



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
of MADISON



September 14, 2025
Season of Pentecost

ORDER of WORSHIP

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship** from Psalm 103

Leader: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love.

People: **According to your abundant mercy, blot out my offenses.**

Leader: You desire truth in the inward being. Teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

People: **Let me hear joy and gladness.**

Leader: Hide your face from my sins.

People: **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

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

***Opening Hymn** *Just as I Am, without One Plea*
(v1, v2, v4)

Prayer of Confession

Gentle Spirit, our mistakes are plenty. We confess to you that we have done unkind things. We judge. We gossip. We are rude. We do not live the life you want for us. Forgive us, heal us, and guide us into people you call us to be, through Jesus Christ, who loves us to the end.

(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

Loving God, speak to us, through your word. Open our hearts, so that we might hear your wisdom. And hear our prayers, as we call to you. Through your Spirit, we pray. Amen.

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 139:1-12

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.

You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.

Even before a word is on my tongue,
O Lord, you know it completely.

You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.

Where can I go from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?

If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

If I take the wings of the morning
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and night wraps itself around me,"

even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 10:7-14

As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick; raise the dead; cleanse those with a skin disease; cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff, for laborers deserve their food. Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. As you enter the house, greet it. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Wipe the Dust

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith

from the 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.

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

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

Praise, My Soul, The King of Heaven
(v1, v2, 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.

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 ENEWS** - 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 and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ThePresbyterianChurchofMadison.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARISH HOUSE CONSTRUCTION - ONGOING

The Parish House (and rest rooms) are not directly accessible from the sanctuary due to construction near the breezeway. To access the Parish House from the sanctuary, please exit via the breezeway glass doors and re-enter Parish House via the parking lot back door.

WORSHIP HELPERS NEEDED

Pastor Carol has requested that we return to the old (pre-pandemic) way of receiving the offering, which requires people to pass the plates during the time of the offertory. We are also in need of additional worship readers, especially men. If you feel called to help in either of these ways, please contact Becky Moody at rmooddy9856@gmail.com. With enough volunteers your commitment would be every six weeks to two months.

RAMP UPDATE

The quarter tube is full again, so we will be sending another \$80 to RAMP. Here is a quote from the most recent RAMP newsletter: "We've been asked by CWS (Church World Service) to prepare for a family with seven children, the youngest just an infant, that is in need of a better location and more services than they are receiving. That preparation means building a family team to give them what they need to become independent. It means several volunteers for help with transportation, child care, and coordination of services. Could that include you?" More information can be found at rampnj.org.

DINNER AND DISCUSSION - SEPTEMBER 24 & OCTOBER 22

Please join us on Wednesday, September 24 and October 22 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).

BREAKFAST AT NAUTILUS DINER - OCTOBER 1

Join us for an enjoyable morning of fun and fellowship at the Nautilus Diner in Madison on Wednesday, October 1 at 7:15 am. Contact Jim Burnet with any questions at jimburnet@gmail.com.

BOTTLE HILL DAY AND PETTING ZOO - OCTOBER 4

Come and celebrate Bottle Hill Day on Saturday, October 4 from 11 am - 4 pm. We will have a petting zoo and pony rides. Pastor Carol will be blessing the animals and pets too. Contact Jim Burnet at jimburnet@gmail.com with any questions. Volunteers are needed - please scan the QR code below to sign up.



SOUND HEALING - OCTOBER 7

Give yourself the best gift - a whole hour of peace and rest just for you. Join us in the sanctuary on October 7 (Tuesday) from 7-8 pm as Nichole Maldonado-Gorsak leads us through gentle stretching suitable for all levels and then a soothing, restful sound bath. Bring a non-perishable food donation for the Interfaith Food Pantry. For more information, write Kathleen Underwood at kathleenunderwood@verizon.net.

NEW MEMBER CLASS

We will be having a new member dinner and class coming up in the fall. If you're interested, please let Pastor Carol know (carolhoward@pcmadison.org).

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 life of Celeste Moody and for her family and friends, grieving her passing
- Thomas, as he recovers following hospitalization
- Mosese, on the list for a kidney transplant
- Debby & Graham who lost their home in the Texas flash flood
- Immigrants
- Kathleen, caregiver for her parents
- Joe and his family for comfort and support during a very stressful time
- Bob for daily strength and fast healing following knee replacement surgery
- Cristin for strength, rest, and peace as her father's caregiver
- Walter, who had his leg amputated below the knee, and Tami, his wife, as they deal with his rehabilitation
- Susan, sister of Bob Landrigan, as she battles Parkinson's disease
- Jeanne, to regain strength after a stroke, and for Mari, her caregiver
- Marques and his family, feeling stress and loss as they care for his dad living with 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

442 Just as I Am, without One Plea

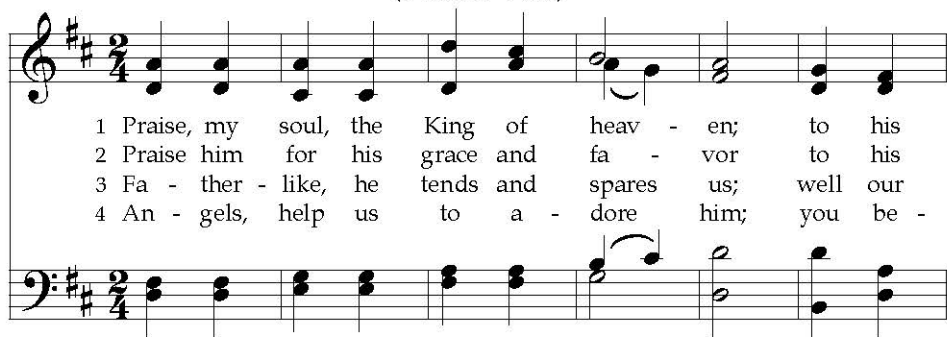
1 Just as I am, with - out one plea but that thy
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - ya
 3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come,
 4 Just as I am, thy love un-known has bro - ken

blood was shed for me, and that thou biddest me
 con - flict, man - ya doubt, fight - ings and fears with -
 par - don, cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise
 ev - ery bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea,

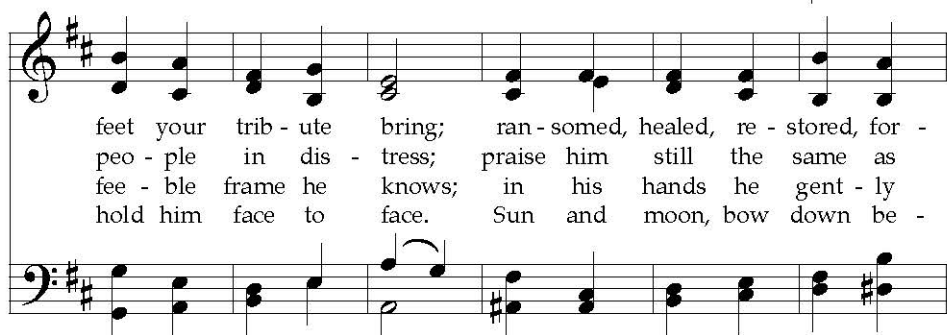
come to thee,
 in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!
 I be - lieve, thine a - lone,

620 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

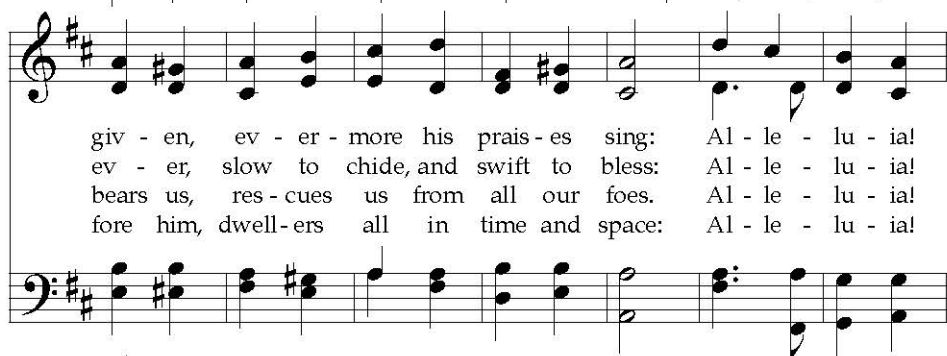
(Psalm 103)



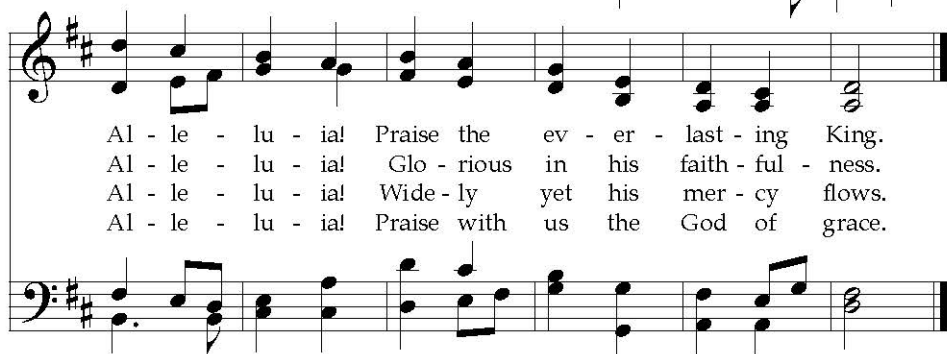
1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; to his
 2 Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to his
 3 Fa - ther - like, he tends and spares us; well our
 4 An - gels, help us to a - dore him; you be -



feet your trib - ute bring; ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for -
 peo - ple in dis - tress; praise him still the same as
 fee - ble frame he knows; in his hands he gent - ly
 hold him face to face. Sun and moon, bow down be -



giv - en, ev - er - more his prais - es sing: Al - le - lu - ia!
 ev - er, slow to chide, and swift to bless: Al - le - lu - ia!
 bears us, res - cues us from all our foes. Al - le - lu - ia!
 fore him, dwell - ers all in time and space: Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly yet his mer - cy flows.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

NOTES



UPCOMING EVENTS



**TUES
SEPT 9**

SINGING BOWL REFLECTION @ 7PM

Sound healing and meditation in Sanctuary.
Please bring a non-perishable food donation.

**WEDS
SEPT 24**

DINNER AND DISCUSSION @ 6:30PM

Casual bible discussion and yummy food.
Menu varies. Sign up with the office or Jim B

**WEDS
OCT 1**

NAUTILUS DINER BREAKFAST @ 7:15AM

**SAT
OCT 4**

BOTTLE HILL DAY PETTING ZOO

All hands on deck as we welcome families and kids to our front lawn! Sign up for a shift with to office.
Pastor Carol will be Blessing Animals and Pets too!

**TUES
OCT 7**

SINGING BOWL REFLECTION @ 7PM

Sound healing and meditation in the Sanctuary.
Please bring a non-perishable food donation.

**WEDS
OCT 22**

DINNER AND DISCUSSION @ 6:30PM

Casual bible discussion and yummy food.
Menu varies. Sign up with the office or Jim B

**SAT
NOV 1**

DEAD OF NIGHT CEMETERY TOUR @ 6PM

Ghosts from our cemetery rise to tell their stories.
Tour guides & welcome staff needed.

**WEDS
NOV 5**

NAUTILUS DINER BREAKFAST @ 7:15AM

**TUES
NOV 11**

SINGING BOWL REFLECTION @ 7PM

Sound healing and meditation in the Sanctuary. Please bring a non-perishable food donation.



CREDITS

Cover Art: “Danish Roadside” by William H. Johnson

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



ThePresbyterianChurchofMadison

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pcmadison.org