



Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

21st Sunday of Ordinary Time
August 26, 2018 • 10:30am



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 Sept. 8, 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

*Like plants search for sunlight and animals pant for water,
so we long for your presence and grace, O God.
Come close to us, comfort us, and transform us, we pray.*

Gathering in God's Name

Prelude

Adagio (from Symphonie No. 3)

*Louis Vierne
(1870-1937)*

Call to Worship

Christina A. Cosby

Whom do you seek here in this place?

We seek God, our Creator, who brought us to life.

Who has told you of God?

Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, has shown us the love of God through his life.

Be strong in the Lord, who provides for your every need.

The Holy Spirit, our Sustainer, strengths us throughout our lives.

*Hymn 473

For the Beauty of the Earth

Dix

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Rebecca M. Heilman

Merciful God,

**You call us to serve you sincerely in all faithfulness,
but we wander far from your ways.**

**We wander searching for the next new thing,
and we forget that you wander searching for us.**

**O God, we pick up armor to protect ourselves, often harming others,
forgetting that you clothe us with more than we need
and call us along the path for peace.**

**Too often we seek the temporal,
trying to fit in with those around us.**

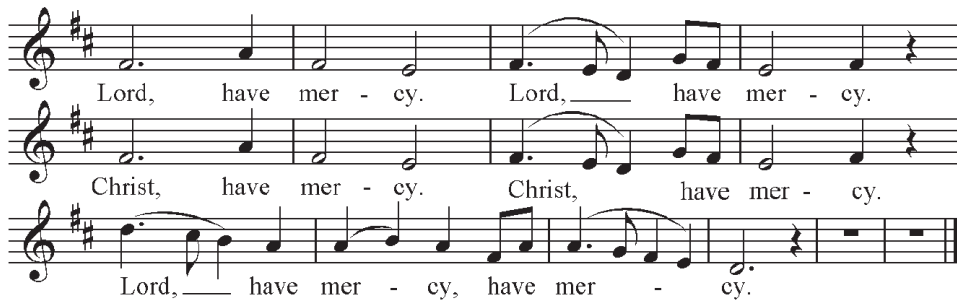
But Jesus came to share words of eternal life.

**Lord, in these moments, forgive us
and grant us grace to forgive others and forgive ourselves.**

(Silent Prayer)

Lord, Have Mercy (from *Deutsche Messe*)

Franz Schubert



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

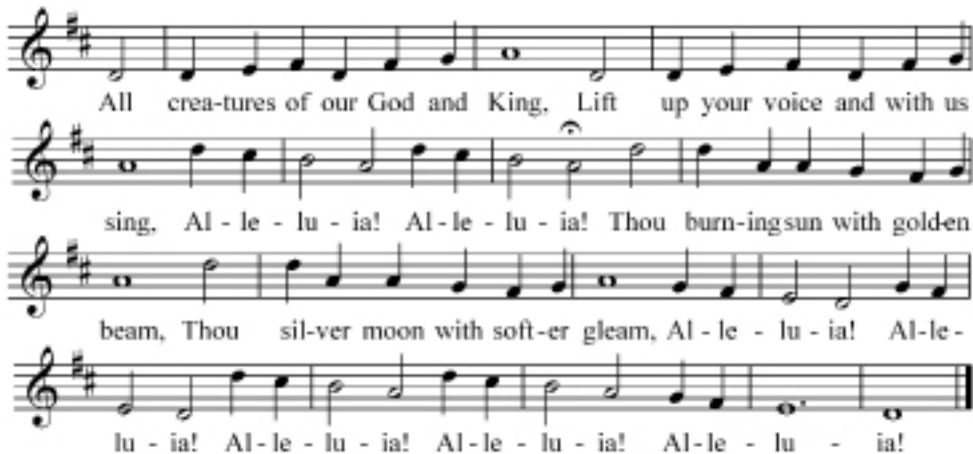
Assurance of God's Grace

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

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

*Response of Praise

Lasst uns erfreuen



All crea-tures of our God and King, Lift up your voice and with us
sing, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Thou burn-ingsun with golden
beam, Thou sil-ver moon with soft-er gleam, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1225; trans. William H. Draper, 1910
Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, 1623; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

*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

Old Testament Lesson

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18
OT page 290, 292

*Psalm 84 (Hymn 207)

Merle's Tune

Lesson with the Children and Youth

Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt

*Children's Worship: Preschool through 3rd grades are dismissed to the Phillips Lounge.
They will return during the Doxology to participate in the rest of the service.*

Epistle Lesson

Ephesians 6:10-20
NT page 183

Gospel Lesson

John 6:56-69
NT page 93

Sermon

A Wandering People, A Wandering God

Christina A. Cosby

Responding to God's Word

*Hymn 329

Break Thou the Bread of Life

Bread of Life

*Affirmation of Faith

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated on the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

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

Our Life Together

Presenting Our Offerings to God

Offertory Solo

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

*Eric H. Thiman
(1900-1975)*

Jesus, the very thought of thee
with sweetness fills my breast;
but sweeter far thy face to see,
and in thy presence rest.

Nor voice can sing, nor heart can frame,
Nor can the memory find
A sweeter sound than thy blest name,
O Savior of mankind.

O hope of ev'ry contrite heart,
O joy of all the meek,
to those who fall how kind thou art,
How good to those who seek!

But what to those who find? Ah this
nor tongue nor pen can show;
the love of Jesus, what it is
none but his loved ones know.

Jesu, our only joy be thou,
as thou our prize wilt be;
Jesu, be thou our glory now,
and through eternity.

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 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

Let us pray . . .

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

Sanctus

Schubert

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
 might, _____ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
 God of power and might, _____ hea - ven and earth are
 full _____ full, _____ of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - sa - na in the
high - est. Ho - sa - na in the high - est.

Acclamation

. . . 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

Communion Solo

Lord God of Abraham (from *Elijah*)

Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel; this day let it be known that thou art God, and I am thy servant! O show to all this people that I have done these things according to thy word! O hear me, Lord, and answer me; and show this people that thou art Lord God; and let their hearts again be turned!

—1 Kings 18:36, 37

Prayer at the Conclusion of the Meal

Singing with MAPC

Are you interested in singing with the Church Choir, or our choral society, the Saint Andrew Chorale? The Church Choir sings anthems and provides musical leadership for our 11:15 am services and special liturgies from September through May. The Saint Andrew Chorale sings concerts as a part of the Saint Andrew Music Society concert season, often joined by orchestras and accompanied by professional instrumentalists. Rehearsals for both the Church Choir and Saint Andrew Chorale resume on Thursday, September 6. If you are interested, visit the Choirs page on our website, or contact Andrew Henderson: aeh@mapc.com, or 212-288-8920.

Saint Andrew Music Society: Announcing our 54th Season

The Saint Andrew Music Society's 54rd Season brochure has been sent off to the printers! While we await receiving the mailing, you can peruse all fifteen concerts taking place this season on our website [in print: www.mapc.com/music/sams/concerts], ranging from performances by our very own choral society – the Saint Andrew Chorale & Orchestra; MAPC's community children's chorus program – the New York City Children's Chorus; students from The Juilliard School, Mannes College, and the Manhattan School of Music; and a host of recitals featuring vocalists and chamber ensembles.

Wednesday Afternoon Kids Club

Kids and families, join us Wednesday afternoons from 4-6 pm for Kids Club! This year is going to be better than ever! Bible Study, Choir, Recreation, and Dinner all begin on September 12th. To register, visit mapc.com/education/childrens-ministry or contact Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com.

Middle School Mid-Week Youth Group

Middle schoolers, we're trying something new just for you! Join us for T(w)een Club Wednesday evenings from 5-7 pm. We'll share dinner and study the Bible with Rev. Jenny McDevitt (bring all your tough questions — she's ready for you!). Mary Huff is directing a youth choir that won't be the same without you, so bring your joyful singing voice. We'll mix in some games, crafts, service options, and other activities from time to time, too. Haven't joined us on Wednesday nights before? This is the perfect chance to change that. (Want to come by right after school? That's okay, too. There will be study hall space and snacks available for you.) To register, contact Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com or visit mapc.com/education/childrens-ministry.

Save the Dates!

Sept. 2 — Welcome Reception for Pastoral Resident Rev. Rebecca Heilman

Sept. 14 — Church Family Nights return

Sept. 23 — Rev. Jenny McDevitt's Installation as Senior Pastor of MAPC

Sept. 28-29 — All-Church Retreat at Holmes Camp and Conference Center

Oct. 10 — MAPC's First Ever Blessing of the Animals

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, August 26

- 9:30 am Child Care – 4th Floor
- 10:30 am Worship – Sanctuary
- 10:45 am Children's Worship – Phillips Lounge
- 11:45 am Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall
- 6:30 pm Overnight Shelter – Shelter Space

Monday, August 27

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

Tuesday, August 28

- 6:30 pm Overnight Shelter – Shelter Space

Wednesday, August 29

- 6:00 pm Cocaine Anonymous – Parish Hall
- 6:30 pm Overnight Shelter – Shelter Space

Thursday, August 30

- 6:30 pm Thursday Open Table – Parish Hall
- 6:30 pm Recovery Group – Library
- 6:30 pm Overnight Shelter – Shelter Space

Friday, August 31

- 6:30 pm Overnight Shelter – Shelter Space

Saturday, September 1

No Events Scheduled – Church House Closed

Sunday, September 2

- 9:30 am Child Care – 4th Floor
- 10:30 am Worship – Sanctuary
- 10:45 am Children's Worship – Phillips Lounge
- 11:45 am Rev. Rebecca Heilman Welcome Reception – Parish Hall
- 6:30 pm Overnight Shelter – Shelter Space

Summer Sermons

August 26 Christina Cosby: *A Wandering People, A Wandering God*

September 2 Rev. Rebecca Heilman

Faces of Our Faith Fall Sermon Series

The Bible is the story of God, and because God created and loves humanity, the Bible is also the story of humanity -- of people who are more like us than we might sometimes think. This series explores eight different biblical figures that emerge from the lectionary texts. Some may be more familiar than others, but all of them have something to teach us: about faith, about God, and about ourselves. Look for other ways to connect with this theme, including interactive activities in the Church House Lobby. This series begins September 9 with Rev. Jenny McDevitt preaching.

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

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*

Rev. Rebecca 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*

Rev. Dr. Fred R. Anderson, *Pastor Emeritus*

Dr. John B. Weaver, *Director of Music and Organist Emeritus*