



Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 29, 2019 • 9 & 11:15 am



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 . . .

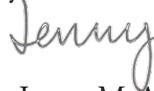
Whether you came with a friend or just wandered in accidentally . . .

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 on Sundays, 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 M. McDevitt
Senior Pastor

Children Are Always Welcome

Your children are always welcome here at MAPC, including worship. To help with that, Children's Worship Bags are located in the Narthex. Red bags are for 2nd graders and above. Blue bags are for 1st graders and below. Please use the bag that best suits your child. Children can't help but make a bit noise from time to time. Your family's presence is a delight, not a distraction. If it is your preference, 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 October 5, 2019 at 9 am in the Phillips Lounge. Childcare provided with advance request. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Eraza at lgp@mapc.com.

Order of Worship for the Lord's Day

"What is the chief end of humanity? To glorify God and enjoy God forever."

—*Westminster Confession Question 1*

Gathering in God's Name

Prelude

Agnus Dei, Op. 36, No. 2

Seth Bingham
(1882-1972)

Dr. Seth Bingham was MAPC's Organist & Choirmaster from 1913 to 1951.

Call to Worship

Rev. Beverly A. Bartlett

Every day, do something that won't compute.

Love the Lord.

Love the world. Work for nothing.

Take all that you have and be poor.

Love someone who does not deserve it.

Give your approval to all you cannot understand.

Praise ignorance,

for what we have not encountered we have not destroyed.

Ask the questions that have no answers.

**Say that your main crop is the forest that you did not plant,
that you will not live to harvest.**

Call that profit. Prophecy such returns.

Expect the end of the world.

Laugh. Laughter is immeasurable.

Be joyful, though you have considered all the facts.

—*from Wendell Berry's The Mad Farmer Liberation Front*

*Hymn 488

The God of Abraham Praise

Leoni

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

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Rebecca M. Heilman

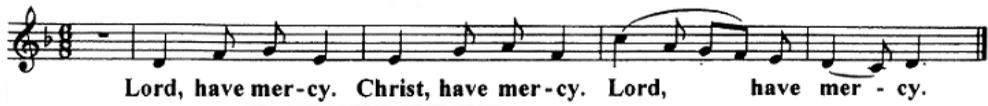
Merciful God, forgive us.

We want to serve you, but our own egos are fragile.

We want to fight the good fight, but we are so very tired.
We want to trust you, but our fears roar in the night.
We want to seek peace, but the storms seem relentless.
We want to do right by you, but we keep making mistakes.
We want to be loved, but we push love away.
Restore unto us the joy of your salvation.
Renew our spirits and strengthen our conviction.
(Silent prayer)

Lord, Have Mercy

John Weaver



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

Paul Vasile



Text: Gloria Patri (2nd Century), adapted Paul Vasile
Music: © 2008 Paul Vasile
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*Summary of God's Law

... "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment?" Jesus said to him:
"You shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart and with all your soul
and with all your mind and with all your strength.
This is the first and greatest commandment.

**And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.
On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”**

*Passing of the Peace

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Our Life Together

Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt

————— Proclaiming God’s Word —————

Prayer for Illumination

Deacon Edward L. Kleinert (9 am)
April E. Martin (11:15 am)

New Testament Lesson

Luke 16:19-31
(NT page 75)

*Psalm 91 (Hymn 212)

Abbey

Lesson with the Children and Youth

*Children’s Worship: Preschoolers through 2nd graders are dismissed to the Phillips Lounge.
Children will return during the Doxology to participate in the rest of the service.*

Old Testament Lesson

Jeremiah 32:1-2a, 6-15
(OT page 692)

Sermon

Hope Will Lead You Home

Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt

————— Responding to God’s Word —————

*Hymn 453 (11:15 am)

O Holy City, Seen of John

Morning Song

*Affirmation of Faith

from *A Declaration of Faith*, PCUSA, 1985

We believe in one true and living God.

God is greater than our understanding.

We do not fully comprehend who God is or how God works.

The Lord's requirements are not always what we think.

The Lord's care for us is not always what we want.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.
We can have confidence in God's coming kingdom
even in the darkest of times.

Jesus is the long expected Savior.

He was born of woman as is every child,
yet born of God's power as was no other child.
Through his birth, life, death, and resurrection,
he brings about the relationship between God and humanity
that God always intended.

The Holy Spirit is God active in the world.

The Spirit makes real in us what God has done for us.
As long as we live, we will struggle with sin,
but the Spirit's presence assures us
God will complete what has been begun in us.

We must not set our ultimate reliance on any other help.

We must not yield unconditional obedience to any other power.

We must not love anyone or anything more than we love God.

We praise and enjoy God.

To worship God is highest joy.

To serve God is perfect freedom. Amen.

Prayers of the People

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

Presenting Our Offerings to God

Anthem (11:15 am)

All My Trials

*arr. Stacey V. Gibbs
(b. 1962)*

All my trials, Lord, soon be over.
If religion was a thing that money could buy,
The rich would live and the poor would die.
Too late, my brother, but never mind.
Now hush, little baby, don't you cry,
You know that man is born to die.

—African-American spiritual

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

Weaver

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

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

... we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

*Hymn 421

The Church of Christ in Every Age

Wareham

*Benediction

*Congregational Response

Weaver



*Postlude

Introduction & Toccata on 'Leoni', Op. 36, No. 3

Bingham

Worship Details

Cover Art

"Vineyard in the Sun," by Joyce Taniguchi.

Information and Announcements

Adult Education

The Sunday series, "Looking at Luke," continues this morning with a look at the role of food in the gospel. Join Rev. Rebecca Heilman at 10:10 am in the Parish Hall.

Peace and Global Witness

Our work for peace begins in our own neighborhoods and extends to the ends of the earth. The Peace & Global Witness Offering designates 25 percent of the money received to be shared with a local organization. This year, Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church has chosen to give our 25 percent to International Justice Mission (ijm.org), which is the largest anti-slavery organization in the world. Donation envelopes are included in this bulletin.

Blessing of the Animals

Bring your pets to the Sanctuary steps for a short worship service on Friday, October 4 at 5 pm. Animal blessings will continue from 5-6 pm. Too difficult for your pet to travel? Bring a photo and we'll offer a blessing that way. Please properly restrain all pets for everyone's safety.

Roof Garden Play & Fellowship

Next Sunday, October 6, families with children are invited to come up to the Roof Garden between services for playtime and fellowship.

Fall Fellowship Gatherings

All members of the MAPC community are invited to a Fall Fellowship Gathering. Both paper and electronic invitations are being sent out; if you did not receive one or cannot attend the gathering you were assigned, please contact us and we will help find a date and time that work for you.

Come together in the more intimate setting of a member's home, meet some new friends, and have a chance to hear from Rev. Jenny McDevitt. She'll also be available to answer questions or talk one-on-one. Members of the Stewardship Committee will also be present to share information about our upcoming giving campaign. Contact Lissette Perez-Eraza at lgp@mapc.com to RSVP or get more information.

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|-----------------------|----------|------------------------------------|
| Wednesday, October 16 | @ 6-8 pm | East 86th Street |
| Monday, October 28 | @ 6-8 pm | East 57th Street |
| Tuesday, October 29 | @ 6-8 pm | Park Avenue near East 89th Street |
| Monday, November 4 | @ 6-8 pm | Fifth Avenue near East 98th Street |
| Sunday, November 10 | @ 4-6 pm | West 92nd Street |

Evening Bible Study

Please join this new evening bible study on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at 7 pm on the 8th Floor. For the next meeting on October 7, the group will begin reading N.T. Wright's book, *Simply Jesus: A New Vision of Who He Was, What He Did and Why He Matters*. You may order the book on Amazon or from your local bookstore. If you have any questions, please email Rev. Beverly Bartlett at bab@mapc.com.

Director of Youth Ministry

MAPC welcomes April Martin as Director of Youth Ministry. April attended Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church in Asheville, NC as a child and First Presbyterian Church in Burlington, NC as a youth and young adult. She participated in numerous service trips, conferences and youth group meetings hosted by the Presbyterian Church. April holds degrees from Maryville College and the Cleveland Institute of Music. April is an accomplished singer with many featured roles in operas and concerts. For MAPC's youth ministry, she brings considerable skills in lesson planning, communication, and relationship building. April will have a special meet-and-greet with youth on Sunday, October 6 at 10:10 am on the 5th Floor.

Weekly Calendar

Monday, September 30

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| 8:00 am | East Side Synagogue High Holy Days | Sanctuary |
| 6:30 pm | Overnight Shelter reopens | Shelter Space |
| 7:15 pm | NYCCC Committee | Choir Room |

Tuesday, October 1

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| 8:30 am | Buildings and Grounds Committee | Phillips Lounge |
| 5:00 pm | Hood Library Fellowship | Hood Library |
| 6:00 pm | 20s/30s Bible Study | 10th Floor |
| 6:30 pm | Personnel Committee | Pastor's Study |
| 6:30 pm | Overnight Shelter | Shelter Space |

Wednesday, October 2

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| 12:30 pm | Reading Through the Bible | Phillips Lounge |
| 6:00 pm | Cocaine Anonymous | 5th Floor |
| 6:30 pm | Overnight Shelter | Shelter Space |
| 7:00 pm | Deacons | Parish Hall |

Thursday, October 3

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| 1:00 pm | Spiritual Growth & Faith Sharing Group | James Lenox House |
| 6:30 pm | Thursday Open Table | Parish Hall |
| 6:30 pm | Overnight Shelter | Shelter Space |
| 7:00 pm | Saint Andrew Chorale Rehearsal | Sanctuary |
| 8:30 pm | Church Choir Rehearsal | Choir Room |

Friday, October 4

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| 5:00 pm | Blessing of the Animals | Sanctuary Steps |
| 6:00 pm | Pizza & Game Night | 5th Fl, Roof Garden |

Saturday, October 5

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| 9:00 am | Tell Me More About MAPC | Phillips Lounge |
| 5:00 pm | Confirmation Retreat | FAPC |

Sunday, October 6

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| 9:00 & 11:15 am | Worship | Sanctuary |
| 9:15 & 11:30 am | Children's Worship | Phillips Lounge |
| 10:10 & 12:30 pm | Fellowship Hour | Lobby |
| 10:10 am | Roof Garden Play & Fellowship | Roof Garden |
| 10:10 am | Adult Education: Act in Hope | Parish Hall |
| 10:10 am | Youth Meet-and-Greet with April | 5th Floor |
| 10:20 am | Church Choir Rehearsal | Choir Room |
| 1:00 pm | ESL Classes | 5th Floor |

MADISON AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SURROUNDED BY

Fall Sermon Series
921 Madison Avenue
Worship at 9 and 11:15 am
www.mapc.com

Next week's sermon: It Takes a Village (2 Timothy 1:1-14)

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*

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*

April E. Martin, *Director of Youth Ministry*

Roger S. Pierce, Jr., *Director of Administration and Finance*

Teresa D. Tynes, *Director of Communications*

The Rev. Dr. Fred R. Anderson, *Pastor Emeritus*

Dr. John B. Weaver, *Director of Music and Organist Emeritus*