



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
of MADISON



July 26, 2026

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

ORDER of WORSHIP

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship** from Psalm 119

Leader: The guidance of the Lord is wonderful,

People: The unfolding of God's word gives light and understanding.

Leader: Turn to us, O God, and give us grace.

People: Make your face shine upon us as we come together to worship you.

(Music for the hymns is in the back of the bulletin.)

***Opening Hymn** *When We Are Living*

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, forgive us when we hurt our loved ones with sharp words, or when we use silence to punish others. Forgive us when our actions are a far cry from what you would have us do. Break into our lives and form us into the image of your Son. Help us to always feel your presence surrounding us, and may we never feel separated from your love.

(Silent confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the good news!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

An asterisk(*) indicates that those who are able are invited to stand. Bold letters denote that we say the words in unison. Italic fonts direct us to sing.

***Congregational Response #582**

Glory to God

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free,
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

***Passing of the Peace**

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

(You may pass the peace to one another.)

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Children's Message

Hymn # 464

Our Father, Which Art in Heaven

Prayer for Illumination

Loving God, inspire us by your Holy Spirit that the words we read on the page might become living words in our hearts and lives as we encounter the grace, love, and peace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

First Scripture Reading

Romans 8:26-39

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Too Deep for Words

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Affirmation of Faith**

Adapted from the Confession of 1967

**The life, death, resurrection,
and promised coming of Jesus Christ
has set the pattern for the church’s mission.
His human life involves the church
in the common life of all people.
His service to men and women
commits the church
to work for every form of human well-being.
His suffering makes the church sensitive
to all human suffering
so that it sees the face of Christ
in the faces of persons in every kind of need...
So to live and serve
is to confess Christ as Lord.**

The Gifts of Our Tithes and Offering

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

*Doxology

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!

*Prayers of Dedication and Thanksgiving

Prayers of the People

Joys and Concerns

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.

GOING FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD

*Closing Hymn

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

*Charge and Blessing

*Postlude

As our time of worship comes to an end, our time of service begins.

*We are the church, sent out in Jesus' name,
to be Christ's body in the world.*

WORSHIP LEADER

Becky Moody

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MADISON!

We'd love for you to join us in our activities, so please fill in the Welcome Card, which can be found in the room by the parking lot entrance.

WHILE YOU WORSHIP WITH US:

- **THE LORD'S SUPPER** is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month.
- **FOR YOUNG ONES** - Although children are always welcome in worship, nursery care for children from six months through three years of age is provided in our playroom in the Parish House. Please ask an usher to direct you.
- **JOINING OUR CONGREGATION** - Please speak with Pastor Carol for additional information.
- **GET OUR ENEWS** - Keep current with our news and activities through email. Place your email address in the offering plate.

LEARN MORE ABOUT US by visiting our website at www.pcmadison.org and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ThePresbyterianChurchofMadison.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICES IN WEBB CHAPEL

Summer worship services will be held in Webb Chapel through **September 6**.

BIBLE STUDY - MONDAY EVENINGS

Please join us in the Parlor for a Bible Study on Monday evenings at 6:30 pm.

MADISON STUDENTS ARE READY TO SHINE - THANKS TO YOU!

Thanks to your generosity, we have more than doubled our pledge to the Madison Housing Authority's annual Back to School Program.

As of July 21, our community has donated:

- 43 binders
- 43 packages of loose-leaf notebook paper
- 1 backpack

Every gift will help a Madison student begin the 2026–2027 school year feeling prepared and supported. The mission team is deeply grateful to everyone who contributed.

Special thanks to Morris Habitat for Humanity ReStore for its generous donation of brand-new binders.

There is still time to help: donations will be collected through Sunday, **July 26**, in Webb Chapel and near the church office. All supplies will be delivered to the Madison Housing Authority in early August.

INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

In the second quarter of 2026 we donated 318 pounds of food, bringing our year-to-date total to 473 pounds. From the acknowledgement letter: "Your donation makes a difference for the many low-income working families, seniors, people with disabilities, and others in crisis who turn to us for support. ... The most recent study conducted by the United Way indicates that about 25% of Morris County households earn too much to qualify for federal benefits, yet still struggle with making impossible choices between paying rent, childcare and other necessities, and putting food on the table." The IFP is encouraging donations of breakfast and lunch items for children who miss out on their free school meals during summer break - items such as individual boxes of cereal and packs of crackers, whole grain cereal or granola bars, pouches of tuna, canned fruit, 100% juice boxes and shelf-stable milk.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY DONATING YOUR SPARE CHANGE TO HELP FIGHT FOOD INSECURITY?

The Mission Team has created an easy way for you to put those extra pennies, nickels, and dimes to good use. Every Sunday, you'll find a container where you can drop off your coins. Quarters designated for RAMP should continue to go in the tube and will be matched by an amount from the mission budget. All coins collected (except quarters) will be counted at the CoinStar machine at Stop and Shop, and every cent will go directly to Feeding America, which is a nationwide network of 200 food banks and 60,000 food pantries and programs, providing food and support to people facing hunger.

According to their website, every dollar donated helps provide at least 10 meals. Families can get involved by having children sort coins into two piles—quarters for RAMP and all other change for Feeding America.

ONLINE GIVING

Thank you for supporting the vision and ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Madison. Scan the following QR code to use our secure online giving form to make a one-time donation or conveniently schedule recurring gifts.



Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
2 Corinthians 9:7

PRAYER LIST

During the week, each one of us can make it a part of our daily spiritual practice to pray. You are invited to participate, as you are able, offering prayer in light of God's healing love.

If you have an update for the prayer list, please email Rev. Carol Howard at carolhoward@pcmadison.org or call the church office at 973-377-1600. Thank you for helping us maintain a more current prayer list.

- Prayers for the Coyne family of Chatham after the passing of Peter Coyne
- Debbie and daughter Sarah for a permanent solution to their homeless situation
- Prayers for John and Louise
- David's grandson for his faith-focused journey
- Laurie living with Parkinson's disease
- Gratitude for Yuka's healing and traveling blessings for her trip to Japan
- Jack living with Parkinson's and Melissa (his daughter) and Lynn (his wife) as they encourage and support him
- Lucy and family, after the recent passing of their father
- John and his wife, Kathy, as he starts a new clinical trial at Mayo Clinic for a rare form of Parkinson's
- Jordan for healing and relief from pain
- Jackie and her children, as they grieve their husband and father
- Doug, a friend of the Burnet family, who was recently diagnosed with a serious illness
- Immigrants
- Kathleen, caregiver for her parents
- Susan, sister of Bob Landrigan, as she battles Parkinson's disease

When We Are Living

822

Pues si vivimos

1 When we are liv - ing, it is in Christ Je - sus,
 2 Through all our liv - ing, we our fruits must give.
 3 'Mid times of sor - row and in times of pain,
 4 A - cross this wide world, we shall al - ways find

1 Pues si vi - vi - mos, pa - ra Él vi - vi - mos,
 2 En es - ta vi - da fru - tos hay que dar
 3 En la tris - te - za y en el do - lor,
 4 En es - te mun - do por do - quier ha - brá



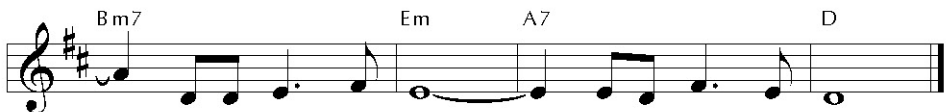
and when we're dy - ing, it is in the Lord.
 Good works of ser - vice are for of - fer - ing.
 when sens - ing beau - ty or in love's em - brace,
 those who are cry - ing with no peace of mind,

y si mo - ri - mos pa - ra Él mo - ri - mos.
 y bue - nas o - bras he - mos de o - fren - dar.
 en la be - lle - za y en el a - mor,
 gen - te que llo - ra y sin con - so - lar.



Both in our liv - ing and in our dy - ing,
 When we are giv - ing, or when re - ceiv - ing,
 wheth - er we suf - fer, or sing re - joic - ing,
 but when we help them, or when we feed them,

Sea que vi - va - mos o que mu - ra - mos,
 Sea ya que de - mos o que re - ci - ba - mos,
 sea que su - fra - mos o que go - ce - mos,
 Sea que a - yu - de - mos o que a - li - men - te - mos,



we be - long to God; we be - long to God.
 so - mos del Se - ñor, so - mos del Se - ñor.

582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Capo 3: (G) B $\flat$ (D) (G) (D) F B $\flat$ F (G) B $\flat$ (D) F (Em) Gm (D) F

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(D) F (G) B $\flat$ (C) E $\flat$ (G) B $\flat$ (Em7) Gm7 (A7) C7

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(A7) C7 (D) F (F $\sharp$) A (Bm) Dm

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) Dm7 (D) F (Bdim7) Ddim7 (Em7) Gm7 (Dm)(A7) (D) Fm C7 F

As it was in the be - gin-ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

Our Father, Which Art in Heaven 464



1 Our Fa - ther, which art in heav - en:
 2 On earth as it is in heav - en:
 3 And for-give us all our debts:
 4 And lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion:
 5 For thine is the king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry:



Thy king - dom come; thy will be done:
 Give us this day our dai - ly bread:
 As we for - give our debt - ors:
 But de - liv - er us from e - vil:
 For - ev - er and ev - er, a - men:



My Shepherd Will Supply My Need 803

(Psalm 23)



1 My shep-herd will sup- ply my need; Je - ho - vah is his name.

2 When I walk through the shades of death your pres-ence is my stay;

3 The sure pro - vi - sions of my God at - tend me all my days;



In pas - tures fresh he makes me feed, be - side the liv - ing stream.

one word of your sup - port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way.

O may your house be my a - bode, and all my work be praise.



He brings my wan - dering spir - it back when I for - sake his ways,

Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta - ble spread;

There would I find a set - tled rest, while oth - ers go and come;



and leads me, for his mer - cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.

my cup with bless - ings o - ver - flows; your oil a - noints my head.

no more a strang - er, or a guest, but like a child at home.



CREDITS

Cover Art: “Still Life with Loaves” by Ilya Mashkov

WELCOMING ALL
AS A LOVING COMMUNITY
CENTERED IN CHRIST,
GROWING IN FAITH,
SERVING IN JOY, AND
LIVING IN GRATITUDE

STAFF

Reverend Carol Howard
Pastor

Christine Antico
Bookkeeper

Eileen Koppi
Administrative Assistant

Michael Callahan
Student Ministries & Outreach

Anna D'Achille
Director of Music

WORSHIP
Sunday Service 10:15 am

SESSION

Rachel Currie	Susana Fonticoba
Ethan Gorsak	Stephanie Haedrich
Becky Moody - Clerk	John Schanck
Julie Siciliano	Giorgios Vlamis

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



ThePresbyterianChurchofMadison

| info@pcmadison.org

| 973- 377-1600