

Macon United Methodist Church
190 W Bell Street, Macon, IL 62544; (217) 764-5133
June 14, 2026 **Third Sunday after Pentecost**

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

“God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pains; it is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world.”--C. S. Lewis

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

PRELUDE

GATHERING

Welcome, Announcements, Celebrations

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

We gather today under one sky, united by a vision of freedom.

We look to the symbols that remind us of our journey and our hopes.

The colors we honor speak of courage, purity, and justice.

May we embody the courage to stand up for the oppressed.

Let us strive for the purity of purpose that seeks the common good.

And let us pursue the justice that ensures liberty for all people.

Let us worship together, renewing our commitment to love our neighbors.

Come, let us celebrate the blessings of community and freedom!

***OPENING HYMN** *“O Church of God, United”* **(UMH # 547)**

1. O church of God, united to serve one common Lord,
proclaim to all one message, with hearts in glad accord.
Christ ever goes before us; we follow day by day
with strong and eager footsteps along the upward way.

2. From every land and nation the ordered ranks appear;
to serve one valiant leader they come from far and near.
They chant their one confession, they praise one living Lord,
and place their sure dependence upon his saving word.

3. Though creeds and tongues may differ, they speak, O Christ, of thee;
and in thy loving spirit we shall one people be.
Lord, may our faithful service and singleness of aim
proclaim to all the power of thy redeeming name.



4. May thy great prayer be answered that we may all be one,
close bound, by love united in thee, God's blessed Son:
to bring a single witness, to make the pathway bright,
that souls which grope in darkness may find the one true light.

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, Lord of all nations, we gather today with thankful hearts for the community, freedom, and peace we share. As we look upon the symbols of our country on this Flag Day, we ask that You refine our vision of what it means to love our homeland. Help us to remember that true love of country is lived out in our love for our neighbors. Stir our hearts to seek liberty and justice, not just for ourselves, but for all people. Forgive us where we fall short of our highest ideals, and give us the courage to work toward a nation where everyone is safe, valued, and free. Guide our worship today. May our songs, our prayers, and our fellowship honor You, the Creator of us all. In Your holy name, we pray. AMEN.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS (pastor)

SILENT PRAYER (pastor)

THE LORD'S PRAYER (all)

SCRIPTURE READING

John 15:13

“Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”



SCRIPTURE READING

As servants of God, live as free people, yet do not use your freedom as a pretext for evil. Honor everyone. Love the family of believers. Fear God. Honor the emperor."

1Peter 2:11-17



MESSAGE

“Flag Day”

Kris Shelton, Certified Lay Speaker

HYMN

“*The Battle Hymn of the Republic*”

(UMH # 717)

1. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord; he is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored; he hath loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword; his truth is marching on.

Refrain: Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

2. I have seen him in the watchfires of a hundred circling camps, they have builded him an altar in the evening dews and damps; I can read his righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps; his day is marching on.

Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

3. He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat; he is sifting out the hearts of men before his judgment seat; O be swift, my soul, to answer him; be jubilant, my feet! Our God is marching on.

Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

4. In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea, with a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me; as he died to make men holy, let us die to make men free, while God is marching on.

Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

5. He is coming like the glory of the morning on the wave,
He is Wisdom to the mighty, He is honor to the brave,
So the world shall be His footstool, and the soul of wrong His slave,
Our God is marching on. He is coming like the glory of the morning on the wave,
Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! His truth
is marching on.

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)**

Creating God, from the beginning, you formed light out of darkness, breath from dust, and life from love. In Christ, you walked among us, and through your spirit, you empower us still. Today, we offer our gifts--signs of our desire to partner with you in your ongoing work of creation, healing, and discipleship. Use these offerings to build communities of compassion, to welcome the stranger, and to teach your ways of justice and joy. May our giving reflect the wonder of your triune love and our willingness to go and grow disciples in your name. Amen.

MUSICAL REFLECTION

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Let There Be Peace on Earth”

(UMH # 431)

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me;
let there be peace on Earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God as our creator, children all are we. Let us walk with each other
in perfect harmony. Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow: to take each moment and live
each moment in peace eternally. Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

BENEDICTION

Go out into the world in peace. Be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good.
Render to no one evil for evil, but strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, and
help the afflicted. As you honor the symbols of our land, remember your highest
calling: to be citizens of God's kingdom of love. May you use your freedom to serve
your neighbors, and your liberty to cultivate peace. And may the blessing of God

Almighty—the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Sustainer—be with you and remain with you always. AMEN.

POSTLUDE

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

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.

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 33

ATTENDANCE GOAL: 70

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRESENCE AND SERVICE

Sun. June 21 9:00 am Sunday School
Sun. June 21 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service
Sun. June 28 9:00 am Sunday School
Sun. June 28 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service
Sun. July 05 9:00 am Sunday School
Sun. July 05 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service
Sun. July 12 9:00 am Sunday School
Sun. July 12 10:00 am Worship and Zoom Service

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

June 15	Carl and Joyce Craft	June 15	Matt Roush
June 17	Richard Boggs	June 20	Mike and Connie Baker
June 20	Mike and Debbie Stewart		

MISSIONS



Items requested by the food pantry are: Any kind of cereal, cereal bars or oatmeal; canned soup (**chicken noodle and vegetable beef**); canned pasta; mac and cheese; shampoo; and antiperspirant and **toilet paper**. Cash donations are always welcome.

SPEAKER SCHEDULE

June 14 Kris Shelton, Certified Lay Speaker

June 21 Keith Baker, Lay Speaker

June 28 Beverly Matthews Certified Lay Minister, Supply Pastor

July 05 Beverly Matthews Certified Lay Minister, Supply Pastor

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Confirmation class will be first and fourth Sundays at 8:45 am for one hour in the pastor's office using the book Confirm which can be purchased online through Cokesbury. On July 26, 2026 the class will meet at 11:15am.

RICE MEAL PACKING

Rice Meal Packing August 8, 2026; 1-4 PM. Donations needed.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS ASSISTANCE

Considering giving to the Food Pantry jug at the back of the sanctuary. Their rent has increased. Make checks payable to Macon UMC, memo line: pantry.

SERVICE PROJECTS

Contact Susannah or Denise if you would like the confirmation kids to come to you to do a service project

