, CLM
Nov. 16 Keith Baker, Lay Speaker
Nov. 23 Beverly Matthews CLM Lay Supply Pastor
Nov. 30 Mark Dallner, CLS
Dec. 7 Beverly Matthews CLM Lay Supply Pastor
Dec. 14 Kirk Yenerall, CLM
Dec. 21 Keith Baker, Lay Speaker
Dec. 24 Beverly Matthews CLM Lay Supply Pastor
Dec. 28 Mark Dallner, CLS