



Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

24th Sunday of Ordinary Time
September 16, 2018 • 9 & 11:15am



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 Oct. 27, 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

Wisdom is not gained by knowing what's right. Wisdom is gained by practicing what is right, and noticing what happens when that practice succeeds and when it fails.

—Barbara Brown Taylor, *"An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith"*

Gathering in God's Name

Prelude

Passacaglia in D minor, BuxWV 161

Dieterich Buxtehude
(1637-1707)

Call to Worship

Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt

O Lord Jesus, grant that the ears which have heard the voice of your songs

may be closed to the voice of dispute;

that the eyes which have seen your great love

may also behold your blessed hope;

that the tongues which have sung your praise

may speak the truth in love;

that the feet which have walked in your sanctuary

may walk in the region of light;

and that the bodies which have received your living body

may be restored to newness of life.

Glory to you for your inexpressible gift!

—Liturgy of Malabar (5th century)

*Hymn 483

Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above

Mit Freuden zart

Prayer of Confession

Christina A. Cosby

Gracious God, fill us with your truth and your peace.

Where we are corrupt, purify us.

Where we are in error, direct us.

Where we are amiss, reform us.

Where we are divided, reunite us.

We ask this with hearts that long to be made right.

—Archbishop William Laud (1573-1645)

Lord, Have Mercy (Service in F)

John Weaver



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

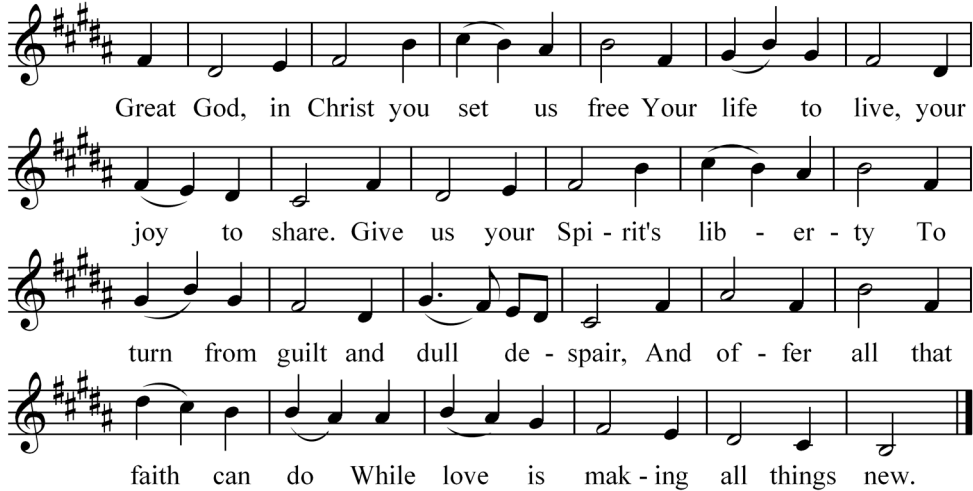
Assurance of God's Grace

... Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

*Response of Praise

St. Petersburg



Great God, in Christ you set us free Your life to live, your
joy to share. Give us your Spi - rit's lib - er - ty To
turn from guilt and dull de - spair, And of - fer all that
faith can do While love is mak - ing all things new.

Text: Brian Wren, © 1973, Hope Publishing Co. *All rights reserved*

Music: Dimitri S. Bortniansky, 1825

*Summary of God's Law

Chesna E. Hinkley

*Passing the Peace

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Our Life Together

Beverly A. Bartlett

Proclaiming God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson

Proverbs 1:20-33 (OT page 552)

*Psalm 19 (Hymn 166)

Caithness

Lesson with the Children and Youth

Rev. Rebecca M. Heilman

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.

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Give me understanding that I may live.

—Psalm 119:105, 107b

Responding to God's Word

*Hymn (11:15 am)

Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom

Madeleine



1. Come and seek the ways of Wis-dom, she who danced when
2. Lis - ten to the voice of Wis-dom, cry - ing in the
3. Sis - ter Wis - dom, come, as - sist us; nur - ture all who
earth was new. Fol - low close - ly what she teach - es,
mar - ket - place. Hear — the Word made flesh a - mong us,
seek re - birth. Spir - it - guide and close com - pan - ion,
for her words are right and true. Wis - dom clears the
full of glo - ry, truth, and grace. When the word takes
bring to light our sa - cred worth. Free us to be -
path to jus - tice, show - ing us what love must do.
root and rip - ens, peace and righ - teous - ness em - brace.
come your peo - ple, ho - ly friends of God and earth.

John Huss, *by reaffirmation of faith*

Min Huss, *by reaffirmation of faith*

Courtney Woodworth, *by reaffirmation of faith*

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

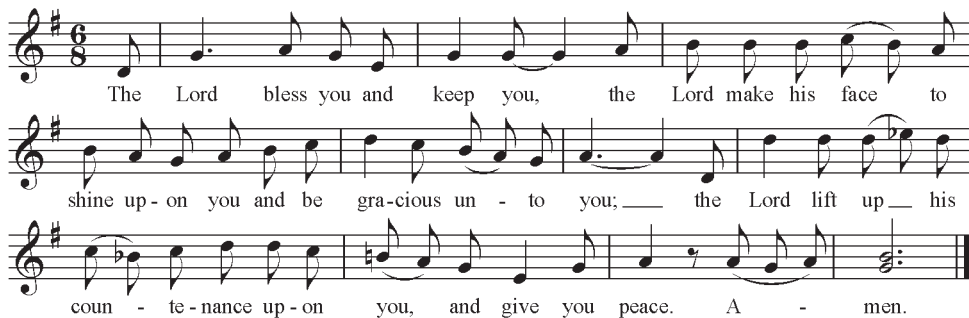
**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended to heaven
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Aaronic Benediction (11:15 am)

Weaver



Prayers of the People

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

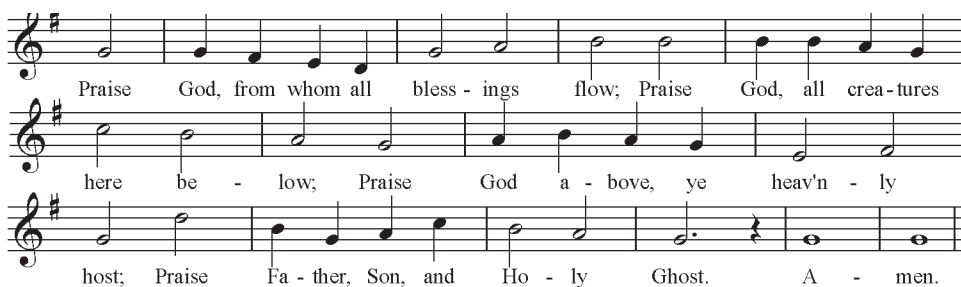
Presenting Our Offerings to God

Lord of wisdom, Lord of truth, Lord of justice, Lord of mercy;
 walk beside us down the years till we see you in your glory.
 Striving to attain the heights, turning in a new direction,
 entering a lonely place, welcoming a friend or stranger.
 I am here, I am with you. I have called: do you hear me?
 Silver is of passing worth, gold is not of constant value,
 jewels sparkle for a while; what you long for is not lasting.
 I am here, I am with you. I have called: do you hear me?
 Rulers govern under me with my insight and my wisdom.
 Those who know me know my love, those who seek me find their answer.
 I am here, I am with you. I have called: do you hear me?
 God the Father and the Son, Holy Spirit coeternal.
 Glory be ascribed to you, now and to the end of ages.
 I am here, I am with you. I have called: do you hear me?
 – Michael Hampel (b. 1967), based on Proverbs 8

Helen Karloski, mezzo-soprano

*Doxology

Old Hundredth



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.

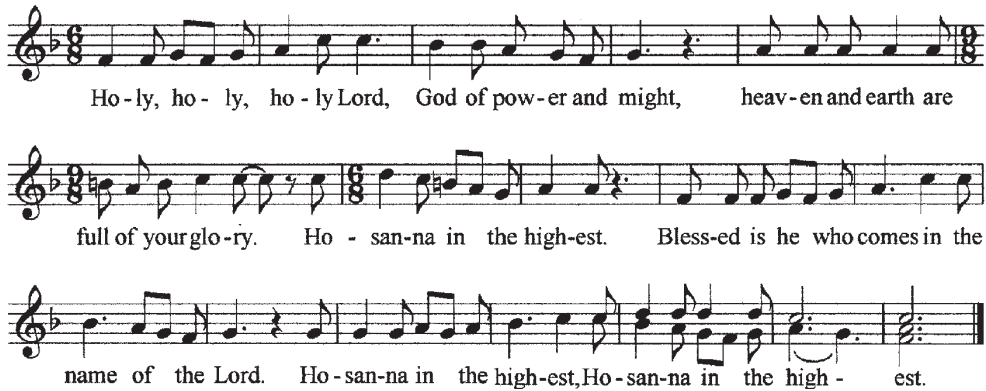
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Let us pray . . .

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

Sanctus

Weaver



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed 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)

Yih'yu L'Ratzon

Max Wohlberg
(1907-1996)

Yih'yu l'ratzon imrei fi, vehegon libi
l'fonecha, Adonai tzuri vegoali.
Amen.

*May the words of my mouth and the
meditation of my heart be acceptable
to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.*

—Psalm 19:14

Congregational Song



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Prayer at the Conclusion of the Meal

*Hymn 393

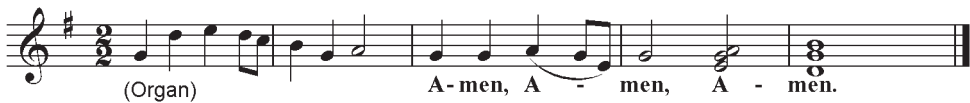
Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

Bourbon

*Charge and Benediction

*Congregational Response

Weaver



*Postlude

Psalm 19

*Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)
arr. E. Power Biggs (1906-1977)*

Worship Details

Cover Art

Today's cover art, *Tree of Life (Etz Chaim)*, was painted by Sheva Chaya Shaiman. She writes: "This painting was created during the second Lebanon war, as I was yearning to connect to life beyond the tumult of the moment. As a family, we [moved] from place to place, not knowing what would be the state of our lives from day to day. I needed a way to hold on and stay stable. Rebbe Nachman from Breslov speaks about seeing the good points. He says in the Torah *Azamra* that even if someone witnesses someone doing something wrong in front of their eyes, instead of judging that person unfavorably, to stop that natural inclination and think, *this person must have done something good in their life*. Changing the focus of the thought literally changes reality. This painting was my attempt to see the good in a moment that really didn't look good at all. One night this painting flew out, alive and full of joy and hope. Over time, this painting has become proof to me that when we make the effort to believe that there is something good through the darkness, it pulls through and surprises us. (shevachaya.com)

Information and Announcements

Overnight Shelter Open House Today

You are invited to the Outreach Committee's Shelter Open House TODAY! From 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., join us in the shelter room to learn more about MAPC's nightly space that houses about 12 men. Come and educate yourself on the ins and outs of the shelter, as well as the brutality of homelessness. Attending will not automatically volunteer you, but it will give you an opportunity to know more about the city we live in and the people we share it with. Please send questions to Rebecca Heilman at rmh@mapc.com or Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com. Come learn with us!

Wednesday Afternoon Kids Club

Kids Club is off to a great start! Bible Study, choir, recreation, and dinner are all available to you on Wednesday afternoons beginning at 4 pm. It's not too late to join us! To register, visit mapc.com/education/childrens-ministry or contact Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com.

Middle School Mid-Week Youth Group

Middle Schoolers, if you didn't join us last week, know there will always be room for you... but we don't want you to miss out on anything else! During our first meeting, we explored the theology of scavenger hunts (by participating in one, of course) and what it means to search for something (and what it means that God searches for us). Choir is off to a strong start, and dinner is designed for you to have a separate space all to yourselves. Join Rev. Jenny McDevitt, Mary Huff, and the rest of our middle schoolers Wednesdays from 5-6:45 pm. Contact Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com or visit mapc.com/education/childrens-ministry.

Bible Study Opportunities

Women's Bible Study — Monday, September 10, 6:30 pm, in the Hood Library
Reading Through the Bible — Wednesday, September 12, 12:30 pm, Phillips Lounge
20s/30s — Thursday, September 13, 5:30 pm, Apartment 10C

Saint Andrew Music Society: Announcing our 54th Season

The Saint Andrew Music Society's 54th Season brochure is in the mail! Plenty of extra copies are available for you to pick up from the narthex and Church House Lobby for you to distribute to your friends! You can also peruse all fifteen concerts taking place this season on our website: mapc.com/music/sams/concerts, ranging from performances by our very own choral society – the Saint Andrew Chorale & Orchestra; MAPC's community children's chorus program – the New York City Children's Chorus; students from The Juilliard School, Mannes College, and the Manhattan School of Music; and a host of recitals featuring vocalists and chamber ensembles.

All Church Retreat, September 28-29

There's still room for you to sign up! Come up Friday evening and enjoy extra fellowship time away from the city, or join us Saturday morning (the bus leaves from MAPC early that day) and spend the day. Details are available on our website or contact Beverly Barlett at bab@mapc.com.

Looking for the Calendar?

This fall, we simply have too much going on to list it all here. (This is a good thing!) Copies of the weekly calendar are available in the Narthex (entrance of the sanctuary) and near the elevators. The calendar is also included in the weekly Pastoral Staff Letter and is available online at mapc.com.

Installation Service for Rev. Jenny McDevitt

The Presbytery of New York City has given final approval to all of the logistics and details -- so plan to join us next Sunday, Sept. 23, at 3 pm as we install Jenny McDevitt as our Senior Pastor and Head of Staff. This is an event that has only happened four other times in MAPC's long history, so you don't want to miss out on a chance to participate this time! Colleagues from Jenny's past congregations, representatives of the Presbytery, and MAPC's own members and staff will lead this worship, and the NYCCC and MAPC Choirs will join in as well. A reception will follow in the Parish Hall. Come be part of a very special moment for this congregation.



Faces of Our Faith Fall Sermon Series

Sept. 9 The Syrophoenician Woman: We Need Outsiders
Rev. Jenny McDevitt

Sept. 16 Lady Wisdom: Identity In a Time of Crisis
Rev. Jenny McDevitt

Sept. 23 James: Watch Your Mouth
Rev. Jenny McDevitt

Sept. 30 Little Children: Our Sacred Responsibility
Rev. Jenny McDevitt

Oct. 7 Job: When the Worst Happens
Rev. Jenny McDevitt

Oct. 14 The Rich Man
Rev. Beverly Bartlett

Oct. 21 Bartimaeus: Patron Saint of Imagination
Rev. Jenny McDevitt

Oct. 28 James and John
Chesna Hinkley, seminary intern

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*

The Rev. Paula V. Cooper, *Phillips Talbot Global Ministry Fellow*

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*