



Our mission:
to nurture disciples of Jesus Christ
who join boldly with the Spirit's
work in the world.

A Service for the Lord's Day
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

August 7, 2022

10:30 am

We Gather at God's Call

Chiming of the Bells

Greeting

Pouring of the Water

Prelude *Be Thou My Vision* -Wood

Words for Reflection

"Christians do not believe in the Bible; they believe in the living God attested by the Bible. Scripture is indispensable in bringing us into a new relationship with the living God through Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, and thus into new relationship with others and with the entire creation. To speak of the authority of the Bible rightly is to speak of its power by God's Spirit to help create, nourish, and reform this new life in relationship with God and others." - Daniel Migliore

*Call to Worship (*responsively*) Kath Wissinger, Worship Leader
Happy are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord.

Happy are those who keep his decrees, who seek him with their whole heart, who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways.

You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently.

O that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!

Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.

I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous ordinances. I will observe your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.

*Hymn

Be Thou My Vision

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*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.*

*Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
thou, mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.*

*High King of Heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

*Call to Confession.

*Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**O God,
you have given us a firm foundation in Jesus Christ,
yet we have chosen to build on sinking sand.
The works of our hands crumble around us,
and our best efforts are not good enough;
sin is real, and we are powerless before it.**

**Forgive us for thinking we know best.
Mend our broken values
and create in us hearts that seek your purposes,
so that what we build with our lives
may give you glory.**

*Assurance of Forgiveness (*responsively*)

Jesus accompanies us on life's journey,
offering abundant mercy and bountiful forgiveness along the way.
This is good news!

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

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

How Firm a Foundation (v. 5)

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*"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."*

Life at Massanutten

- Today we continue our exploration of the question: ***What does it mean to follow Jesus from the Crossroads?*** We invite you to join us each Sunday as we consider this through the lens of Scripture. If you miss a Sunday, you can always catch-up on our website in the worship drop-down menu. Today is the fifth of a six part series.
- **The Presbyterian Women's Potluck Dinner** will be held on Tuesday, August 23rd at 5pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a dish to share. During our time together we will enjoy re-connecting after the summer break, hearing about plans for this year's Presbyterian Women's program and learn about the 2022-2023 Bible Study: Celebrating Sabbath. Questions can be directed to Jean Gearing or the church office.
- As ministries gear up for the new program year, there are opportunities to support and share ourselves. Please take some time to give prayerful consideration to these **current volunteer needs:**

Transportation: *Prior to the pandemic, a Sunnyside vehicle was used to transport church members residing on their campus to Sunday worship. However, this service is no longer available to us. In addition, we are aware of church members living in other places who wish to attend in-person worship, but are unable due to transportation challenges. Many of these same church members also cannot access worship virtually. To ensure these members remain engaged in the church, the Community Life Commission, along with church staff, is looking to pilot a transportation program. During this small-scale implementation, will match volunteer drivers with those needing a ride. If you are interested in serving as a driver once or more each month, please contact the church office. Every effort will be made to match the volunteer driver with a church member that lives near them.*

Nursery: *Each Sunday morning during worship, two adults provide hospitality and care to our youngest children. Would you offer yourself one Sunday a month as part of this team of two? Contact Pastor Ann or the church office to let us know!*

- **MPC's Preschool will begin the 2022-2023 year soon!** Please keep the teachers and families in your prayers as they get ready. And, pass the word: there are just a couple spots available in the 3's and 4's classes! Contact the church office or email mpecpreschool@comcast.net for more information.
- **COVID information:** Masking is optional as long as the CDC reported COVID levels remain in the low (green) or medium (yellow) area. When the level moves to orange, masks will be required inside the building. *The Session and COVID Advisory group remind everyone that though masking is optional in certain conditions, our focus on caring for one another remains the foundation of how we gather. Please consider how your choice may affect others around you and respond with an eye toward kindness and welcome.*
- **Remember the Open Doors Food Truck Festival?** *It returns this fall, Saturday, September 17th.* It's not too early to add the event to your calendar and, even better, volunteer to help out! To see the volunteer opportunities, go to: <https://opendoorsinc.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=61999>.
- **Mosaic Handbell Ensemble is offering a Beginners Workshop to help "jump start" the ringing season.** The work shop will be held on Saturday, August 27 from 10am-1pm at Harrisonburg Baptist Church. All equipment is provided. No ringing experience needed. Kath Wissinger will be presenting one of the three ringing sessions. See MosaicBells.com for more information. (Youth must be accompanied by an adult, full time.)



**Bold Faith + Extravagant Generosity
= Changing Lives**

On January 1, 2021 the balance on our mortgage was \$1,071,111. As of July 26, 2022, our loan balance was \$421,721 a decrease of **\$649,390** in the last 18 months. Since the beginning of the Debt Reduction Campaign nine months ago, \$529,044 has been paid on the mortgage.

These decreases are a result of budgeted mortgage payments, additional giving to reduce debt through the year, and gifts made toward campaign commitments. **To God be the Glory!**