

# Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

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Second Sunday of Pentecost  
May 27, 2018 • 10:30 a.m.



*Study for Nicodemus Visiting Jesus, Henry Ossawa Tanner (1899)*

# Welcome to Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

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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 neighborhood church that takes seriously Jesus' instructions to love God and love our neighbors.

Our worship style is both traditional and relational. We lean on some of the language and music of those who have gone before us, but we seek to do so in ways that connect and resonate with today's world. Our preaching seeks to put the ancient stories of our faith in conversation with everyday life.

After worship, we gather in our Church House for coffee and cookies (standard Presbyterian snacks). Please join us and be sure to introduce yourself to one of our pastors before you leave. 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

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Your children are always welcome here at MAPC, and they are welcome to stay with you in worship. We don't mind the sounds little ones make -- they are the sounds of life and faith formation! If it is your preference, however, children three and under may be taken to the Nursey on the 4th floor. The Narthex and the Children's Library are also available. Speakers provide audio of the service.

## Membership and More Information

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Every other month we host an informal "Tell Me More About MAPC" conversation for those interested in exploring the possibility of membership or learning more about who we are and what we do. The next gathering will be held June 16 in the Phillips Lounge. RSVPs are helpful (but not required) to Lissette at [lgp@mapc.com](mailto:lgp@mapc.com).

# Order of Worship for the Lord's Day

*God of abundant grace, our lives are in your hands. You are the one who created us in the beginning, the one who redeemed us through your son, Jesus, and the one who sustains us every hour of every day. Speak to us, inspire us, and guide us this day, we pray.*

## Gathering in God's Name

Prelude

Prelude in E-flat major, BWV 552

*J. S. Bach  
(1685-1750)*

Call to Worship

Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt

If you are filled with conviction, welcome home:

**here we proclaim that the world is beautiful and God is good.**

If you are filled with heartbreak, welcome home:

**here we offer comfort to those who weep and rest to those who are weary.**

If you are filled with questions, welcome home:

**here we nurture belief but make space for doubt.**

If you are filled with hope, welcome home:

**here when we worship, God is among us, and everything is possible.**

\*Hymn 138

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

*Nicaea*

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Beverly A. Bartlett

**Merciful God, forgive us.**

**Unlike the psalmist,**

**we are afraid to lie down in green pastures  
or rest beside still waters.**

**Unlike Matthew, the gospel writer,**

**we forget the words of Jesus  
and insist on carrying heavy burdens.**

**Unlike Paul, the apostle,**

**we are not always sure  
that nothing can separate us from your love.**

**Forgive us when we are fragile enough to believe**

**that our brokenness is stronger than your grace.** (Silent prayer)

Lord, Have Mercy

*John Weaver*



# Assurance of God's Grace

... Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:  
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

## \*Gloria in Excelsis

Weaver

Choir  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Congregation  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, hea - ven - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we  
wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus  
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
You take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; You are  
seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. For  
You a - lone are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord, You a - lone are the  
Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly  
Spir - it in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

## \*Summary of God's Law

## \*Passing the Peace

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

# Proclaiming God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

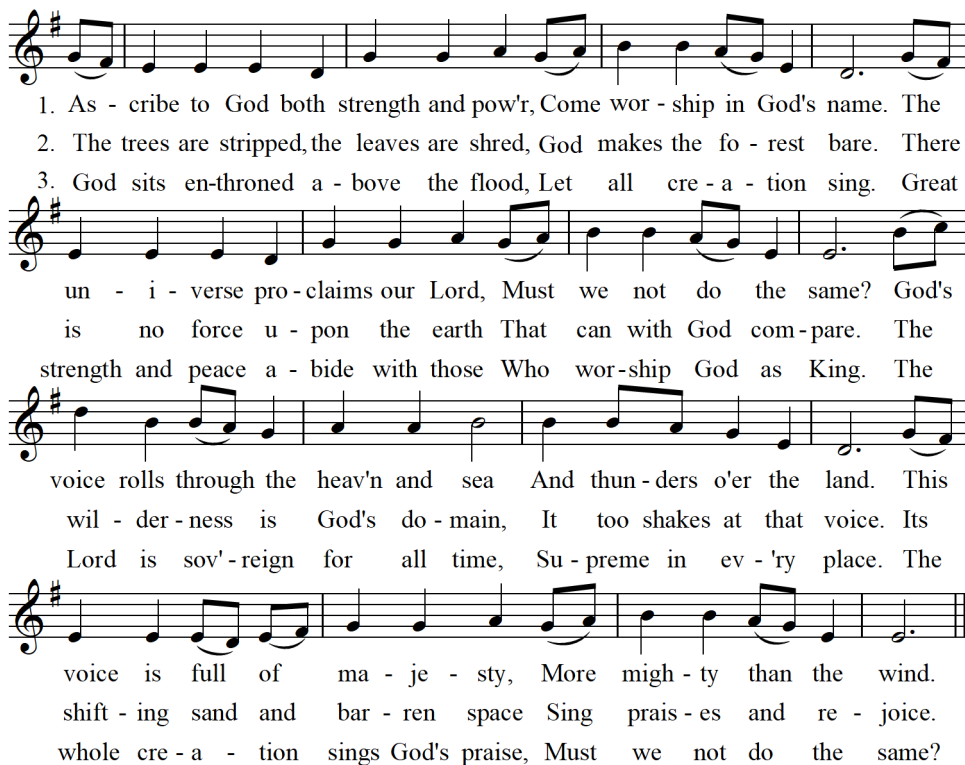
Christina Cosby

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 6:1-8  
OT page 597

\*Psalm 29

*Kingsfold*



1. As - cribe to God both strength and pow'r, Come wor - ship in God's name. The  
2. The trees are stripped, the leaves are shred, God makes the fo - rest bare. There  
3. God sits en-throned a - bove the flood, Let all cre - a - tion sing. Great  
un - i - verse pro - claims our Lord, Must we not do the same? God's  
is no force u - pon the earth That can with God com - pare. The  
strength and peace a - bide with those Who wor - ship God as King. The  
voice rolls through the heav'n and sea And thun - ders o'er the land. This  
wil - der - ness is God's do - main, It too shakes at that voice. Its  
Lord is sov' - reign for all time, Su - preme in ev - 'ry place. The  
voice is full of ma - je - sty, More migh - ty than the wind.  
shift - ing sand and bar - ren space Sing prais - es and re - joice.  
whole cre - a - tion sings God's praise, Must we not do the same?

Text: © Fred R. Anderson, 2007, all rights reserved  
Music: English Traditional, arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Time with the Children

*Children's Worship: Preschool through 3rd grades gather in Phillips Lounge.*

*Youth Worship: 4th through 8th grades gather in Dana Chapel.*

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

Epistle Reading

Romans 8:12-17  
NT page 147

Gospel Reading

John 3:1-17  
NT page 88

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Responding to God's Word

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\*Hymn 313

Come Down, O Love Divine

*Down Ampney*

\*Affirmation of Faith

from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.**

**The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,**

**sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,**

**and binds us together with all believers**

**in the one body of Christ, the Church.**

**The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles**

**rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,**

**engages us through the Word proclaimed,**

**claims us in the waters of baptism,**

**feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,**

**and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.**

**In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage**

**to pray without ceasing,**

**to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,**

**to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,**

**to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,**

**and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,**

**we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks**

**and to live holy and joyful lives,**

**even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,**

**praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

Prayers of the People

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

Our Life Together

## Collecting Our Offerings

Offertory Anthem

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (1921)

*French Carol*  
*arr. Gustav Holst (1874-1934)*

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;  
ponder nothing earthly minded for with blessing in his hand,  
Christ our Lord to earth descendeth our full homage to demand.

King of Kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,  
Lord of Lords in human vesture in the body and the blood;  
He will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,  
as the light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day;  
that the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged Seraph; Cherubim with sleepless eye,  
veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,  
Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya Lord most high! Amen.

Rod Gomez, baritone

— from the Liturgy of St. James (4th Century); trans. Gerald Moultrie (1829-1885)

\*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 Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

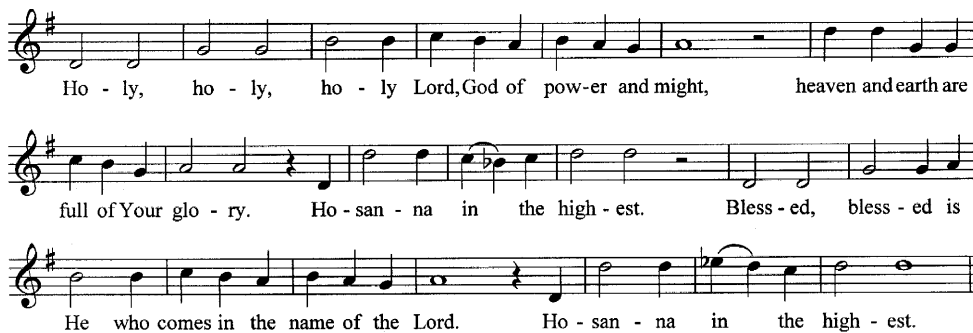
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

# The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

## Sanctus

Weaver



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heaven and earth are  
full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed, bless - ed is  
He who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Acclamation

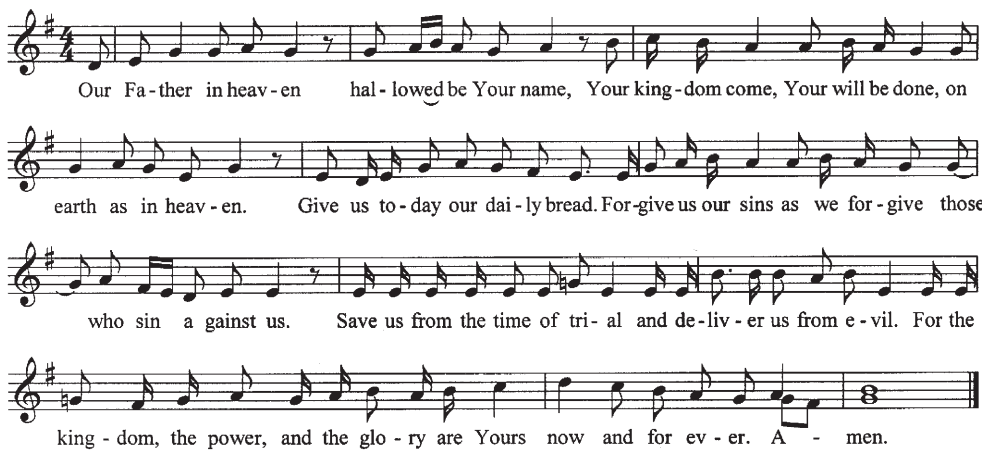
Weaver



Christ has died, Christ is ri - sen, Christ will come a - gain.

## The Lord's Prayer

Weaver



Our Fa - ther in heav - en hal - lowed be Your name, Your king - dom come, Your will be done, on  
earth as in heav - en. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we for - give those  
who sin a gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the  
king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are Yours now and for ev - er. A - men.

## Words Over the Table

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

**Let us keep the feast.**

## Sharing the Bread and Cup



Communion Anthem

Heilig, WoO 27 (1846)

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Heilig, heilig, heilig ist Gott der Herr  
Zebaoth! Alle Lande sind seiner Ehre  
voll. Hosanna in der Hoh! Gelobt sei  
der da dommt im Namen des Herrn!

*Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth.  
Heaven and Earth are full of your  
glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed  
is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*

— based on Isaiah 6

Congregational Song

Jacques Berthier (1923-1994)

**Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy.  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia.**

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Closing Prayer

\*Hymn 132

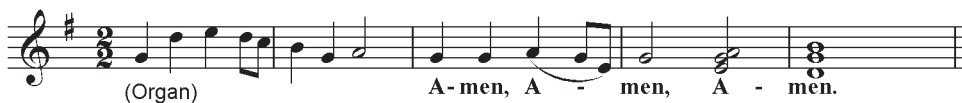
Come, Great God, of All the Ages

Abbot's Leigh

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Congregational Response

Weaver



(Organ)                      A - men, A - men, A - men.

\*Postlude

Fugue in E-flat major, 'St. Anne,' BWV 552

Bach

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## Information and Announcements

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### Summer Choir Begins

You're invited to sing on Sundays during the summer at MAPC! Our Summer Choir provides an opportunity for church members and friends to sing some beautiful choral music together as leaders of worship. Beginning today and continuing through Sunday, July 29, the Summer Choir will meet on Sunday mornings for a rehearsal at 9:30 am in preparation for our 10:30 am services. This is a great way to join in on the music-making at MAPC on an informal level; just come as you can. To peruse this summer's choral music repertoire, please see the brochures in the Narthex and Church House Lobby or visit the "Choir" page on our website. Please contact Andrew Henderson at [aeh@mapc.com](mailto:aeh@mapc.com).

### Roof Garden Party

Thursday, May 31 from 6 to 9, on the Roof Garden, of course! Chef Jim will be cooking for us and is planning a Mexican menu, complete with margaritas. So, come enjoy an "almost summer" Roof Garden Party full of fun for the adults of the church! Childcare is available. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erao at [lgp@mapc.com](mailto:lgp@mapc.com), or sign-up during fellowship hours on Sunday mornings. Suggested donation is \$40, and we ask for a \$15 contribution per child for childcare. We'll order pizza for the kids.

### Farewell Luncheon for Richard Frey

Sunday, June 3 in the Parish Hall, following the 10:30 am Worship Service. Our Business Manager, Richard Frey, is retiring at the end of May after almost 25 years at MAPC! Please come say thank you and farewell. In lieu of a purse, Richard has asked that donations be given to the scholarship fund he and his wife, Janet, have established at Richard's high school, Lancaster Mennonite School. The Frey Endowed Scholarship Fund provides financial assistance to residence hall students from varied racial/ethnic backgrounds. To contribute to the fund, you may place your gifts in the offering plate or mail them to the church: MAPC, 921 Madison Avenue; New York, NY 10021, Attn: Carmen Olmeda, or make a gift online through the MAPC website: [www.mapc.com/giving](http://www.mapc.com/giving) and look for "Richard Frey Gift" in the drop-down box.

### All-Church Retreat

September 28-29 at Holmes Camp and Conference Center. Mark your calendar now for the All-Church Retreat! We are having it a little earlier this year, hoping for beautiful weather for outdoor activities. We'll have plenty of room for those who want to come up and enjoy an evening of fellowship on Friday, and we will plan to start the program around 9 or 9:30 on Saturday for those who come for the day. More details coming soon.

### Bible Study Opportunities

- Women's Bible Study, Monday, June 11 at 6:30 pm in the Phillips Lounge
- Reading through the Bible, Wednesday, May 30 at 12:30 pm in the Phillips Lounge  
(This is a great time to join as we are just beginning the book of Proverbs!)
- 20s/30s Bible Study, Thursday, June 14, at 5:30 pm in 10-C

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## This Week's Calendar

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### Sunday, May 27

- 9:15 am – Child Care – 4th Floor
- 9:30 am – Summer Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
- 10:30 am – Worship – Sanctuary
- 10:45 am – Children's Worship – Phillips Lounge
- 11:45 am – Fellowship Hour – Lobby

### Monday, May 28

- Memorial Day – Church House Closed
- 6:30 pm – Overnight Shelter – Shelter Space

### Tuesday, May 29

- 9:00 am – Morning Prayer – Dana Chapel
- 6:00 pm – ESL Classes – Room 506
- 6:30 pm – Overnight Shelter – Shelter Space

### Wednesday, May 30

- 12:30 pm – Reading Through the Bible (Proverbs 1) – Phillips Lounge
- 6:00 pm – Cocaine Anonymous – 5th Floor
- 6:30 pm – Overnight Shelter – Shelter Space

### Thursday, May 31

- 6:30 pm – Roof Garden Party – Roof Garden, 5th Floor
- 6:30 pm – Recovery Group – Library
- 6:30 pm – Overnight Shelter – Shelter Space

### Friday, June 1

- 6:30 pm – Overnight Shelter – Shelter Space

### Saturday, June 2

- No Events Scheduled – Church House Closed

### Sunday, June 3

- 9:15 am – Child Care – 4th Floor
- 9:30 am – Summer Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
- 10:10 am – Inter-generation Church School Hour – Parish Hall
- 10:30 am – Worship – Sanctuary
- 10:45 am – Children's Worship – Phillips Lounge
- 11:45 am – Farewell to Richard Frey – Parish Hall
- 1:00 pm – Shelter Orientation – Shelter Space

## Current Sermon Series

# Encountering the Holy

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We don't talk about the Holy Spirit very much. We like to think about our faith, but the Spirit cannot be captured by our intellect. In fact, the Spirit resists every attempt we make to control it, not worrying a bit about our comfort or our carefully constructed plans. And thanks be to God for that. So we have to ask ourselves: what is the Spirit up to today?

May 20	Pentecost: Youth Sunday
<b>May 27</b>	<b>Do We Really Need to Be Born Again?</b>
June 3	Nevertheless, God Persisted
June 10	The Ugly Side of the Spirit
June 17	The Value of the Least (Rev. Beverly Barlett preaching)

## Mission Statement

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*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

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Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt, *Senior Pastor and Head of Staff*  
Rev. Beverly A. Bartlett, *Associate Pastor*  
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*  
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*  
Rev. Dr. Richard W. Shoup, *Pastoral Counselor*  
Rev. Dr. Fred Anderson, *Pastor Emeritus*  
Dr. John Weaver, *Director of Music and Organist Emeritus*