

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
April 6, 2025
Fifth Sunday in Lent



We Gather at God's Call

Introit *For You, My God, I Wait* - Tice

Greeting

Pouring of the Water

Prelude *O Lord, Look Down From Heaven, Behold* - Pachelbel

*Call to Worship (*responsively*) Nancy Davis, Worship Leader
Wait for the Lord.

Our souls wait and hope in God's word.

Hope in the Lord.

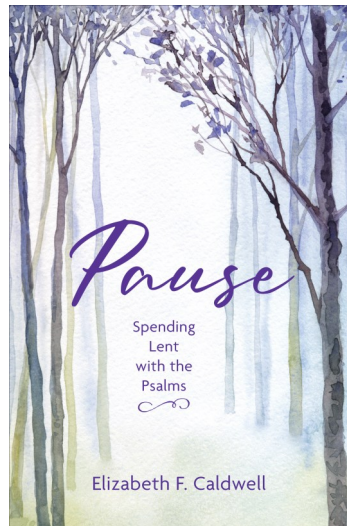
**With God there is steadfast love,
and great power to redeem.**

Our souls wait for the Lord, more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.

*Hymn *God Is Calling through the Whisper* 410

*God is calling through the whisper of the Spirit's deepest sighs,
through the thrill of sudden beauties that can catch us by surprise.
Flash of lightning, crash of thunder; hush of stillness, rush of wonder:
God is calling—can you hear? God is calling—can you hear?*

*God is calling through the voices of our neighbors' urgent prayers,
through their longing for redemption and for rescue from despair.
Place of hurt or face of needing; strident cry or silent pleading:
God is calling—can you hear? God is calling—can you hear?*



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.

*God is calling through the music of sublime and human arts,
 through the hymns of earth and angels, and the carols of our hearts.
 Lift of joy and gift of singing; days and nights our praises bringing:
 God is calling—and we hear! God is calling—and we hear!*

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

God of resurrection, we know the power of death.

We have seen its works, we have felt its sting.

**We have been to the valley of despair,
 and felt like there was no chance for life.**

We do not always believe in your power to resurrect.

**We do not always believe in your power to redeem our pain,
 and fashion something beautiful in this world.**

Forgive us.

**We cry from the depths -
 however faint our call may be,
 we pray you hear our voice.**

*Assurance of Forgiveness (*responsively*)

Through Jesus Christ,

our confession has been heard, and our sins have been forgiven.

Through the Holy Spirit,

we are free to resume our journey of faith with a fresh start.

Thanks be to God!

*Response of Praise

Jesus, Lover of My Soul (v. 4)

440

*Plenteous grace with thee is found,
 grace to cover all my sin.*

*Let the healing streams abound;
 make and keep me pure within.*

*Thou of life the fountain art;
 freely let me take of thee.*

*Spring thou up within my heart.
 Rise to all eternity.*

*Sharing the Peace of Christ (*responsively*)

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

And also with you.

Life at Massanutten

- **Save the date!** Join us **Saturday, April 12th at 8:30 AM** to help clean up the church grounds in preparation for mulching later this spring. Come enjoy fresh air, fellowship, and - rumor has it - Krispy Kreme donuts.
- **The Shenandoah Valley Choral Society, under the direction of Curtis Nolley, will present its 54th annual Spring concert “Let There be Light”** on Friday, April 11th, 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, April 13th, 3:00 p.m. at Bridgewater Church of the Brethren. The concert will highlight Elaine Hagenberg’s moving “Illuminare” accompanied by the (SVCS) chamber orchestra. The second half of the concert continues to develop the theme of light with works by Keith Hampton, Shawn Kirchner, Gilbert Martin, and others. Tickets are available at the door, locally at Harrisonburg Friendly City Food Co-Op, Bridgewater Foods Supermarket, and online at singshenandoah.org. Admission is \$15 for adults and \$12 for seniors and students.
- **MOSAIC Handbell Ensemble presents "Find Your Happy Place!"** - a rousing concert chock full of sparkling music that will make you happy: Happy Together, Ghostbusters, Sway, Happy!, Wellerman, The Girl from Ipanema and more. Carol Lown and Kath Wissinger ring in this wonderful group which rehearses weekly in the Handbell Room at MPC. Join us for the fun at our Spring concert venues: Friday, April 25 at 7 pm at Muhlenberg Lutheran Church (H'bg); Sunday, April 27 at 4 pm at Massanutten Presbyterian Church (Penn Laird) - we'll share the stage with Massanutten Ringers!; and Friday, May 2 at 7 pm at Asbury United Methodist Church (H'bg)(a First Friday Celebration). Freewill offering accepted. See MosaicBells.org, info@MosaicBells.org or talk to Carol or Kath for more info.

Holy Week at Massanutten

**Sun., April 13
 10:30 a.m.**

Palm/Passion Sunday Worship
 Featuring the Procession of the Palms
 Guest Preacher, Rev. Colleen Earp

**Thurs., April 17
 7:00 p.m.**

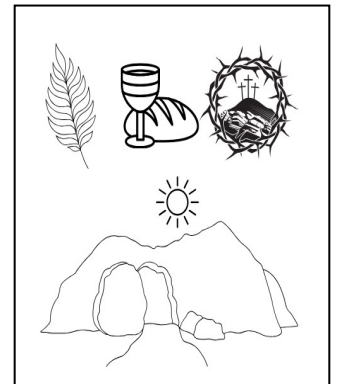
Maundy Thursday Worship
 Communion served

**Fri., April 18
 7:00 p.m.**

Good Friday Worship
 We journey with Jesus to the cross

**Sun., April 20
 9:00 a.m.
 9:45 a.m.
 10:30 a.m.**

Easter Sunday
 Breakfast
 Egg Hunt
 Easter Worship
 We rejoice for our resurrected Savior!



This Week At MPC

Sunday, April 6

9:00am Adult Sunday School (117, 119)
No Faith Village
No Parent Fellowship
No HS Breakfast
10:30am Worship
Godly Play
11:45am Session Meeting (FH)
2:00pm Cub Scouts (108, 117)
No Fun with Handbells
No Evening Youth Group

Monday, April 7

10:00am Food Pantry
6:00pm Cub Scouts (108, 117)
6:00pm Brass Quintet (210)
6:30pm Boy Scouts (119)
7:00pm Mass. Ringers (HBR)

Tuesday, April 8

10:00am Morning Circle (L)

Wednesday, April 9

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

Thursday, April 10

4:30pm Mosaic (HBR)
5:30pm Elder Training (L)
6:00pm Cub Scouts (108, 117)
7:00pm Food Pantry

Friday, April 11

6:00pm Dance Group (FH)
Church Office Closed

Saturday, April 12

8:30am Grounds Clean-up
1:30pm Ethiopia Partnership (GA)
Church Office Closed

Sunday, April 13 - Palm Sunday

9:00am Adult Sunday School (117, 119)
9:30am Faith Village
Parent Fellowship
HS Breakfast
10:30am Worship
No Godly Play
11:30am Easter Rehearsal (S)
3:00pm Cub Scouts (108, 117)
3:00pm Ashley Becker (FH)
5:00pm Fun with Handbells (HBR)
6:00pm Youth Group (FH)

Serving April 6

Door Monitor: Frank Gearing

Greeters: Marilyn Alley & Bettye Davis

Ushers & Water Pourers:
Fred Good & Cheryl Henderson

Faith Village: *No Faith Village*

Godly Play: Diann & Robin Reed

Nursery: Katie Rodgers
& Julia Sensabaugh

Youth Group: *No Youth Group*

Serving April 13

Door Monitor: Harvey Mast

Greeters: Ric & JoAnn Leobold

Ushers & Water Pourers: Kaltenborn
Family

Faith Village: Jennifer & Emily Coffelt,
& Sherry von Oeyen

Godly Play: *No Godly Play*

Nursery: Katie Rodgers
& Erin Basgier

Youth Group: Sarah Rimer, Mark Palmer,
& Gus Scheidt

We Gather around God's Word

*Sung Prayer for Illumination *Open My Eyes, That I May See (v. 1)*

451

*Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me.
Place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes; illumine me, Spirit divine!*

Time with the Children

Nancy Wayland

Anthem

Celtic Prayer

- Purifoy

Scripture

Psalm 130

Sermon

Pastor Keith Phillips

We Respond to God's Word

*Affirmation of Faith *Adapted from The Confession of 1967 (9.54-9.55)*

**Biblical visions and images of the rule of Christ,
such as a heavenly city, the household of God,
a new heaven and earth, a marriage feast, and an unending day
culminate in the image of the kingdom.**

**The kingdom represents God's triumph
over all that resists the divine will and disrupts God's creation.
Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world,
stirring hope in all people and preparing the world
to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption.**

**With an urgency born of this hope,
the church applies itself to present tasks
and strives for a better world.
It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth,
nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat.**

**In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement
to the final triumph of God.**

Invitation to the Offering

*For the bread which you have broken,
for the wine which you have poured,
for the words which you have spoken,
now we give you thanks, O Lord.*

*By this promise that you love us,
by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to heaven above us,
hallow all our lives, O Lord.*

*With the saints who now adore you
seated at the heavenly board,
may the church still waiting for you
keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.*

*In your service, Lord, defend us;
in our hearts keep watch and ward;
in the world to which you send us
let your kingdom come, O Lord.*

We are Fed at God's Table
(see insert)

We Are Sent to the World

*For you, my God, I wait with hope born of the Word.
Like sleepless ones who long to dream I wait and call my Lord.*

*Lord, hear my pleading voice, and let me know you hear!
As sleepless ones feel rest approach, I know my God is near.*

*If you should list my faults, the sins of heart and hand,
like sleepless ones who groan at dawn I know I could not stand!*

*For even from the deep I know you hear my cries.
Like sleepless ones who dream at last, I ease my weary eyes.*

*And once my soul is still, in you I find my rest,
at peace as though a child upon a gentle mother's breast.*

*O God, you are my hope;
I know that you forgive.
Your love redeems me from the depths
so I may rise and live.*

Massanutten Presbyterian Church Session

Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027
Jan Arnold	Erin Basgier	David Allen
Ben Craig	Jennifer Coffelt	Kathy Frakes
Bill Frazier	Ashley Gordon-Becker	Pam French
Chris Hamilton	Deidre Lenderking	Lindsey Harvell-Bowman
Julia Sensabaugh	Beth Smith	Ric Leobold

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

Massanutten Presbyterian Church Staff

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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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