



“Above all sing spiritually. Have an eye to God in every word you sing. Aim at pleasing God more than yourself, or any other creature. In order to do this attend strictly to the sense of what you sing, and see that your heart is not carried away with the sound, but offered to God continually; so shall your singing be such as the Lord will approve here, and reward you when he cometh in the clouds of heaven” - John Wesley (1703 - 1791)

Massanutten Presbyterian Church Session

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Ben Craig
Bill Frazier
Chris Hamilton
Julia Sensabaugh

Class of 2026

Erin Basgier
Ashley Gordon-Becker
Jennifer Coffelt
Deidre Lenderking
Beth Smith

Class of 2027

David Allen
Kathy Frakes
Pam French
Lindsey Harvell-Bowman
Ric Leobold

Clerk: Ron Matthews

Moderators: Rev. Ann Pettit and Rev. Keith Phillips

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Massanutten
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



A Service for the Lord's Day
September 22, 2024
Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

We Gather at God's Call

Introit *Sometimes a Light Surprises* -Cowper

Greeting

Pouring of the Water

Prelude *Every Time I Feel the Spirit* -Carter

*Call to Worship (*responsively*) Kath Wissinger, Worship Leader
Praise the Lord!

Let my whole being praise the Lord!

I will praise the Lord with all my life;

I will sing praises to my God as long as I live.

*Hymn *When in Our Music God Is Glorified* 641

*When in our music God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride,
it is as though the whole creation cried: Alleluia!*

*How often, making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound,
as worship moved us to a more profound Alleluia!*

*So has the church, in liturgy and song, in faith and love, through centuries of wrong,
borne witness to the truth in every tongue: Alleluia!*

*And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night when utmost evil strove against the light?
Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight: Alleluia!*

*Let every instrument be tuned for praise! Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always: Alleluia!*

*Call to Confession *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy* (v. 1 & refrain) 415

Verse 1 (Choir):

*Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love, and power.*

Refrain (Everyone):

*I will arise and go to Jesus; he will embrace me in his arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.*

*Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

O God, you created the world and everything in it, and you called it “very good.” Your creation glorified your Holy name in beautiful harmony. Today, O God, we continue singing ... but not always together. More often than not, instead of harmony we hear earth-shattering noise.

We have exploited your creation for our gain, distorting its beautiful song. We would rather sing with people who sound just like us rather than join the harmonious sounds of the diverse humanity you created. Sometimes, O God, we attempt to force people to sound like us instead of letting them sing as you created them to sing. Sometimes, O God, we ignore the authentic sound you gave us and instead try to match how others sound.

Forgive us, O God. Help us to rejoin the harmony of your creation. Help us to be mindful of the ways you conduct us. Help us to appreciate the diverse sounds that make up your creation. Help us to play our part with our authentic voices. May we hear more and more of the very good song you authored, and may you be glorified in the sound of our praise. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

*Assurance of Forgiveness (*responsively*)

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: through Jesus Christ, the discordant notes and irregular rhythms we have produced in the past are forgiven. And the Holy Spirit will help all of us to sing the song we have been created to sing. Together.

Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

Life at Massanutten

Throughout the 2024-2025 program year, we will be exploring what it means to deepen our connectedness to God, to one other and to the world. We will do this in a variety of ways focusing for a season on traditional discipleship practices: worship, education, generosity, prayer and service.

The last chapter and the final words of Psalm 150 are: ‘Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!’ The first discipleship practice through which we will explore our connectedness is Worship. Throughout these weeks we are considering how worship shapes us and our relationships to God, one other, and the world around us. In the week following each Sunday morning service, opportunities will be available to experience worship away from the sanctuary and in different styles. See the insert for details about each week’s worship offering.

- **This morning we will receive the 4-Cents-A-Meal offering**—a ministry of the PCUSA’s Cents-Ability program. Gifts to this support hunger ministries near and far. 25% of what’s received will remain in the congregation to support the purchase of food for our Blessings-in-a-Bag/Food-for-the-Weekend program at South River Elementary School in Grottoes.
- ***Did you order a mum?*** If so, and you didn’t get a chance to pick it up over the weekend—stop by the Fellowship Hall today. ***If you meant to order a mum but didn’t get a chance...***it’s not too late. There are extra mums available today!
- **Opportunities to engage in our music ministry:** The *Chancel Choir* rehearses each Wednesday evening at 7 pm; new voices are always welcome. And, our music director is organizing a *Recorder Ensemble*. You may have played long ago (3rd grade, perhaps?) or you may never have seen one in real life. Whatever your level of experience, this is an opportunity to enjoy fellowship and make music just for the fun of learning and playing together. *Questions?* Contact Bob Jerome at bj Jerome@massanuttenchurch.org. OR write Recorder in the Connection Folder and Bob will get in touch with you!
- ***Thanks for Coming to the Table last Wednesday for our inaugural mid-week monthly meal!*** If you missed it—no worries—the next gathering will be Wednesday, October 16th at 5:30 pm. ***Come to the Table*** happens on the 3rd Wednesday of each month and is intended to give individuals and families a night off from cooking and cleaning up, along with an opportunity to get more connected to others in the congregation. Light activities are available for those who would like to participate.

This Week At MPC

Sunday, September 22

9:00am Adult Sunday School (117,119)
 9:30am Faith Village HS Breakfast Parent Fellowship
 10:30am Worship Godly Play
 2:00pm Cub Scouts (108,119)
 5:00pm Fun with Handbells (HBR)
 6:00pm MS & HS Youth

Monday, September 23

6:00pm Cub Scouts (108, 117)
 6:00pm Preschool Board (GA)
 7:00pm Massanutten Ringers (HBR)
 7:00pm Boy Scouts (PS)

Tuesday, September 24

Wednesday, September 25

7:30am Men's Prayer Group (FH)
 10:30am Staff Meeting (GA)
 5:30pm Legacy Meeting (GA)
 6:00pm Taize (FH)
 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (CR)

Thursday, September 26

4:30pm Mosaic (HBR)
 6:00pm Cub Scouts (108, 119)

Friday, September 27

Church Office Closed

Saturday, September 28

Church Office closed

Sunday, September 29

9:00am Adult Sunday School (117,119)
 9:30am Faith Village HS Breakfast Parent Fellowship
 10:30am Worship Godly Play
 2:00pm Cub Scouts (108,119)
 5:00pm Fun with Handbells (HBR)
 6:00pm MS & HS Youth

*Response of Praise

Glory Be to the Father

581

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, amen.

Four Cents a Meal Offering

Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

647

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One; give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One; give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.

And now let the weak say, "We are strong"; let the poor say, "We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!"

And now let the weak say, "We are strong"; let the poor say, "We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!" Give thanks. Give thanks.

Serving September 22

Door Monitors: Barbara Palmer

Greeters: Fred & Cheryl Good

Ushers & Water Pourers:
 Sally Brown & Dwight Newman

Faith Village:
 Emily Burkholder & Nancy Wayland

Godly Play:
 Jack & Sarah Rimer

Nursery: Katie Rodgers & Sharon Lam

Youth Group: Sarah Rimer & Gus Scheidt

Serving September 29

Door Monitors: Harvey Mast

Greeters: John, Angela, Cameron & Corinna Kaltenborn

Ushers & Water Pourers: TBD

Faith Village:
 Jennifer Coffelt & Nancy Wayland

Godly Play:
 Angela Kaltenborn & Hannah Altman

Nursery: Emily Burkholder & Katie Gray

Youth Group: Sarah Rimer & Gus Scheidt

We Gather Around God's Word

Time with the Children

Pastor Ann Pettit

Anthem

How Can I Keep from Singing

-Honore

Scriptures

Ps. 98:4-6, Gen. 1:1-5, Col. 3:12-17

Sermon

Pastor Keith Phillips

We Respond to God's Word

*Affirmation of Faith *I Believe in God the Father* 481
*I believe in God the Father, merciful and mighty Lord,
maker of the earth and heavens, whom we worship and adore;
and in Jesus Christ the Son, only Savior, sovereign one,
by the Holy Spirit given, born of Mary, blessed virgin.*

*Under Pilate, Jesus suffered, faithful to his final breath.
He was crucified and buried, and descended into death.
From the grave he did arise; and ascended through the skies;
now enthroned with God in heaven, he will judge the dead and living.*

*I believe in God the Spirit, and the church in every place;
saints in glorious communion, all forgiven, full of grace;
flesh and blood will live again; life in Christ will never end.
Holy Spirit, Son and Father: I will praise your name forever.*

Invitation to the Offering

Song of Thanksgiving *My Life Flows On (v. 1 and refrain)* 821
*My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation.
I hear the clear, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.*

*No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?*

Concerns of the Congregation

Prayers of the People with Sung Response 469
Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying
*Lord, listen to your children praying.
Lord, send your Spirit in this place.
Lord, listen to your children praying.
Send us love; send us power; send us grace.*

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.**

We Are Sent to the World

*Hymn *Sometime a Light Surprises* 800

*Sometime a light surprises the child of God who sings;
it is the Lord who rises with healing in his wings;
when comforts are declining, he grants the soul again
a season of clear shining to cheer it after rain.*

*In holy contemplation we sweetly then pursue
the theme of God's salvation and find it ever new;
set free from present sorrow, we cheerfully can say,
"Let the unknown tomorrow bring with it what it may."*

*It can bring with it nothing but he will bear us through;
who gives the lilies clothing will clothe his people, too;
beneath the spreading heavens no creature but is fed;
and he who feeds the ravens will give his children bread.*

*Though vine nor fig tree neither their longed-for fruit should bear,
though all the fields should wither, nor flocks nor herds be there,
yet God the same abiding, his praise shall tune my voice;
for while in him confiding, I cannot but rejoice.*

*Benediction

*Benediction Response *Farewell, Good Friends!* 540

*Farewell, good friends! Farewell, good friends!
Shalom, shalom!
Till we meet again, till we meet again,
shalom, shalom.*

*Sha-lom, cha-ve-rim! Sha-lom, cha-ve-rot!
Sha-lom, sha-lom!
Le-hit-ra-ot, le-hit-ra-ot,
sha-lom, sha-lom.*