



Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

25th Sunday of Ordinary Time
September 23, 2018 • 9 & 11:15am



Welcome to Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

Whether you are a first-time visitor or a long-time member . . .

Whether you are new to or uncertain about this whole idea of church . . .

Whether you grew up Presbyterian or Baptist or Jewish or agnostic . . .

Whether you came with a friend or just wandered in accidentally . . .

Whether you are in search of comfort or wanting to be challenged . . .

Whatever reason brought you to worship today, you are welcome here and you have made us better by being present with us. In the midst of a big and busy city, we are a church that takes seriously Jesus' instructions to love God, love one another, and love our neighbors. Our worship style is traditional and true to our Reformed heritage. At the same time, we seek to bring our faith into conversation with the world around us and the events of our lives.

After worship, we gather in our Church House for fellowship, coffee, and cookies. Please join us. We think you'll find us to be a friendly and approachable group of people trying our best to live like Jesus teaches. But if you're looking for a perfect church, we're not it. We don't always get it right. Rather, we're a group of imperfect people who understand how much we all need grace in our lives. And we believe that God's love, which never gives up and never lets go, is for everyone. Including you.

There is a place for you here. We're delighted you've joined us today.



Rev. Jenny McDevitt
Senior Pastor

Children Are Always Welcome

Your children are always welcome here at MAPC, and they are welcome to stay with you in worship. Little ones can't help but make a bit of noise from time to time. If it is your preference, however, children three and under may be taken to the Nursery on the 4th floor. The Narthex and the Children's Library are also available. Speakers provide audio of the service.

Membership and More Information

For those interested in exploring the possibility of membership or learning more about who we are and what we do, we periodically host a "Tell Me More About MAPC" conversation. The next gathering will be held Oct. 27, 2018, at 9 am in the Phillips Lounge. RSVPs are helpful to Lissette Perez-Erazo at lgp@mapc.com.

Order of Worship for the Lord's Day

O God, tell me what you are to me. Say to my soul, 'I am your salvation.' Say it so that I can hear it. My heart is listening, O Lord; open the ears of my heart and say to my soul, 'I am your salvation.' Let me run towards this voice and seize hold of you. Do not hide your face from me. — Augustine of Hippo

Gathering in God's Name

Prelude

Arabesque
(from *24 Pièces en Style Libre*, Op. 31, No. 2)

Louis Vierne
(1870-1937)

Call to Worship

Rev. Beverly A. Bartlett

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

“Let there be light,” God said, and the darkness receded.

To make room for everyone, the Syrophoenician woman spoke words of challenge:

“Even dogs get the crumbs,” she said, and Jesus paid attention.

On his last night with his disciples, Jesus offered words of comfort:

“Do not let your hearts be troubled,” he said. “And do not let them be afraid.”

To begin and end his letters, Paul used words we still use today:

“Grace and peace to you,” he said, “in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Let us worship God with songs and words of praise!

*Hymn 291

O God of Earth and Altar

Llangloffan

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Rebecca M. Heilman

Gracious God,

Forgive us for what we have done and what we have failed to do.

We have not loved you with our whole hearts,

and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

Have mercy on us for what we have said and what we have left unsaid.

We have spoken without thinking,

and we have held our tongues when the world needed to hear words of truth.

We have been too casual with our lives.

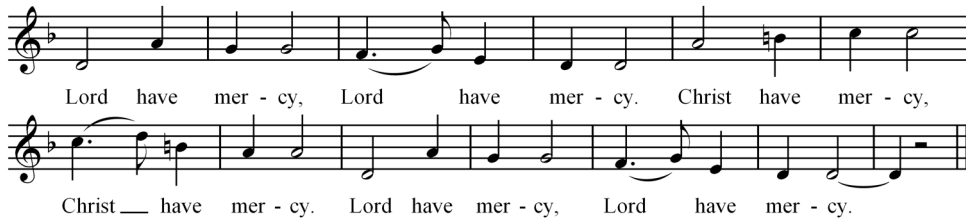
You who are the Author of Life and giver of the Word Made Flesh,

love us as we are, and then love us enough to help us change our ways.

(Silent Prayer)

Lord, Have Mercy

James MacMillan



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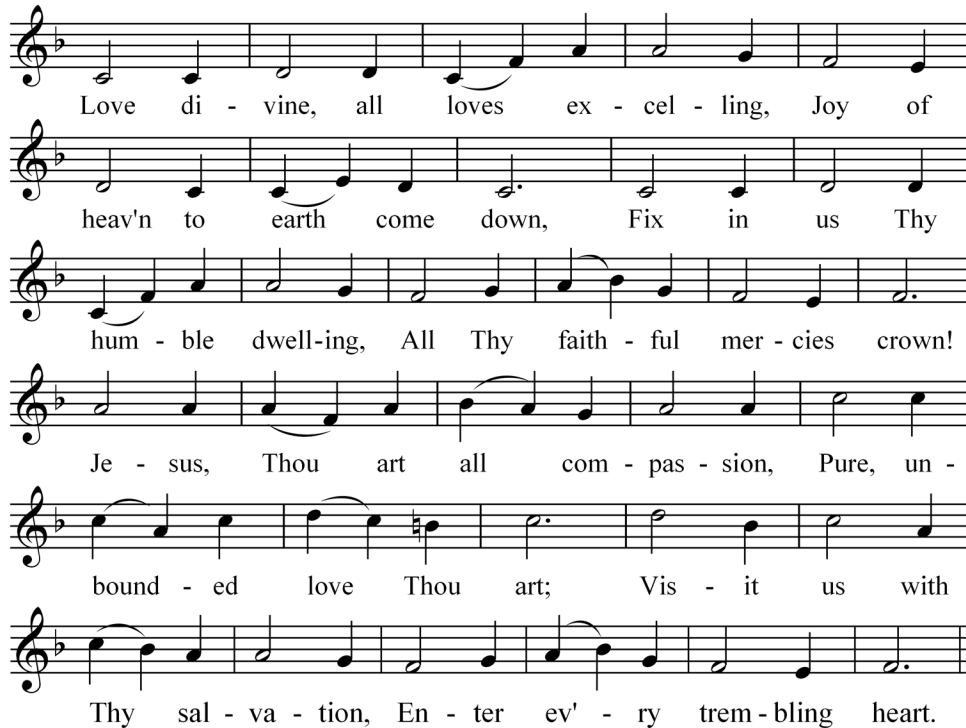
Assurance of God's Grace

... Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

*Response of Praise

Blaenwaern



Text: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)
Music: William Rowlands (1860-1937)

*Summary of God's Law

*Passing the Peace

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Our Life Together

Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt

Word in Action

Stephen MacDonald

Proclaiming God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Christina A. Cosby

Old Testament Lesson

Proverbs 31:10-31 (OT page 579)

*Psalm 1 (Hymn 158)

Dunfermline

Lesson with the Children and Youth

Children's Worship: Preschool through 3rd grades are dismissed to the Phillips Lounge.

Youth Worship: 4th through 8th grades are dismissed to the Dana Chapel.

They will return during the Doxology to participate in the rest of the service.

Epistle Lesson

James 3:1-12 (NT page 216)

Gospel Lesson

Mark 9:30-37 (NT page 42)

Gradual

Your Word is a Lamp to My Feet

Andrew Henderson

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Give me understanding that I may live.

—Psalm 119:105, 107b

Sermon

James:
Watch Your Mouth!

Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt

Responding to God's Word

*Hymn 426 (11:15 am)

Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak

Canonbury

Reception of New Members (11:15 am)

Elder Dorothy Kleinert

Kevin Barba, *by reaffirmation of faith*

Joshua Hill, *by reaffirmation of faith*

Judith Geis, *by reaffirmation of faith*

Chesna Hinkley, *by reaffirmation of faith*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended to heaven
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Aaronic Benediction (11:15 am)

John Weaver



Prayers of the People

Audrey E. Webber

*...Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

Presenting Our Offerings to God

Offertory (11:15 am)

The Best of Rooms

Gerald Near (b. 1942)

Christ, he requires still, wheresoever he comes,
To feed or lodge, to have the best of rooms;
Give him the choice; grant him the nobler part
Of all the house; the best of all's the heart.
— Robert Herrick (1591-1675)

*Doxology

Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God, all crea - tures
here be - low; Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly
host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

The Invitation to the Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sanctus

MacMillan

. . . who forever sing to the glory of your holy name:

(Organ) Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly
Lord, God of power and might. Heav'n and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bles - sed is he, O bles - sed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the



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Acclamation

... Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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.

Words of Institution

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Let us keep the feast.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Anthem

Blest Are the Pure in Heart

Henry Walford Davies
(1869-1941)

Blest are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God;
The secret of the Lord is theirs, their soul is Christ's abode.

Still to the lowly soul he doth himself impart,
And for his cradle and his throne chooseth the pure in heart.

— John Keble (1792-1866)

Congregational Song (11:15 am)



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Prayer at the Conclusion of the Meal

*Hymn 434

Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples

Kingsfold

*Charge and Benediction

*Congregational Response

Weaver



*Postlude

Praeludium in E minor

Nicolaus Bruhns
(1665-1697)

Worship Details

Cover Art

Today's cover art, *The Tower of Blue Horses* by Franz Marc, boldly displays the horses' power and might. In the reading from the letter of James today, we are reminded that our speech is equally powerful and mighty. There is both good news and significant warning here. Horses can be guided with a bridle; how are we guided in our speech? The poet Mary Oliver wrote a poem inspired by this painting, which reads, in part: "Franz Marc died a young man, shrapnel in his brain. / I would rather die than explain to the blue horses / what war is. / They would either faint in horror, or simply / find it impossible to believe. / I do not know how to thank you, Franz Marc. / Maybe our world will grow kinder eventually."

For All the Saints

Long-time member **Bill Shedden** died September 20 after a lengthy illness. Bill was 87 years old and joined MAPC when he was confirmed in 1949. Please remember his wife, Judy, in your prayers. Health issues have made it impossible for Bill and Judy to attend worship for the past few years, but prior to that they were in their pew at the front of the Sanctuary every Sunday.

A memorial service for member **Vera Gordon** will be held Saturday, October 13, at 11 am in the Sanctuary. A reception will follow. Vera died August 17, 2018, at home after a lengthy illness.

A memorial service for member **Ruth Weir** will be held Sunday, October 7, at 12:45 in the Dana Chapel and the Columbarium.

Information and Announcements

Adult Education with Rev. Dr. Frances Taylor Gench

All are invited to join us today at 10:10 in the Dana Chapel as Dr. Frances Taylor Gench presents "Matthew and The Face of Doubt." This will continue our series on Faces of Our Faith. Dr. Gench is the Herbert Worth and Annie H. Jackson Professor of Biblical Interpretation at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia. She is the author of six books and has served the PC(USA) at national levels. She is a parish associate at The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington, DC, where her husband, Rev. Dr. Roger Gench, is pastor.

High School Fellowship

Have you been looking for a space to call your own and reconnect with your church friends after a summer away or at camp? Today we begin our brand-new program for high schoolers. Meet with Audrey Webber, one of our seminary interns, on the 4th Floor of the Phillips Building.

All Church Retreat, September 28-29

This is your last chance to sign up! Come up Friday evening and enjoy extra fellowship time away from the city (conversation, a fire, s'mores, wine, and more!), or join us Saturday morning (the bus leaves from MAPC at 7:30 am) and spend the day. Details are available on our website or contact Beverly Barlett at bab@mapc.com. Sign up at Fellowship Hour!



Weekly Calendar

Monday, September 24

6:30 pm	Women's Bible Study	Phillips Lounge
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space

Tuesday, September 25

6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
7:00 pm	Session	Parish Hall

Wednesday, September 26

12:30 pm	Reading Through the Bible	Phillips Lounge
4 pm	Kid's Club	PH, PL, Gym, 5th Floor
4 pm	Wee Kids	4th Floor
4 pm	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
5 pm	T(w)een Club	Phillips Lounge
6 pm	Cocaine Anonymous	5th Floor
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space

Thursday, September 27

6 pm	20s/30s Bible Study	Apartment 10C
6:30 pm	Open Table Meal	Parish Hall
6:30 pm	Recovery Group	Library
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
7 pm	St. Andrew Chorale Rehearsal	5th Floor
8:30 pm	Church Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room

Friday, September 28

6 pm	All-Church Retreat	Holmes Camp
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space

Saturday, September 29

7:30 am	Bus departs for Holmes	Church House Lobby
9 am	All-Church Retreat	Holmes Camp
9 am	New York Presbytery	Riverdale Presbyterian Church

Faces of Our Faith Fall Sermon Series

- Sept. 9 The Syrophoenician Woman: We Need Outsiders
Rev. Jenny McDevitt
- Sept. 16 Lady Wisdom: Identity In a Time of Crisis
Rev. Jenny McDevitt
- Sept. 23 James: Watch Your Mouth**
Rev. Jenny McDevitt
- Sept. 30 Little Children: Our Sacred Responsibility
Rev. Jenny McDevitt
- Oct. 7 Job: When the Worst Happens
Rev. Jenny McDevitt
- Oct. 14 The Rich Man
Rev. Beverly Bartlett
- Oct. 21 Bartimaeus: Patron Saint of Imagination
Rev. Jenny McDevitt
- Oct. 28 James and John
Chesna Hinkley, seminary intern

Mission Statement

The mission of the Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church is to bring people into the transforming presence of Jesus Christ through worship, teaching the Word, Christian nurture, and ministry in and to the world. As Christ's ministers, our members are striving to build a community of God's love, justice, and mercy, trusting God to lead us into faithfulness.

Ministry Team Staff

- The Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt, *Senior Pastor and Head of Staff*
The Rev. Beverly A. Bartlett, *Associate Pastor*
The Rev. Paula V. Cooper, *Phillips Talbot Global Ministry Fellow*
Christina A. Cosby, *Director of Christian Formation*
Laura Graham, *Director of the Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church Day School*
The Rev. Rebecca M. Heilman, *Pastoral Resident*
Dr. Andrew E. Henderson, *Director of Music and Organist*
Mary W. Huff, *Associate Director of Music and Director of the NYC Children's Chorus*
Roger S. Pierce, Jr., *Director of Administration and Finance*
Chesna E. Hinkley, *Seminary Intern*
Audrey E. Webber, *Seminary Intern*
The Rev. Dr. Fred R. Anderson, *Pastor Emeritus*
Dr. John B. Weaver, *Director of Music and Organist Emeritus*