

Our Lenten Focus: Prayer

Throughout the 2024-25 program year, we have been exploring what it means to deepen our connectedness to God, to one another, and to the world. We have done this in a variety of ways - focusing for a season on one of five traditional discipleship practices. We began the year focusing on worship and education. We recently concluded our focus on generosity. After Easter, we will conclude the program year with a focus on service.

During Lent, our focus is on prayer. It is particularly appropriate to focus on prayer during Lent, as Lent is a season where we seek to deepen our connectedness to God in a variety of ways. How might you become more connected to God through prayer in this season?

We are encouraging everyone to participate in our congregational devotional reading of the book *Pause: Spending Lent with the Psalms*, by Elizabeth F. Caldwell. The psalms have long been a source of prayer for God's people. Caldwell's book walks us through several of the psalms in her devotionals. Each week concludes with a simple, but deep, spiritual practice that invites us into a deeper connection with our Triune God.



Massanutten
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

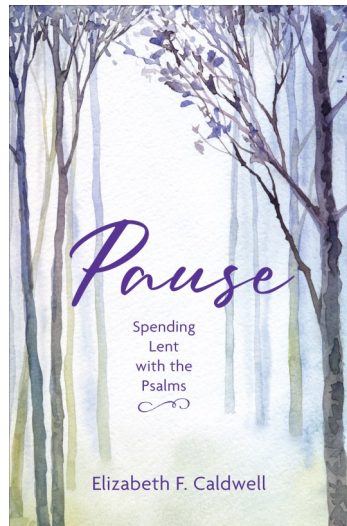
A Service of Worship
March 9, 2025
First Sunday in Lent



We Gather at God's Call

Introit	<i>Come, Sing to God (v. 4)</i>	805
Greeting		
Pouring of the Water		
Prelude	<i>O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee</i>	- Wood
*Call to Worship (<i>responsively</i>)		Ron Matthews, Worship Leader
Show me how you work, God;		
School me in your ways.		
You are gentle and straightforward,		
guiding those who stray on the path -		
Leading the humble to walk in justice,		
teaching the willing the holy road.		
O God we are here.		
We are ready to worship and learn from you!		
*Hymn	<i>I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say</i>	182

*I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad;
I found him in a resting place, and he has made me glad.*



During Lent, the congregation is encouraged to read the book *Pause: Spending Lent with the Psalms*, by Elizabeth F. Caldwell. This book includes readings from the Psalms for all Sundays and other holy days of Lent. It also includes recommended spiritual practices that we can include in our lives that encourage us to slow down and rest in God's presence. Both Adult Sunday School classes will be discussing the book.

*I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one; stoop down and drink and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.*

*I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk till traveling days are done.*

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**Faithful One, despite our best efforts,
we have not lived up to what we can do or who we can be.
Even when our intentions are good,
our actions cause harm.
Even when we want to follow you more closely,
we end up turning away.
We are at war with ourselves, and only you can bring peace.**

A time of silence is kept for personal prayer

**Still our souls, order our steps,
guide our feet back to your way. Amen.**

*Assurance of Forgiveness (*responsively*)

God upholds all who are falling, and raises up those who are bowed down.
**Jesus Christ rescues us from sin and death;
Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!**

*Response of Praise *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy (v. 3)*

415

*Come, ye weary, heavy laden, lost and ruined by the fall;
if you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all.*

*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.*

*Sharing the Peace of Christ (*responsively*)

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

Life at Massanutten

- **Third Wednesday Dinners return on March 19th at 5:30 p.m.** Join us for great table fellowship - and a night off from cooking! Come and eat - stay as long as you'd like, and enjoy the rest of your evening (without dishes) Help us plan: let us know you'll be there (but if you find you're available after all-come on along!).
- The Open Doors kitchen is now opened! We are collecting spices for the kitchen during the month of March. Stop by the table in the Narthex and pick a spice to purchase.
- If you've been unable to turn in an **Estimate of Giving card**, please do so as soon as possible. Estimate of Giving cards are available from the church office, or you can complete one at massanuttenchurch.org.
- **Inclement Weather Policy for MPC**—In case of inclement weather, check church closings on WHSV (Harrisonburg television station) or massanuttenchurch.org.

Massanutten Presbyterian Church Session

Class of 2025

Jan Arnold
Ben Craig
Bill Frazier
Chris Hamilton
Julia Sensabaugh

Class of 2026

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

Class of 2027

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

Clerk: Ron Matthews, **Moderator:** Rev. Keith Phillips

Massanutten Presbyterian Church Staff

Rev. Keith Phillips, Pastor (kphillips@massanuttenchurch.org)

Bob Jerome, Director of Music (bjerome@massanuttenchurch.org)

Carol Lown, Organist (clown@massanuttenchurch.org)

Hannah Altman, Children and Youth Program Director (haltman@massanuttenchurch.org)

Ashlea Liptrap, Administrative Assistant (office@massanuttenchurch.org)

Logan Davis, Digital Worship Coordinator (media@massanuttenchurch.org)

Karen Leecy, Office Manager (kleecy@massanuttenchurch.org)

Danielle Cunningham, Digital Media Communications Coord.
(dcunningham@massanuttenchurch.org)

Greg Trobaugh, Treasurer (gtrobaugh@comcast.net),

Katie Rodgers, Nursery Caregiver; **Dick Leecy and Cindy Grimes**, Custodians

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This Week At MPC**Sunday, March 9**

9:00am Adult Sunday School
(117, 119)
9:30am Faith Village
Parent Fellowship
HS Breakfast
10:30am Worship
Godly Play
1:00pm Recorder Rehearsal (200)
2:00pm Cub Scouts (108, 117)
5:00pm Fun with Handbells
6:00pm Youth Group

Monday, March 10

10:00am Food Pantry
6:00pm Cub Scouts (108, 117)
6:00pm Brass Quintet (210)
6:30pm Boy Scouts (FH)
7:00pm Massanutten Ringers (HBR)

Tuesday, March 11

10:00am Morning Circle (L)

Wednesday, March 12

7:30am Men's Prayer Group (FH)
2:00pm PW Bethel Circle (SS)
4:00pm PW Evening Circle (GA)
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (CR)

Thursday, March 13

4:30pm Mosaic (HBR)
6:00pm Cub Scouts (108, 119)
7:00pm Food Pantry

Friday, March 14

Church Office Closed

Saturday, March 15

Church Office Closed

Sunday, March 16 - Scout Sunday

9:00am Adult Sunday School
(117, 119)
9:30am Faith Village
Parent Fellowship
HS Breakfast
10:30am Worship
Godly Play
11:45am Baja Meeting (HS Room)
1:00pm Recorder Rehearsal (200)
2:00pm Cub Scouts (108, 117)
5:00pm Fun with Handbells
6:00pm Youth Group

Serving March 9

Door Monitor: Dwight Newman

Greeters: Greg & Ann Trobaugh

Ushers & Water Pourers:
Doug Smith & Skip Wissinger

Faith Village: Sarah & Jack Rimer

Godly Play: Diann & Robin Reed

Nursery: Katie Rodgers &
Phyllis Hamilton

Youth Group: Sarah Rimer, Gus Scheidt,
Chris Hamilton & Cherokee Adams

Serving March 16 - Scout Sunday

Door Monitor: Harvey Mast

Greeters: Dexter & Cyndi Taylor

Ushers & Water Pourers:
Karen Mast & Patti Hobbie

Faith Village: Jennifer & Emily Coffelt

Godly Play: Jack & Sarah Rimer

Nursery: Katie Rodgers &
Sharon Lam

Youth Group: Sarah Rimer, Gus Scheidt,
& Chris Hamilton

We Gather Around God's Word

*Sung Prayer for Illumination *Thy Word Is a Lamp Unto My Feet*

458

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*

*When I feel afraid, and I think I've lost my way,
still you're there right beside me.
Nothing will I fear as long as you are near.
Please be near me to the end.*

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*

Time with the Children

Jean Kilby

Anthem

Mercy

- Courtney

Scripture

Matthew 11:28-30

Sermon

Pastor Keith Phillips

We Respond to God's Word

*Affirmation of Faith

From A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:

**preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,
healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,

**Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.**

God raised this Jesus from the dead,

**vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.**

Invitation to Offering
Song of Thanksgiving *Great God of Every Blessing (v. 1)* 694

*Great God of every blessing, of faithful, loving care,
you are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share.
How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start:
sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.*

Concerns of the Congregation

Prayers of the People and 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.**

Song of Prayer *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying* 469

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.

We Are Sent to the World

*Hymn *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee (vv. 1-3)* 738

*O Master, let me walk with thee
in lowly paths of service free;
tell me thy secret; help me bear
the strain of toil, the fret of care.*

*Help me the slow of heart to move
by some clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay,
and guide them in the homeward way.*

*Teach me thy patience, still with thee
in closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,*

in trust that triumphs over wrong.

*Benediction

*Benediction Response *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee (v. 4)* 738

*In hope that sends a shining ray
far down the future's broadening way;
in peace that only thou canst give,
with thee, O Master, let me live.*