



Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 1, 2019 • 10:30 am



921 Madison Avenue • mapc.com • 212.288.8920

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 . . .

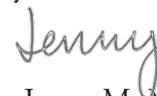
Whether you came with a friend or just wandered in accidentally . . .

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 on Sundays, 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 M. 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 September 28, 2019 at 9 am in the Phillips Lounge. Childcare provided with advance request. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo at lgp@mapc.com.

Order of Worship for the Lord's Day

Let your love enter into this place, O God, that we would be ready to love you in return.

Gathering in God's Name

Prelude

Two Arias

*Herbert Howells
(1892-1983)*

Call to Worship

Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt

Now thus says the Lord:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.
“I have called you by name and you are mine.”

Through water and river,
through wind and flame:
“I have called you by name and you are mine.”

Through heartbreak and tragedy,
through nightmares that do not disappear in the daytime:
“I have called you by name and you are mine.”

Through everything that has been,
through everything still yet to come:
“I have called you by name and you are mine.”

*Hymn 361

How Firm a Foundation

Foundation

* Please stand in body or in spirit.

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Beverly A. Bartlett

Merciful God,
You promise never to forsake us.
 Forgive us when we forsake you.
You insist upon seeing the best in us.
 Forgive us when we assume the worst of one another.

You are patient and kind, steady and strong.

Forgive us when our spirits wane and our hearts grow weary.

For all the wrong we have done,

and for all the good we have failed to do,

forgive us. (Silent prayer)

Lord, Have Mercy

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-ing sun 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 Kirchengesang*, 1623; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

*Summary of God's Law

... "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment?" Jesus said to him:

**"You shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart and with all your soul
and with all your mind and with all your strength.
This is the first and greatest commandment.
And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.
On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."**

*Passing of the Peace

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

Our Life Together

Proclaiming God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Elder Carolyn W. Clark

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 43:1-3a, 5-19 (OT page 631)

*Psalm 81

Forest Green



1. Sing out with joy to God our strength, The God of Ja - cob praise,
2. But we your peo - ple would not hear, Nor lis - ten to your voice.
3. You plead for us to hear your voice, To hear - ken and o - bey.



Who brought us forth from E - gypt's grip, From slav 'ry did us save.
Our self - ish wills would not sub - mit, Nor make your way our choice.
You prom - ise to sub - due our foes And sweep them all a - way.



Who prom -ised to pro - vide for us; To nur -ture and to feed,
You gave us to our stub - born hearts; Their coun - cil to o - bey,
You pledge to give us all__ we need, With fin - est wheat sup - ply,



To fill our mouths with all good things, To give us all we need.
We turned from all your prom - is - es, To walk in our own way.
And give us hon - ey from the__ rock, Rich food to sat - is - fy.

Lesson with the Children and Youth

New Testament Lesson

1 Corinthians 13 (NT page 164)

Sermon

What Love Can't Do

Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt

Responding to God's Word

*Hymn

Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost

Capetown



1. Gra - cious Spir - it, Ho - ly Ghost, Taught by you, we cov - et most,
2. Love is kind and suf - fers long; Love is meek and thinks no wrong;
3. Proph - e - cy will fade a - way, Melt - ing in the light of day;
4. Faith and hope and love we see, Join - ing hand in hand a - gree,



Of your gifts at Pen - te - cost, Ho - ly, heaven - ly love.
Love than death it - self more strong; There - fore give us love.
Love will ev - er with us stay; There - fore give us love.
But the great - est of the three, And the best, is love.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885)

Music: Friedrich Filitz (1804-1876)

Public Domain.

*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.

Presenting Our Offerings to God

Solo

The Gift of Love

*English Folk Melody
arr. Hal H. Hopson (b. 1933)*

Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire, and have
not love; my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess, But not be
given by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control. Our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed. By this we worship and are freed. Amen.

—Paraphrase of 1 Corinthians 13 by Hal Hopson

Helen Karloski, soloist

*Doxology

Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, 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

Schubert

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

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, 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.

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

The bread you are served is gluten free.

The bronzed chalices contain wine; you are invited to take a sip or dip your bread into the cup.

The glass chalices contain juice; you are invited to dip your bread into the cup.

Prayers of Healing and Wholeness

Solo

O Rest in the Lord
(from *Elijah*)

Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

O rest in the Lord; wait patiently for Him; and He shall give thee thy heart's desires.
Commit thy way unto Him, and trust in Him, and fret not thyself because of evildoers.

-Psalm 37:1, 4, 5, 7

Helen Karloski, soloist

Prayer at the Conclusion of the Meal

*Hymn 539

Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise

Ellers

*Benediction

*Congregational Response

John Weaver



*Postlude

Allegro maestoso e vivace (from *Sonata No. 4*)

Mendelssohn

Today's chancel flowers are given to the glory of God
and in memory of Dr. James King.

Worship Details

Cover Art

"Love," Robert Indiana, 1970. W. 55th St. & 6th Avenue, New York.

Guest Organist

Today we are pleased to welcome guest organist Kevin Walters, who retired in 2015 after forty-eight years as a church musician, the last twenty-two as Director of Music at Rye Presbyterian Church, Rye, NY. He has also served at Marble Collegiate Church and St Bartholomew's Church in New York, is a Fellow of the American Guild of Organists, and holds degrees from the Manhattan School of Music, the Royal College of Organists, and General Theological Seminary.

Soloists

During the month of August and on Labor Day weekend soloists from our professional octet are providing solos at our 10:30 am worship services. Mezzo-soprano Helen Karloski has been a member of MAPC's professional octet since 2011 and also serves as Program Director of our New York City Children's Chorus. A native of Pittsburgh, Helen is a versatile artist, equally at home in opera, oratorio, choral and musical theater. The Church Choir will return next Sunday when the regular Sunday morning schedule resumes, with services at 9 and 11:15 am.

Information and Announcements

September 8: Two Worship Services, Blessing of the Backpacks, and Picnic in the Park
Next Sunday, September 8, we return to our academic year schedule with worship at 9 am and 11:15 am and an adult education hour at 10:10 am. Students, children, and adults, bring your backpacks, bookbags, and briefcases to worship on September 8 to receive a blessing. At 12:45 pm, we'll gather at E. 72nd Street and Fifth Avenue for a picnic in Central Park. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo at lgp@mapc.com. (In the event of rain or extreme heat, we'll gather in the Parish Hall.)

Weekly Calendar

Monday, September 2

Labor Day - Church House closed

Tuesday, September 3

No events scheduled

Wednesday, September 4

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| 12:30 pm | Reading Through the Bible | Phillips Lounge |
| 6:00 pm | Cocaine Anonymous | 5th Floor |
| 7:00 pm | Deacons | Parish Hall |

Thursday, September 5

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| 1:00 pm | Spiritual Growth & Faith Sharing Group | James Lenox House |
| 6:30 pm | Thursday Open Table | Parish Hall |
| 7:00 pm | Saint Andrew Chorale Rehearsal | Sanctuary |
| 8:30 pm | Church Choir Rehearsal | Choir Room |

Friday, September 6

No events scheduled

Saturday, September 7

No events scheduled

Sunday, September 8

| | | |
|----------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 9:00 am | Worship | Sanctuary |
| 9:15 am | Children's Worship | Phillips Lounge |
| 10:00 am | Fellowship Hour | Parish Hall |
| 10:10 am | Adult Education | Parish Hall |
| 10:20 am | Church Choir Rehearsal | Choir Room |
| 11:15 am | Worship | Sanctuary |
| 11:30 am | Children's Worship | Phillips Lounge |
| 12:30 pm | Fellowship Hour | Parish Hall |
| 12:45 pm | Picnic in the Park | Central Park, 72nd St. |

Adult Education

Fall 2019

Sundays 10:10 am Parish Hall

Looking at Luke

September 8—Overview

September 15—Luke and Women

September 22—Luke and Money

September 29—Luke and Food

Faithful Living in Challenging Times

October 6—Act in Hope

October 13—Cultivate Joy

October 20, 27, November 3, 10—

Live in Gratitude

New - Evening Bible Study

*1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at 7 pm,
8th Floor, with refreshments. The first meeting
will be Monday, September 16.*

We will begin with a look at the gospels,
reading N.T. Wright's book, *Simply Jesus: A
New Vision of Who He Was, What He Did
and Why He Matters.*

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*

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*

Teresa D. Tynes, *Director of Communication*

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

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