



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
First Sunday in Lent

February 18, 2024 10:30 a.m.

We Gather at God’s Call

Introit	How Firm a Foundation	463
Greeting		
Pouring of the Water		
Prelude	At the Cross	Lloyd Larson
*Call to Worship		Gus Scheidt, Worship Leader
From water to wilderness: God’s covenant continues; God’s kingdom comes near.		
On stone and in hearts: God’s covenant continues; God’s kingdom comes near.		
From the ancestor of nations to the Son lifted up: God’s covenant continues; God’s kingdom comes near.		
We follow Jesus on the Lenten path, for where he is, we would be also.		
*Hymn	Come Sing to God (v. 1,2,4)	805
Come sing to God, O living saints; sing praises to God's name. God's anger is not permanent; God's love will never wane. Though tears may tarry for the night with sighs of deepest pain, yet joy comes with the morning sun, a peace that is not vain.		

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS

FAITHFUL CONVERSATIONS

The class is currently studying a series titled, ‘Followers of Jesus’ which will be used throughout the Season of Lent and will focus on the people who followed Jesus to the cross.

THE COVENANT CLASS

The class is currently studying “Invitation to the Old Testament” by the Disciple series. You may join anytime!

Learn more: speak to Pastor Keith,
visit massanuttenchurch.org,
or call (540) 434-6194

CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS

CHILDREN (THRU 5TH GRADE)

Faith Village: Explore Bible stories through learning styles such as art, music, cooking, drama, & games. 9:30 a.m.

Godly Play (Pre-K—2nd grade): Learn Bible stories through wonder and storytelling using wooden figures and felt underlays. During worship.

YOUTH (6TH-12TH GRADE)

High School Breakfast (9th—12th): Enjoy breakfast food & relaxed talk about faith & anything else. 9:30 a.m.

Youth Group: Sunday dinner, fellowship, & fun while learning about your faith. 6-8 p.m.

Fun with Handbells: Explore the fun of ringing from the basics to beyond with the opportunity to ring in worship. 5:00 p.m. (Rehearsals Resume on March 10) .

Learn more: speak to Hannah Altman,
visit massanuttenchurch.org, or call (540) 434-6194.



On January 1, 2021 the balance on our mortgage was \$1,071,111. As of January 22, 2024 our balance was \$17,313- a decrease of \$1,053,798.

Since the Debt Elimination Campaign began on September 1, 2021, \$933,452 has been paid on the mortgage as 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!

Life at Massanutten

*In my success I felt secure;
how good you've been to me.
I said that this is my own work,
ascribing all to me.
But when you turned aside your face,
my life was filled with fears.
I begged for help; to you I cried
with loud and bitter tears.*

*You change my grief to joy-filled dance;
my sorrows you destroy.
In faithfulness you hear my cry
and fill my life with joy.
And so to you my heart shall sing;
my voice your goodness raise.
You are my God, forevermore.
My life shall sing your praise.*

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**God of mercy,
we begin this Lenten season in confession.
We do not live according to your ways,
but according to our own.
We condone violence, participate in systems of injustice,
and use power to our own advantage at the expense of others.
Forgive us, we pray,
when we are tempted to follow paths other than those you set before us.
Teach us your commandments;
help us to turn from evil in its many guises,
and turn us toward your kingdom drawing near.
In covenantal love, remember us, we pray,
and be for us, once more and always,
an ark of safety and new life.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

*Sung Confession Response (*unison*)

*Forgive us, Lord. Forgive us, Lord.
In your eternal mercy: forgive us, Lord.
In your sustaining grace: forgive us, Lord.
Forgive us, Lord. Forgive us, Lord.*

- **The Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of Massanutten Presbyterian Church** will be held next Sunday, Feb. 25th following worship in the Fellowship Hall. A light lunch will be served. During the meeting we will act on the report of the congregation's nominating committee, review the approved 2024 ministry budget and vote on the pastors' 2024 Terms of Call. We will also hear an update on the Debt Reduction Campaign. The packet for the annual meeting is available in the Narthex this morning and will be shared electronically in Thursday's email.
- **You're invited to read Henri Nouwen's *Life of the Beloved* during Lent.** One of the most significant spiritual authors of the twentieth century, Nouwen seeks to share about his faith in the unconditional love of Jesus Christ through the simple – but deep – language of this book. Those interested are invited to gatherings to discuss the book on Mar. 14th at 1pm or Mar. 20th at 6pm at the church or by Zoom. Please see Pastor Keith with questions. Printed details are also available in the Narthex.
- **The Mission and Service Commission** invites the congregation to gather for lunch on Sunday, March 10th following worship to hear from Sharon Kandel, a mission co-worker in the Presbyterian Church. Sharon will be introduced during worship and share more about her ministry in the Horn of Africa during our lunch together.
- **It's High School Musical Season!** If you haven't already, check out some of the creative and talented musical programs in our area.
 - *Broadway High School—The Addams Family School Edition; today at 3 pm.*
 - *East Rock High School—Sweeney Todd; today at 3pm*
 - *Spotswood High School—Anastasia; Feb. 29, 7 pm, Mar. 1 & 2, 7 pm, Mar. 3, 3pm*
 - *Turner Ashby High School—42nd Street; Feb. 22, 23, 24, 7 pm, Feb. 25, 2:30 pm*
 - *Eastern Mennonite High School—Fiddler on the Roof; Mar. 1 & 2, 7 pm, Mar. 3, 3pm*
- **Next Sunday Feb. 25, we will receive the 4-cents-a-meal offering.** This offering supports hunger related ministries through our congregation and also through the Presbyterian Hunger Program. The 25% that remains with us for local use will support our Blessings in a Bag ministry.
- **Inclement Weather Policy for MPC**—In case of inclement weather, check church closings on WHSV (Harrisonburg television station) or the church website www.massanuttenchurch.org.
- **Safety Corner**—Avoid falls and stumbles by wearing a sturdy shoe with ample traction. Be aware of black ice.

This Week At MPC			
Sunday, February 18		Thursday, February 22	
9:00am	Adult Sunday School	4:30pm	Mosaic (HBR)
9:30am	Faith Village	6:00pm	Cub Scouts (108, 117)
	HS Breakfast (HS Room)	Friday, February 23	
	Parent Fellowship (MS Room)	<i>Church Office Closed</i>	
10:30am	Worship	Saturday, February 24	
	Godly Play	<i>Church Office Closed</i>	
12:15pm	Session Meeting (FH)	Sunday, February 25	
2:00pm	Cub Scouts (108, 117)	9:00am	Adult Sunday School
	<i>No Fun with Handbells today</i>	9:30am	Faith Village
6:00pm	MS & HS Youth		HS Breakfast (HS Room)
Monday, February 19			Parent Fellowship (MS Room)
6:00pm	Cub Scouts (108, 117)	10:30am	Worship
7:00pm	Massanutten Ringers (HBR)		Godly Play
	Boy Scouts (119)	11:30am	Annual Meeting & Lunch (FH)
Tuesday, February 20		2:00pm	Cub Scouts (108, 117)
Wednesday, February 21			<i>No Fun with Handbells today</i>
7:30am	Men's Prayer Group (FH)	6:00pm	MS & HS Youth
7:00pm	Chancel Choir		

Serving February 18	Serving February 25
Door Monitor: Phyllis Hamilton	Door Monitor: Harvey Mast
Greeters: Marilyn Alley & Bettye Davis	Greeters: Anita Brechtel
Ushers & Water Pourers: Harvey & Karen Mast	Ushers & Water Pourers: Ron & Janet Morris
Nursery: Katie Rodgers & Dorothy Dobroth	Nursery: Katie Rodgers & Sally Brown
Faith Village: Jennifer & Emily Coffelt	Faith Village: Jennifer & Emily Coffelt
Godly Play: Jean Kilby	Godly Play: Robin & Diann Reed
Youth: Sarah Rimer & Gus Scheidt	Youth: Sarah Rimer & Gus Scheidt

*Assurance of Forgiveness (*responsively*)
 As Noah and his family were brought safely through the flood onto dry ground, so in baptismal waters we are brought from death into new life in Christ. Jesus Christ, who is at the right hand of God, forgives us and reconciles us and all things in heaven and on earth.
Thanks be to God for this good news!

*Response of Praise *We Are Forgiven (v. 1)* 447

*We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
 Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
 We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
 Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.*

*Sharing the Peace of Christ (*responsively*)
 The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

We Gather Around God’s Word

*Sung Prayer for Illumination *Open the Eyes of My Heart* 452

*Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. Open the eyes of my heart;
 I want to see you; I want to see you; (repeat)*

*To see you high and lifted up, shining in the light of your glory.
 Pour out your power and love as we sing “Holy, holy, holy.”
 Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy.
 Holy, holy, holy, I want to see you.*

Time with the Children Pastor Keith Phillips

Anthem *Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord* -Evans

Scripture Reading Genesis 9:8-17

Sermon Pastor Ann Pettit

We Respond to God’s Word

*Affirmation of Faith (*responsively*) Belonging to God

Who are you?
I am a child of God.
 What does it mean to be a child of God?
That I belong to God, who loves me.

