

WELCOME TO THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of MADISON

Relax. We're glad to have you, just as you are. We believe Jesus Christ teaches us that, so we really mean it. You're a child of God and you're safe here, no matter what.

Each one of us is in a different place on this life journey. The person next to you may be here for the first time, or they may have been born into a family in our church for generations. We're all continually learning, growing, and evolving as we connect in the Spirit with the rest of the world.

Children in church make squirmy joyful noises to the Lord! Babies cry! Relax about all that, too. If you wish, safe childcare is available for 4 and under. Your greeter will be happy to show you the way.

Please stick around after church for a few minutes if you have the time. We have refreshments and fellowship time in the lobby area. It's a great way to get acquainted!

Check out the box below for how it all works. We're all different, together, and God isn't finished with us. Come and see!

Scott Foster, Pastor

*Stand in body or spirit. **Bold - Everything is said in unison.** *Italics - We all sing.*

After children's message, K-5 escape to Sunday School.
Please share your info with us using the card in the pew.
Write prayer requests in the book at the back of the church.

ORDER of WORSHIP

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other.

You cannot serve God and wealth." — Luke 16:13 (NRSV)

THE GATHERING

Praise Music (A time of centering and preparation for worship. Please silence all electronic devices.)

Introit

Welcome

"Let us prepare our hearts to worship God..."

* To God Be the Glory

(The tune for the hymn is at the back of this booklet.)

VERSE 1:

To God be the glory; great things he has done! So loved he the world that he gave us his Son, who yielded his life an atonement for sin, and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

REFRAIN:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father through Jesus the Son, and give him the glory: great things he has done! VFRSF 2:

Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,

and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son; but purer and higher and greater will be our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. (REFRAIN)

From the Rising of the Sun

(The tune for the hymn is at the back of this booklet.)

From the rising of the sun to the going down of the same,

the name of the Lord shall be praised.

From the rising of the sun to the going down of the same,

the name of the Lord shall be praised.

So praise ye the Lord.

Praise ye the Lord.

From the rising of the sun to the going down of the same,

the name of the Lord shall be praised.

Opening Prayer

Faithful God, we give you thanks that in Christ Jesus you show us the richness of your glory—the treasure of your grace. Make us faithful stewards of your good gifts. On Earth as it is in heaven, your kin-dom come through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Call to Confession

Let us draw near to God with sincere hearts and full assurance of faith, our guilty hearts sprinkled clean, our bodies washed with pure water. Let us confess our sins before God and one another...

Prayer of Confession

Maker of all things new, fill us with your Spirit. Through each breath bring order to this chaos. Whenever we take charge, everything turns to pandemonium. Only you bring true peace, assurance, and restoration. Help us to stop the madness and forgive us with steadfast grace and love. O Lord, hear our prayers...

Response You Alone Can Rescue Redman/Myrin

Who O Lord could save themselves

Their own soul could heal

Our shame was deeper than the sea

Your grace is deeper still

(Silence is kept for our personal prayers of confession.)

One: Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news! This is sure and worthy of full acceptance. Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin and alive to all that is good. I declare to you in the name of Christ, you are forgiven!

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed and restored!

Response You Alone Can Rescue

Redman/Myrin

You alone can rescue

You alone can save

You alone can lift us from the grave

You came down to find us led us out of death

To You alone belongs the highest praise. Amen.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the scriptures are read and your word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

Prophetic Reading Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

(O.T. pg. 709)

¹⁸My joy is gone, grief is upon me, my heart is sick. ¹⁹Hark, the cry of my poor people from far and wide in the land: "Is

the LORD not in Zion? Is her King not in her?" ("Why have they provoked me to anger with their images, with their foreign idols?") 20"The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." 21For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt, I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me. 22Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then has the health of my poor people not been restored?

¹O that my head were a spring of water, and my eyes a fountain of tears, so that I might weep day and night for the slain of my poor people!

Epistle Reading 1 Timothy 2:1-7

(N.T. pg. 208)

¹First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone,² for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶who gave himself a ransom for all-this was attested at the right time.⁷For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Special Music Mighty to Save

Young People's Message

Presentation of Confirmand Luke Stebbins

Gospel Reading Luke 16:1-13

(N.T. pg. 79)

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. 2So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you

cannot be my manager any longer.' 3Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. 4I have decided what to do so that. when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' 5So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' 6He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' 7Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' «And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. 9And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

10"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. 11 If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? 12 And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? 13 No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

Sermon "Audible"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* There Is a Balm in Gilead (v.1,2)

(The tune for the hymn is at the back of this booklet.)

REFRAIN:

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;

there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

VERSE 1:

Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's

in vain, but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. (REFRAIN)

VERSE 2:

Don't ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend, and if you lack for knowledge, he'll not refuse to lend (REFRAIN)

* Affirmation of Faith by the Confirmation Class of 2019 We believe God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit are always present in love of all the world all the time. God is the creator of everything, and with us through all times good and bad. God created all living things and people to do good on earth. God is an idea that binds all people. Jesus Christ is fully human and fully God. Jesus comes to forgive us and teach us that the kingdom of God on Earth is to love each other as much as we love ourselves—even when we make mistakes. The Holy Spirit is a virtual image—the constant light of God, a wind of goodness that inspires us to action always and everywhere beyond understanding. God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit are the hope of the world for all time. Amen.

Prayers of the People/The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Announcements

Invitation to Discipleship

Offering

Offertory

* Doxology

(The tune for the Doxology is at the back of this booklet.)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ all people here below;

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God whom we adore.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen!

* Prayer of Dedication

Amazing God of all, bless our time, talent, and resources to see lives transformed, families strengthened, and our community renewed through intentional relationship with Jesus Christ, Amen.

GOING FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD

* To God Be the Glory (Reprise)

(The tune for the hymn is at the back of this booklet.)

VERSE 1:

To God be the glory; great things he has done! So loved he the world that he gave us his Son, who yielded his life an atonement for sin, and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

REFRAIN:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father through Jesus the Son, and give him the glory: great things he has done!

- * Charge and Benediction (Please join hands.)
- * Passing of the Peace and Postlude

WORSHIP NOTES

Thank you to the Stebbins family for being our readers today. Congratulations to Luke Stebbins on your confirmation this year! And thank you to our talented worship team of players, singers, and bell ringers!

What gifts do you bring? Share with us! Joyful worship comes from the soul of our collective Spirit. Come find your voice or vision here! Come play, sing, ring bells, read, lead, serve communion. If you have a gift of the arts such as music, drama, dance, poetry, prose, painting, or sculpting for examples, please give some thought to sharing it in worship. What a great blessing!

About Today's Worship

We are developing a more blended style of worship with new contemporary worship songs and music as well as traditional hymns and pieces. All of our hymns are from the new Presbyterian hymnal *Glory to God* printed for you in the bulletin. We have singers. We have organ music. The bell choir rings. We hear our students. We hear soloists. We hear the band. It's a mix, and we don't have everything in the same day—unless you want to skip lunch. We hope it touches you.

About Today's Readings

We print the scripture readings in the bulletin, so you can follow along more easily. We also include the page numbers if you want to read from your pew Bible. Most Sundays, our readings are from that same New Revised Standard Version translation. Exceptions are noted.

About Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

Today's prophecy comes through the voices of lamentation from the heart of Jerusalem and the very heart of God. The "balm in Gilead" is a resin produced by the storax tree in the region of the northern Transjordan that in their time is a widely available salve for medicinal purposes.

About 1 Timothy 2:1-7

The letters to Timothy are part of the "pastoral epistles" in the New Testament and are traditionally credited to the Apostle Paul. However, modern scholarship generally agrees that the letters are pseudepigraphical which is the tradition of the schools of major ancient scholars. That is, they are written in Paul's name likely by students and other followers long after Paul's death. Nevertheless, the pastoral letters address the life, governance and behavior of the early Christian churches and their contexts.

About Luke 16:1-13

Today's parable is known by the references: "The Shrewd Manager" and also "The Dishonest Manager" further adding to its enigma. The Jesus Seminar consortium of scholars voted this story most certainly from the historical Jesus (through v. 8a) and they voted v. 13 as "probable" but not certain. It's safe to say that Jesus told this story in his lifetime. Is the manager "shrewd," "dishonest," neither, or both?

About the Affirmation of Faith:

Thirteen of our middle school students were recently confirmed here at PCM. Our confirmation students struggle with the hard questions about God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. How do they impact our world, our lives, who we are? Do they still impact our lives today? If so, how? One of the things they are also required to do is write a statement of faith in their own words that speaks to what they think about God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. Today's affirmation is a distillation of their individual statements.

Questions To Go

When have I truly needed God's grace and mercy? Am I a good steward? How often do the ends justify the means?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Save the Dates

World Communion Sunday, Oct. 6th Stewardship Sunday, Nov. 3rd

Bottle Hill Day, Oct. 5th

Blessing of the Animals 12n

All hands on deck—Bottle Hill Day is two weeks away! PCM is THE place to be on BHD—and we need you! Bottle Hill Day is our full-day outreach to the community with a petting zoo and pony rides on the church lawn! Plus, bring your pets for the "Blessing of the Animals" at 12n. What better day? What better time? We have several ways to help! We need 6 10X10 picnic canopies—can we use yours? We've got 30-minute volunteer slots to set-up, tear-down, and sell pony ride tickets here at the church. There's plenty to do for everyone and every schedule. PCM needs you for a half-hour or an hour. Sign up on Breeze for a volunteer shift and let's turn out for an amazing day in Madison.

Called Congregational Meeting Sunday, October 6th

Join us after church for a short special congregational meeting to elect members to the nominating committee. A change to the Presbyterian Book of Order specifies that the Congregation Nominating Committee shall consist of a majority of non-session members of the congregation. Our current nominating committee will present a slate of new nominating committee members that the congregation must approve. No other congregational business may be conducted at this meeting.

Bible Study Continues

Pastor Scott's first of two 8-week deep dives into the Bible starting with Old Testament continues Sept. 29th at 8:45am and runs for 8 weeks. New Testament will be offered in the spring. Call Cathy at 973.377.1600 to register.

Rising Stars in Madison

Don't miss the next Rising Stars in Madison concert this afternoon at 3pm in the Sanctuary. The Center for Music Excellence presents The Elim Duo (sisters Dae Hee Ahn on violin and Dae Hyung Ahn on piano) playing classical pieces and hymns from their latest album. Admission is free but donations will be accepted.

PCM Wants You!

Come join the worship team! Make a joyful noise with us. Oh yes, you can! No experience necessary—we'll teach you everything. Whether you like to sing, play an instrument, or want to learn how to ring bells, we want you! Come let your music flag fly and join our worship team. Everybody's welcome—no judging allowed! Contact Anna D'Achille, Patrick Allred, or Michael Callahan for more details!

TheoNeighbors for Drew

The Drew Theological School has come to us for help with their student housing shortage. Grad students are looking for places to stay in Madison 2-3 days a week when they commute for classes. If you have a spare room or garage apartment that you would be interested in leasing to a grad student, contact PhD student Wren Hillis for more details email theoneighbors@drew.edu.

RAMP Refugee Help

RAMP welcomes a new refugee from Afghanistan relocating to Morris County! PCM supports families and individuals moving to escape unrest in their home countries through Refugee Assistance Morris Partners (RAMP). There are a variety of ways to volunteer to help them in the relocation process. Contact Gerry Gannon at mgannon@webtv.net for more information.

Coffee with Scott

Pastor Scott hangs out at Drip Coffee every Thursday starting at 9am! Come get a shot of caffeine. Let's FIKA, solve world problems, see if you can melt an entire biscotti in a cup of tea—we actually get around to talking about Jesus. Crazy, right?

Mid-week Prayers/Communion

Join us in the Parlor every Wednesday morning at 7:10am for a come-and-go round of prayers and the Lord's Supper. It's a great mid-week touchstone, and you'll be on your way in 15 minutes. No kidding! Commuters, you'll easily make the 7:32. Pastor Scott leads.

Serve on Sunday

All are welcome, all who come in the name of the Lord! Snacks after church—an email has gone out giving everyone the opportunity to sign up through Breeze! Or you can call the church office if you prefer.

Teach Sunday School—It's easy, really! Contact Patrick Allred.

And if you'd like to serve on our worship team on Sundays as a reader, communion server, singer, musician, bell-ringer, or greeter please do! Contact the church office for more information and we'll plug you in—973.377.1600.

Interfaith Food Pantry

PCM supports the IFP year-round with hundreds of pounds of food to serve eligible Morris County residents. Aging people on fixed incomes, low-income working families—the need is great! Doris's Care Wagon will be inside the back door of the parish house. Named for long-time member and IFP advocate Doris Weber, the wagon has served our food collection for years!

The food of the month for September is Side Dishes. Rice and pasta mixes like Rice-A-Roni and Pasta-Roni are most needed, as are "add protein" products like Hamburger Helper and Tuna Helper. Pick up a package or two the next time you do your grocery shopping, and leave them in the basket in the sanctuary lobby or in Doris's Care Wagon outside the church office. The IFP clients thank you.

Quarters for RAMP

The tube was full recently, so it has been emptied and we are working on filling it up again. Please continue to save your quarters and look for the tube in the refreshment area each Sunday. RAMP has recently decided to work with the International Rescue Committee and apply with them to receive a family from a war-torn country.





This American gospel song became popular in England in the late 19th century, then returned to this country in the mid-20th century with the Billy Graham crusades. Its continuing popularity may well be due to the freedom from subjective considerations in its praise of God.



From the Rising of the Sun



This paraphrase of Psalm 113:3 concisely represents the psalm beginning the group called the Egyptian \pmb{Hallel} (113–118) used at all major Jewish festivals. One of these may have been what Jesus and his disciples sang at the conclusion of the Last Supper (Matthew 26:30/Mark 14:26).

TEXT and MUSIC: Anon. RISING SUN



This African American spiritual offers a long-delayed answer to the prophet Jeremiah's question, "Is there no balm in Gilead?" (Jeremiah 8:22). No earthly remedy can compare with the healing that comes from a sense of God's presence; nothing else can heal "the sin-sick soul."



Doxology



VISION

To see lives transformed, families strengthened, and our community renewed through intentional relationship with Jesus Christ.

OUR VALUES

Renewed Lives | Community Positive | Intergenerational Family

Joyful Service | Presbyterian Roots

Staff

Scott Foster

Pastor

scott.foster@pcmadison.org

Patrick Allred

Director of Family Ministries patrick.allred@pcmadison.org

Cathy Baillie

Office Assistant

catherine.baillie@pcmadison.org

Mike Callahan

Student Ministries & Outreach
mike.callahan@pcmadison.org

Anna D'Achille Director of Musical Arts anna.dachille@pcmadison.org

Worship

10:15 AM Sunday Service

Session

Bob Baisch Cheryl Bolton Bill Bowen Sara Burnet David DePaul Suzanne Flynn Brian Peterson Ryan Rate

Barbara Schuszler

Becky Moody, Clerk session@pcmadison.org

The Presbyterian Church of Madison is part of the PC(USA) Denomination pcusa.org

