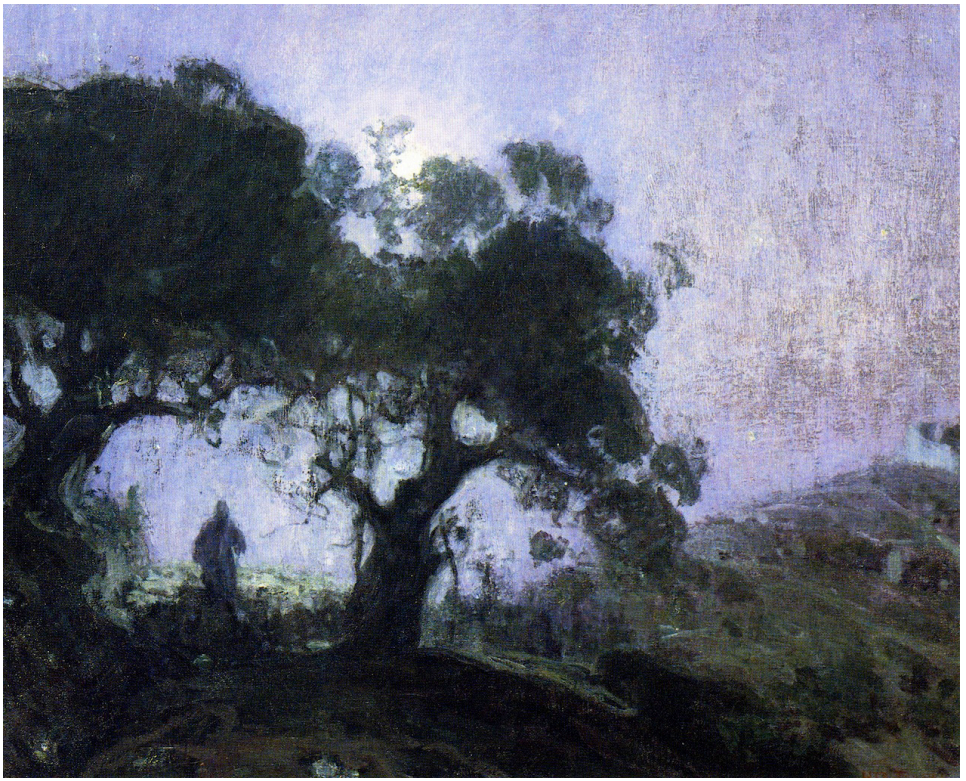
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
of MADISON



November 15, 2026

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

ORDER of WORSHIP

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Leader: We lift up our eyes to the Lord!

People: Knowing our Creator meets us in this time of worship.

Leader: We lift up our eyes to the Lord!

People: Trusting our Liberator to meet us with forgiveness and renewal.

Leader: We lift up our eyes to the Lord!

People: Relying on our Nurturer to build us up for lives of love and service.

(Music for the hymns is in the back of the bulletin.)

***Opening Hymn** *God is Calling through the Whisper*

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, you are generous. We have so many blessings to be grateful for. Yet we are often motivated by fear, rather than our trust in you. We hold onto what we have, afraid we will never have enough. We become focused on protection, rather than your call to welcome and love others. We see our blessings as our own, rather than seeing your care in each gift. Forgive us, God of grace. Forgive us and restore us to your vision for the world we pray. Amen.

(Silent confession)

An asterisk(*) indicates that those who are able are invited to stand. Bold letters denote that we say the words in unison. Italic fonts direct us to sing.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the good news!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***Congregational Response #582** *Glory to God*

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free,
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be. Amen.

***Passing of the Peace**

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

(You may pass the peace to one another.)

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

Loving God, come to us in these words of Scripture and proclamation and speak to us of your way in the world and in our lives. Amen.

Scripture Reading Judges 4:1-7

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help, for he had nine hundred chariots of iron and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophet, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the Israelites came up to her for judgment.

She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali and said to him, “The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, ‘Position yourself at Mount Tabor, taking ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin’s army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops, and I will give him into your hand.’ ”

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Reading Matthew 25:14-29

“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Affirmation of Faith** Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.

The Gifts of Our Tithes and Offering

Minute for Stewardship Leo Vlamis

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ all people here below;
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God whom we adore.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Amen!

***Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving**

Prayers of the People

Joys and Concerns

The 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.

GOING FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD

***Closing Hymn** *We Will Go Out with Joy*

***Charge and Blessing**

***Postlude**

As our time of worship comes to an end, our time of service begins.
We are the church, sent out in Jesus' name,
to be Christ's body in the world.

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WORSHIP LEADER

Nichole Maldonado-Gorsak

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MADISON!

We'd love for you to join us in our activities, so please fill in the Welcome Card, which can be found in your pew rack.

WHILE YOU WORSHIP WITH US:

- THE LORD'S SUPPER is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month.
- FOR YOUNG ONES - Although children are always welcome in worship, nursery care for children from six months through three years of age is provided in our playroom in the Parish House. Please ask an usher to direct you.
- JOINING OUR CONGREGATION - Please speak with Pastor Carol for additional information.
- GET OUR ENEWS - Keep current with our news and activities through email. Place your email address in the offering plate.

LEARN MORE ABOUT US by visiting our website at www.pcmadison.org and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ThePresbyterianChurchofMadison.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARKING LIMITATIONS - NOVEMBER 15 WEDDING

A wedding will be taking place in the sanctuary on Sunday afternoon, November 15. The Madison police will be placing cones on the Green Avenue block in front of the church to reserve parking for the wedding party and family.

Congregation members who wish to park on Green Avenue for Sunday service can move cones for their desired parking space. However, please replace the cones to continue to reserve parking spaces for Sunday afternoon. Thank you!

BIBLE STUDY - MONDAYS AT 6:30 PM

Please join us in the Parlor on Monday evenings at 6:30 pm.

SOUND HEALING - NOVEMBER 17

Give yourself the best gift - a whole hour of peace and rest just for you. Join us on November 17 in the Parlor from 6:30-7:30 pm as Nichole Maldonado-Gorsak leads us through gentle stretching suitable for all levels and then a soothing, restful sound bath. Bring a non-perishable food donation for the Interfaith Food Pantry. Write Kathleen Underwood at kathleenunderwood@verizon.net for more information.

GENEROSITY SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 22

We are incredibly grateful for all who have sent in their estimate of giving cards. We hope to get them all in by next Sunday (Nov. 22) so we can keep dreaming and building our budget for the year ahead. Thank you for all of your time and gifts.

INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

Our third quarter donations came to 299 pounds, which gives us 772 for the year through September. Thanks to everyone who donated on Mission Sunday we should be well on our way to one thousand pounds for the year. Although the pantry has begun giving Thanksgiving baskets to their clients, it's not too late to donate to that effort. We could also use another volunteer to deliver the donations to the pantry in Morris Plains. This can be done any Monday through Thursday between 9:30 and 4:30; speak with Becky Moody if you are interested in this aspect of our mission.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

November 29 - Advent begins with special music from our youth

December 20 - Annual Christmas Pageant with kids, animals, and artwork

December 24 - Candlelight Christmas Eve Cantata with a Chamber Ensemble

ONLINE GIVING

Thank you for supporting the vision and ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Madison. Scan the following QR code to use our secure online giving form to make a one-time donation or conveniently schedule recurring gifts.

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
2 Corinthians 9:7

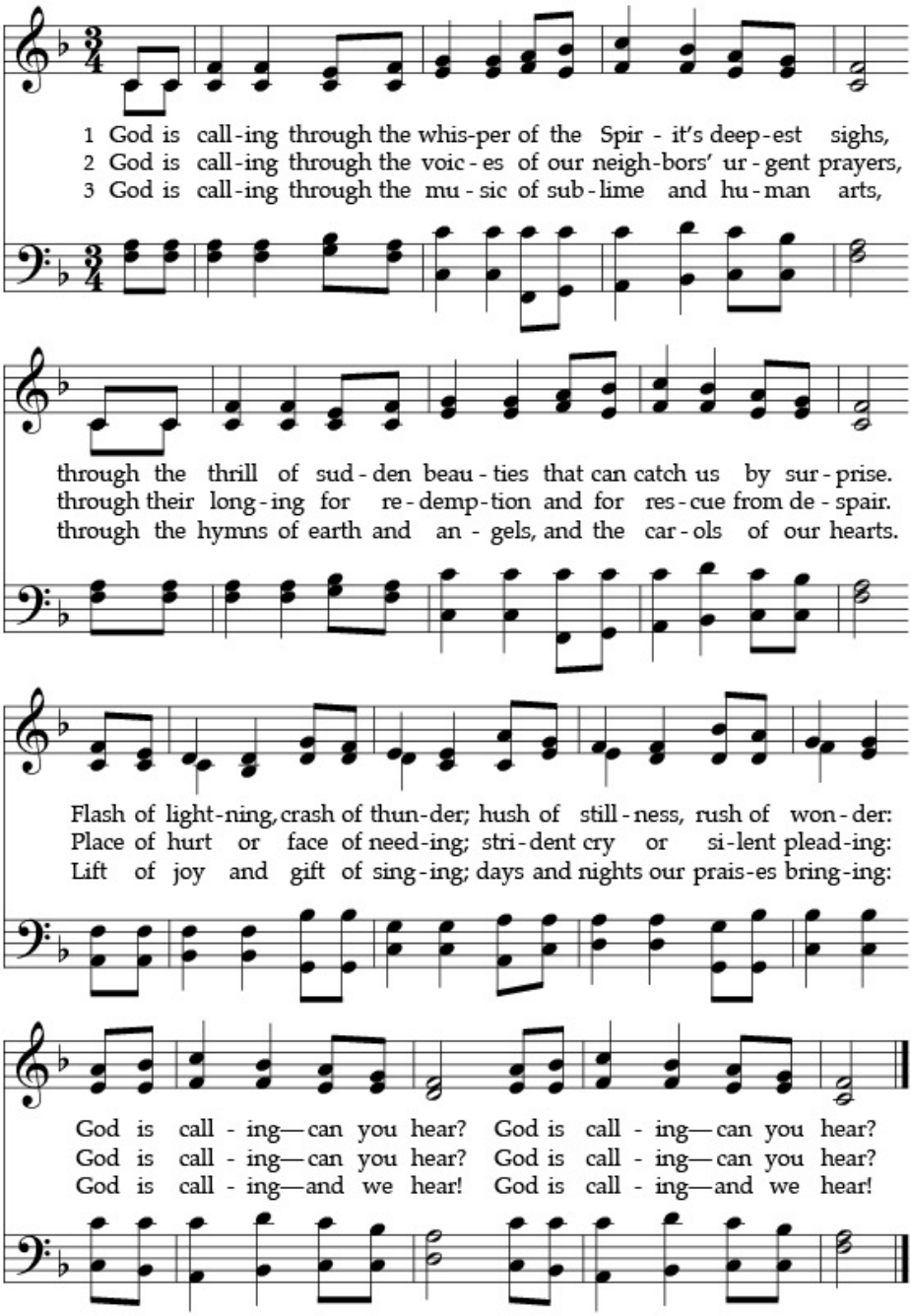
PRAYER LIST

During the week, each one of us can make it a part of our daily spiritual practice to pray. You are invited to participate, as you are able, offering prayer in light of God's healing love.

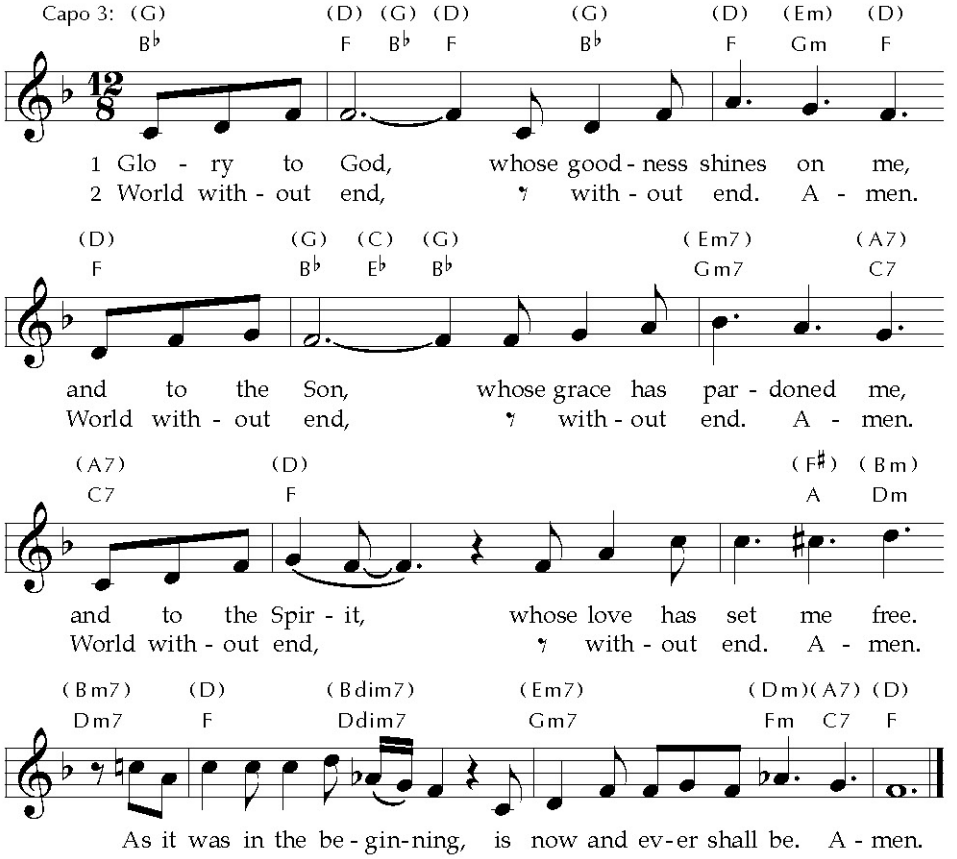
If you have an update for the prayer list, please email Rev. Carol Howard at carolhoward@pcmadison.org or call the church office at 973-377-1600. Thank you for helping us maintain a more current prayer list.

- A friend going through a very hard time
- Thanksgiving for the life of John, and peace for Louise as she mourns his passing
- Marietjie and family, after the recent passing of Marietjie's sister
- Noel, in need of a living kidney donor
- Grant for recovery
- Joe and his family on a hard journey with his elderly parents
- Brody for recovery
- Laurie living with Parkinson's disease
- Jack living with Parkinson's and Melissa (his daughter) and Lynn (his wife) as they encourage and support him
- John in a Mayo Clinic clinical trial for a rare form of Parkinson's
- Jackie and her children, as they grieve their husband and father
- Doug, a friend of the Burnet family, who was recently diagnosed with a serious illness
- Immigrants
- Kathleen, caregiver for her parents
- Susan, sister of Bob Landrigan, as she battles Parkinson's disease

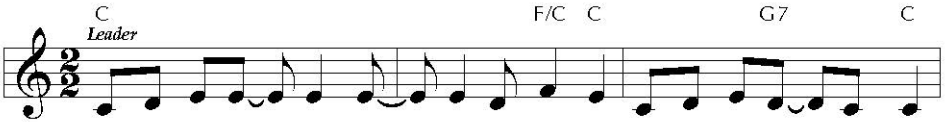
410 God Is Calling through the Whisper



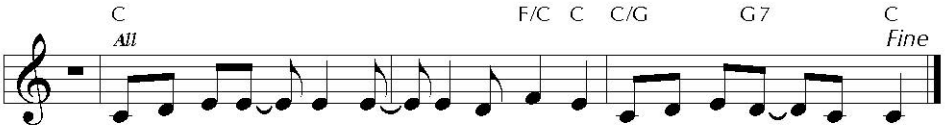
582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me



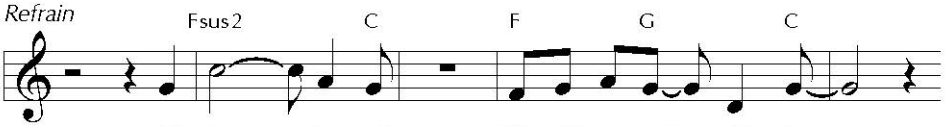
We Will Go Out with Joy 539



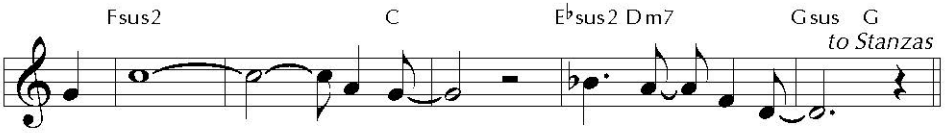
1 We will go out with joy in the Spir-it; we will go out with God.
2 Now an-y-one who's born of the Spir-it, sing a new song of joy.
3 We will go out with joy in the Spir-it; we will go out with God.



We will go out with joy in the Spir-it; we will go out with God.
Now an-y-one who's born of the Spir-it, sing a new song of joy.
We will go out with joy in the Spir-it; we will go out with God.



Al-le-lu-ia! We will go out with joy.



Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

NOTES

CREDITS

Cover Art: “The Good Shepherd” by Ossawa Tanner

WELCOMING ALL

AS A LOVING COMMUNITY

CENTERED IN CHRIST,

GROWING IN FAITH,

SERVING IN JOY, AND

LIVING IN GRATITUDE

STAFF

Reverend Carol Howard
Pastor

Christine Antico
Bookkeeper

Eileen Koppi
Administrative Assistant

Michael Callahan
Student Ministries & Outreach

Anna D'Achille
Director of Music

WORSHIP

Sunday Service 10:15 am

SESSION

Rachel Currie
Susana Fonticoba
Ethan Gorsak
Stephanie Haedrich
Becky Moody - Clerk
John Schanck
Julie Siciliano
Giorgios Vlamis

The Presbyterian Church of Madison is part of the PC(USA) Denomination

pcusa.org

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