



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
*of* MADISON



May 4, 2025

Third Sunday of Easter

# ORDER of WORSHIP

## THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

### Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

### \*Call to Worship

Leader: We gather together and welcome the spring!

People: **With floods of yellow gold, the gorgeous rising sun  
burns and expands the air,**

Leader: With fresh sweet herbs under foot, the pale green  
leaves grow,

People: **With fragrant cedars, ghostly pines, and the carol of  
the bird,**

Leader: With lilacs blooming, their delicate blossoms, strong  
perfume, and every miraculous leaf,

People: **We praise you, God, for all of your abundant life!**

### \*Opening Hymn

*Open My Eyes, That I May See*

### Prayer of Confession

Loving God, forgive us. In the stress of market fluctuations, inventory scares, and constant advertising, we fear that we will not have enough. We worry about scarcity. In our anxiety, we grasp for more, and we forget about the well-being of our neighbor. Help us to remember the abundance that surrounds us. Remind us that you take care of the lilies of the field, and you will take care of us. Help us to know that we have enough. Through Jesus Christ, we pray.

(A moment of silence is observed.)

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.

## **Assurance of Pardon**

**Leader:** Friends, believe the good news!

**People:** In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

## **\*Congregational Response**

*You alone can rescue,  
You alone can save,  
You alone can lift us from the grave;  
You came down to find us, led us out of death,  
To you alone belongs the highest praise,  
Amen.*

## **\*Passing of the Peace**

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

**People:** And also with you.

(You may pass the peace to one another.)

# **PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

## **Children's Message**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

**God of abundance, through the words we hear this morning, may we see the gifts that you have given us, and may we know your loving care, through your Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## **First Scripture Reading**

**Acts 9:1-9**

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting."

But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight and neither ate nor drank.

**Leader:** This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

## **Second Scripture Reading**

John 21:1-19

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.” He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he had taken it off, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them, and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.”

He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

**Leader:** This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**Sermon**

*Abundance in the Midst of Fear*

## **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

from the Brief Statement of Faith

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

**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!*

## **\*Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving**

### **The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

#### **Invitation to the Lord's Table**

#### **The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**One:** The Lord be with you!

**All:** And also with you!

**One:** Lift up your hearts.

**All:** We lift them to the Lord.

**One:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

#### **Sanctus**

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!*

*Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;*

*Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!*

*God in three persons, blessed Trinity!*

#### **\*Communion Hymn**

*What Wondrous Love Is This*

#### **\*Communion of the People**

### **Prayers after Communion and the Lord's Prayer**

#### **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

*Holy God, We Praise Your Name*  
*(v1, v3, and v4)*

\*Benediction

\*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

Peter Teshima

# 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 your pew, to give us contact information. Please stay after the service today for fellowship time and refreshments in the Narthex. It's a great way to get to know one another!

## WHILE YOU WORSHIP WITH US:

- **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** - Please write your request for prayers to be included in the service in the book on the podium found at the center entrance of the sanctuary. You'll also have a chance to share them during the service.
- **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** - Classes are offered for those who would like to become members of our congregation. Please call the church office or speak with Pastor Carol for additional information.
- **GET OUR NEWSLETTER** - Keep current with our news and activities through email. If you are not currently getting it, you can sign up by putting your email on the Welcome Card, or you can contact the church office.

LEARN MORE ABOUT US by visiting our website at [www.pcmadison.org](http://www.pcmadison.org) and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ThePresbyterianChurchofMadison](https://www.facebook.com/ThePresbyterianChurchofMadison).



## **DINNER AND DISCUSSION - MAY 6**

Please join us on Tuesday, May 6 at 6:30 pm for a “Dinner and Discussion.” Pastor Carol will lead the group in a short Bible study as we gather for dinner in the Parlor. If you’re interested, please contact Jim Burnet ([jimburnet@gmail.com](mailto:jimburnet@gmail.com)) so we know how much dinner to order!

## **CEMETERY RESTORATION DAY - MAY 10**

Come help us clean and restore markers on Saturday, May 10 from 9:30 am - 11:30 am. Together, we can save history! No experience needed. Just bring a pair of work gloves and a smile. Please email [jimburnet@gmail.com](mailto:jimburnet@gmail.com) with any questions.

## **BREAKFAST AT NAUTILUS DINER - MAY 27**

Join us for an enjoyable morning of fun and fellowship at the Nautilus Diner, 97 Main Street, Madison on Tuesday, May 27 at 7:15 am. Please contact Jim Burnet at [jimburnet@gmail.com](mailto:jimburnet@gmail.com) with any questions.

## **RAMP**

The quarter tube is almost full again this year. It will be almost empty on May 24 so that Charles Courtney can be honored by people in attendance at his memorial service, who are being urged to bring quarters in his memory. As stated on the RAMP website, “(Charles) was a kind and gentle man who was deeply committed to the belief that all people have the right to live in dignity. ... He also worked tirelessly in the cause of the eradication of extreme poverty. We are deeply grateful for Charles’ contributions to the families of RAMP.”

## **INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY NETWORK**

Our first quarter 2025 donations to the food pantry totaled 359 pounds of food (including diapers and wipes), which is well on the way to at least one thousand pounds for the year. Our 2024 donations of \$2,200 and 1,226 pounds of food are being recognized on the IFPN Giving Tree, which is created each year on the walls inside the main entrance. Thanks to generous donations from individuals, companies and organizations like ours, every person or family seeking food and services provided by IFPN was accommodated – a total of 2.3 million pounds of food or the equivalent of 2.1 million meals.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## MEMORIAL SERVICE

The following memorial service is scheduled in May:

- **Charles Courtney**

Webb Chapel on Saturday, May 24, at 2 pm; reception to follow in Fellowship Hall. Correspondence may be sent to the following family members:

*Nathan Courtney  
22 La Grange Road  
Delmar, NY 12054*

*Robin Hadden  
1500 East Street  
Huntington, VT 05462*

## PRAYER LIST

One of the spiritual practices that our community embodies in our life together is holding one another's concerns, joys, sorrows, and thanksgivings before God in prayer. As a people of God, we offer prayers for those of the church, the community, and the world.

During the week, each one of us can make it a part of our daily spiritual practice to pray the prayers of the church, the community, and the world. 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 Reverend Carol Howard at [carolhoward@pcmadison.org](mailto:carolhoward@pcmadison.org) or call the church office at 973-377-1600 if you would like to add anyone to the prayer list. Thank you for helping us maintain a more current prayer list.

- Kaitlynn, for recovery from injuries after a serious car accident
- Jo-Anna, for comfort and peace after the passing of her brother Nick after a long battle with cancer
- Roy, for strength and peace, as he works through his dad living with advanced dementia
- John, who is in a clinical study for treatment of a rare disease, that he received the treatment (not the placebo), and his wife and caregiver, Cathy
- Misty for health issues
- Jordan recovering from surgery and facing one more, and Cathy, his wife and caregiver
- Vicky and all other women dealing with difficult pregnancies
- Pam Gillespie
- Brian and all the victims of the California fires

# Open My Eyes, That I May See 451



- 1 O-pen my eyes, that I may see glimps-es of truth thou hast for me.
- 2 O-pen my ears, that I may hear voic-es of truth thou send-est clear.
- 3 O-pen my mouth, and let me bear glad-ly the warm truth ev-ery-where.



Place in my hands the won-der-ful key that shall un-clasp and  
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, ev-ery-thing false will  
O - pen my heart, and let me pre-pare love with thy chil-dren



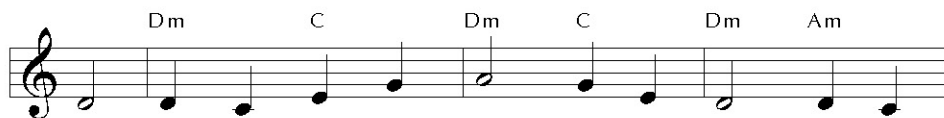
set me free. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy  
dis-ap-pear. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy  
thus to share. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy



will to see. O-pen my eyes; il-lu-mine me, Spir-it di-vine!  
will to see. O-pen my ears; il-lu-mine me, Spir-it di-vine!  
will to see. O-pen my heart; il-lu-mine me, Spir-it di-vine!



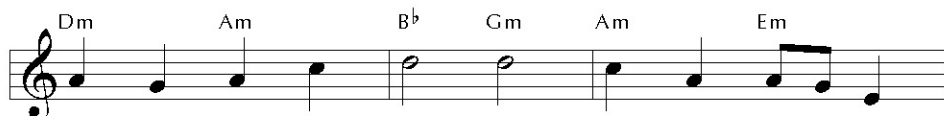
## What Wondrous Love Is This 215



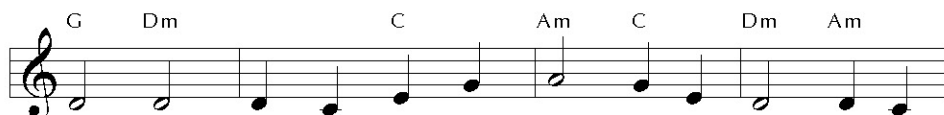
1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my  
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing  
 3 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will  
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, what won - drous love is this, O my soul! What  
 down, when I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when  
 sing, to God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to  
 on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this that caused the Lord of  
 I was sink - ing down be - neath God's righ - teous  
 God and to the Lamb who is the great I  
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful



bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my  
 frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul, for my  
 AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will  
 be, and through e - ter - ni - ty, I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!  
 soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul!  
 sing; while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing!  
 on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

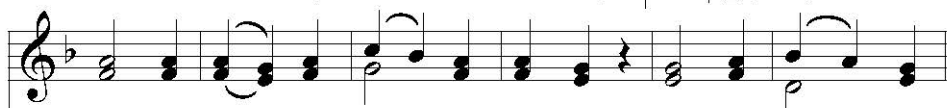
# 4 Holy God, We Praise Your Name



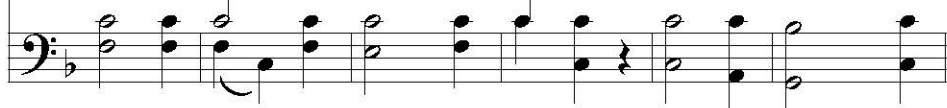
1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we  
 2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel choirs a -  
 3 All a - pos - tles join the strain as your sa - cred  
 4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, Ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it:



bow be - fore you. All on earth your scep - ter claim;  
 bove are rais - ing; cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,  
 name they hal - low; proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,  
 three we name you, while in es - sence on - ly one;



all in heaven a - bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your  
 in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heavens with  
 and the bless - ed mar - tyrs fol - low, and from morn to  
 un - di - vid - ed God we claim you, and a - dor - ing,



vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.  
 sweet ac - cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"  
 set of sun, through the church the song goes on.  
 bend the knee while we own the mys - ter - y.



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MADISON NJ



# UPCOMING EVENTS



**APRIL 13**

**PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:15AM**

**APRIL 15**

**COOKING CLASS @ 6:30PM AT PCM \*\***

Learn new cooking tips and help us make the soup for Maundy Thursday worship!

**APRIL 17**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP @ 7PM**

Tableside agape meal service in the Parlor

**APRIL 18**

**GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE @ 7PM**

Candles and scripture, ending in total darkness

**APRIL 20**

**EASTER!**

**EASTER SUNDAY!**

6:30am sunrise service @ Hillside Cemetery

10:15am service in sanctuary. Egg hunt, hot cross buns and deviled eggs!

**APRIL 26**

**CHURCH CLEANUP DAY @ 9AM!**

**APRIL 29**

**SINGING BOWL REFLECTION @ 7PM**

Sound healing and reflections in the Sactuary

**MAY 6**

**DINNER & DISCUSSION @ 6:30PM\*\***

casual Bible conversation and yummy food!

**MAY 10**

**CEMETERY RESTORATION @ 9:30AM**

**MAY 27**

**BREAKFAST AT NAUTILUS @ 7:15AM**

**JUNE 8**

**CONFIRMATION & YOUTH SUNDAY!**



**Questions? Call the church office at 973-377-1600.**

**\*\* Reservations requested for Cooking Class and Dinner.**

**Cover Art:** "Fishing Boats" by Georges Braque



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

Jim Burnet  
Becky Moody, Clerk

Stephanie Haedrich  
Giorgios Vlamis

Mary-Anna Holden

The Presbyterian Church of Madison is part of the PC(USA) Denomination  
[pcusa.org](http://pcusa.org)



ThePresbyterianChurchofMadison

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