



Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

Pledge Dedication Sunday
November 18, 2018 • 9 & 11:15am



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, 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 Dec. 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

Gathering in God's Name

Prelude

Prelude on 'Beach Spring' (1996)

John Weaver
(b. 1937)

Call to Worship

Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of Hosts!

My soul longs for the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.

Happy are those who live in the house of the Lord.

Better is one day in your courts, O Lord, than a thousand elsewhere.

Happy are those whose strength is the Lord, the donor of all our days.

Happy are those who trust in God, whose giving knows no ending.

*Hymn 422

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

Beach Spring

** Please stand in body or in spirit. For hymns, stand when the choir stands.*

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Rebecca M. Heilman

God of Endless Grace,

**We hear your call to generous and cheerful giving,
but we are conflicted in our response.**

We have faith in you, but lack faith in ourselves.

We do not think we can make do with less.

We do not trust our offering can make a difference.

We are held captive by our faults, fears, and frailties.

Remind us once again that with you all things are possible,

and that you will give us everything we need and more than we can imagine.

(Silent Prayer)

Lord, Have Mercy

James MacMillan

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

*Gloria Patri

Weaver



(Organ)

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the
Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it: as it was in the be - gin - ning, is —
now, and will be for ev - er. A - men. A - men. A - men.

*Summary of God's Law

*Passing the Peace

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Anthem (11:15 am)

Christ Be My Leader

Irish Folk Tune
arr. Michael Bedford (b. 1959)

Christ be my leader by night as by day; safe through the darkness, for he is the Way.

Gladly I follow, my future his care, darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.

Christ be my teacher in age as in youth, drifting or doubting, for he is the Truth.

Grant me to trust him; though shifting as sand, doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.

Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife; death cannot hold me, for he is the Life.

Darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain can touch my salvation: with Jesus I reign.

— *Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926)*

Children's Choir and Cherub Choir

Our Life Together

Proclaiming God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Christina A. Cosby

Old Testament Lesson

Daniel 12:1-13

OT page 786

*Canticle

Song of Hannah

1 Samuel 2:1-4, 7-8

Please join the choir in singing the refrain:



My heart ex-ul-ts in the Lord: my strength is ex-alt-ed in my God.

There is none holy like the Lord: there is none beside you, no rock like our God.
For you, O Lord, are a God of knowledge: and by you our actions are weighed. *Refrain*

The bows of the mighty are broken: but the feeble gird on strength.
You, Lord, make poor and make rich: you bring low and you also exalt. *Refrain*

You raise up the poor from the dust: and lift the needy from the ash heap.
You make them sit with princes: and inherit a seat of honor. *Refrain*

For yours, O Lord, are the pillars of the earth: and on them you have set the world. *Refrain*

Refrain text & musical setting: © 1991 John Weaver. *All rights reserved*

Verses text: from *A New Zealand Prayer Book*,

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Lesson with the Children and Youth

Rev. Beverly A. Bartlett

Children's Worship: Preschool through 3rd grades are dismissed to the Phillips Lounge.

Youth Worship: 4th through 8th grades are dismissed to the Dana Chapel.

They will return during the Doxology to participate in the rest of the service.

Epistle Lesson

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

NT page 173

Gospel Lesson

Mark 13:1-8

NT page 47

Sermon

Cheerful? Or Courageous?

Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt

Responding to God's Word

*Hymn

For the Fruit Of All Creation

Ar hyd y nos



1. For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
2. In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will be done.
3. For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For the gifts to ev - ery na - tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will be done.
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de -
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con -



sleep - ing, fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
spair - ing, in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will be done.
found us, most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

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Music: Welsh Melody (*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

Audrey E. Webber

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

Presenting Our Offerings to God

Offertory Anthem (11:15 am)

Magnificat in G major

*Charles Villiers Stanford
(1852-1924)*

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.
He hath shewed strength with his arm.
He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel
as he promised to our forefathers Abraham, and his seed forever. —*Luke 1:47-55*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Christian Henderson, treble soloist

*Doxology

Old Hundredth

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 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

MacMillan

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

(Organ) Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly
 Lord, God of power and might. Heav'n and
 earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est. Bles - sed is he, O bles - sed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Acclamation

... Therefore 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

Anthem (11:15 am)

Soon I Will Be Done

*arr. William L. Dawson
(1886-1970)*

Soon I will be done a-with the troubles of the world, goin' home to live with God.

I want to meet my mother, I'm goin' to live with God.

Soon I will be done a-with the troubles of the world, goin' home to live with God.

No more weepin' and a-wailin'; I'm goin' to live with God.

Soon I will be done a-with the troubles of the world, goin' home to live with God.

I want to meet my Jesus, I'm goin' to live with God.

— *African American Spiritual*

Congregational Song



In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful, in the Lord I will re -



joice. Look to God, do not be a - fraid: lift up your voi - ces, the



Lord is near; lift up your voi - ces, the Lord is near.

Jacques Berthier, *Songs and Prayers of Taizé*

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Prayer at the Conclusion of the Meal

*Hymn 555

Now Thank We All Our God

Nun danket alle Gott

*Benediction

Dedication of Stewardship Commitments

Once you have completed your 2019 Stewardship Pledge Card, bring it forward and place it in the baptismal font. All are invited to join us in the Parish Hall for brunch following worship.

Postlude

Marche Triomphale: Nun danket alle Gott
(from *Chorale-Improvisationen*, Op. 65)

Sigfrid Karg-Elert
(1879-1933)

Worship Details

Chancel Flowers

Today's chancel flowers are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Esther M. Stellwagen.

Cover Art

Today's cover art is the oldest photograph of Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church (at its current location) on file with the Presbyterian Historical Society. It was published by the H. Hagermeister Co., New York, in 1909. MAPC is renowned throughout the Presbyterian Church (USA) for its long, rich history of social justice, community engagement, and excellence in music, worship, and preaching. The congregation today stands on the shoulders of giants — members and staff alike who, for over 100 years, have faithfully followed God's calling. For this we give great thanks, and dedicate ourselves to equally faithful service. And yet, our faith in Jesus Christ compels us to trust that our best days are still ahead of us.

Information and Announcements

Saint Andrew Chorale and Orchestra

Today at 3 pm, the Saint Andrew Chorale and Orchestra will open their 54th season with four settings of the Magnificat — the 'Song of Mary' that has inspired countless composers across the centuries. Bach's innovative setting of the Magnificat for chorus, soloists, and orchestra will be performed alongside contrasting settings by Buxtehude, Vivaldi, and Schubert. Tickets may be purchased at the door for \$30 (\$25 – Students/Seniors); Children 12 and under: free.

Church Family Night

Come enjoy an early holiday party at the November 30th Church Family Night! We'll have a Christmas craft and movie and help decorate the Church House Lobby along with a delicious meal. RSVP

to Lissette Perez-Eraza in the church office, lgp@mapc.com. The suggested donation is \$20 for adults and a donation of your choice for children under 12. Church Family Night is for all members of the MAPC family — married, single, young, old, and everyone in between.

Advent Retreat

Give yourself a day of reflection and quiet on December 1, led by Rev. Beverly Bartlett. There will be time for group reflection, silence, devotions, and fellowship, including a chance to prayerfully walk a labyrinth, a circuitous meditative tool. We'll gather from 9 am to 3 pm, with lunch provided. A suggested donation of \$20 helps cover the costs of food and materials. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Eraza in the church office, lgp@mapc.com.

Weekly Calendar

Monday, November 19

Session Materials Due

6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
7:00 pm	Long Term Planning Task Force	Room 608

Tuesday, November 20

12:15 pm	Day School Thanksgiving Assembly	Sanctuary
4:00 pm	MAPC Book Club	Library
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
7:00 pm	Congregational Nurture Committee	Library

Wednesday, November 21

Note: No Kids Club, Wee Kids or T(w)een Club

8:00 am	Trustees	Parish Hall
12:30 pm	Reading Through the Bible	Phillips Lounge
6:00 pm	Cocaine Anonymous	5th Floor
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space

Thursday, November 22

Thanksgiving Day – Church House Closed

6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
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Friday, November 23

Day After Thanksgiving – Church House Closed

6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
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Saturday, November 24

Church House Closed



sow bountifully
GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER

2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-15

- November 4 For All the Saints
November 11 Sowing and Reaping
November 18 **Stewardship Sunday:**
Cheerful? Or Courageous?

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*
Christina A. Cosby, *Director of Christian Formation*
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*
Chesna E. Hinkley, *Seminary Intern*
Audrey E. Webber, *Seminary Intern*
The Rev. Dr. Fred R. Anderson, *Pastor Emeritus*
Dr. John B. Weaver, *Director of Music and Organist Emeritus*