



# MADISON

## HEIGHTS CHURCH

LORD'S DAY • DECEMBER 28, 2025

*Worship is the submission of all our nature to God. It is the quickening of the conscience by his holiness; the nourishment of the mind with his truth; the purifying of imagination by his beauty; the opening of the heart to his love; the surrender of the will to his purpose - and all this gathered up in adoration, the most selfless emotion of which our nature is capable.*

—WILLIAM TEMPLE

### CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel:  
*"Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.*

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
*And through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;*

When you walk through the fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

*For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior."*

— ISAIAH 43:1-3

## LITURGICAL GUIDE

MEMBERS & GUESTS  
ARE INVITED TO  
BE SEATED BEFORE  
WORSHIP AND AGAIN  
DURING SINGING.  
WE ASK OUR  
GREETERS TO PAUSE  
CONGREGATIONAL  
SEATING DURING  
CORPORATE PRAYERS  
AND SACRAMENTS.

### Psalm 98:1

*Oh sing to the Lord a  
new song, for he has done  
marvelous things! His  
right hand and his holy  
arm have worked salvation  
for him.*

### 1 Timothy 1:15

*The saying is trustworthy  
and deserving of full  
acceptance, that Christ  
Jesus came into the world  
to save sinners, of whom I  
am the foremost.*

### Revelation 22:20

*He who testifies to these  
things says, "Surely I am  
coming soon." Amen.  
Come, Lord Jesus!*

## WORSHIP IN SONG

### *Joy To The World*

*Based on Psalm 98. Isaac Watts, 1719. Music: George Frederick Handel, 1742.*

Joy to the world! The Lord is come; let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room, and heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns; let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love, and wonders  
Of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

### *O Come, All You Unfaithful*

*Bob Kauflin & Lisa Clow. | ©2020 Sovereign Grace Praise. Alt. 2025.*

O come, all you unfaithful; come, weak and unstable;  
Come, know you are not alone.

O come, barren and waiting ones, weary of praying,  
Come, see what your God has done.

Christ is born, Christ is born, Christ is born for you.

O come, bitter and broken, come with fears unspoken;  
Come, taste of his perfect love.

O come, guilty and hiding ones; there is no need to run.  
See what your God has done.

Christ has come, Christ has come, Christ has come for you.

He's the Lamb who was given, slain for our pardon.  
His promise is peace for those who believe.

He's the Lamb who was given, slain for our pardon. (repeat bridge)  
His promise is peace for those who believe.

So come, though you have nothing; come, he is the offering.  
Come, see what your God has done.

Christ has died, Christ has died, Christ has died for you.

### *We Long To See You (with 'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus)*

*Wendell Kimbrough ©2015. Louisa M.R. Steed, William J. Kirkpatrick, 1882.*

Almighty God, we long to see you.  
Open our hearts and make them pure.  
Spirit, we wash our hands in mercy.  
Come teach our souls to love your truth.

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take him at his word;  
Just to rest upon his promise; just to know, "Thus saith the Lord."

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er!  
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him more!

## CHILDREN'S SERMON & INTERLUDE

### CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed with filthy garments.  
And the angel said to those who were standing before him, "Remove the filthy  
garments from him." And to him he said, "Behold, I have taken your iniquity  
away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestments."*

—ZECHARIAH 3:3-4

### APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth;  
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried.  
He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the universal church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen.

### PREACHING OF THE WORD

1 John 2 :1-2 • *"Jesus: Advocate and Propitiation"* • Rev. Phillip Palmertree  
*The grass withers, the flower fades but the word of our God will stand forever.*

—ISAIAH 40:8

### SONG OF RESPONSE

#### *In Christ Alone*

*Keith Getty & Stuart Townend ©2002 Thankyou Music.*

In Christ alone my hope is found; he is my light, my strength, my song.  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease.  
My Comforter, my All in All. Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, Who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones he came to save.  
Till on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied;  
For ev'ry sin on him was laid—here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;  
Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave he rose again!  
And as he stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me;  
For I am his and he is mine—bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death—this is the pow'r of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from his hand;  
Till he returns or calls me home—here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

### BENEDICTION

#### LITURGICAL GUIDE

3K & 4K are invited  
to the front for the  
children's sermon and  
then children's church.

#### The Corporate Confession of Sin

reminds us all that we are  
no better than others and  
that it is ONLY Grace  
which makes any of us  
what we are.

The Apostles' Creed is  
called such, "*not because  
it was produced by the  
apostles themselves*" but  
because it contains  
a summary of their  
teachings. It sets forth  
their doctrine "*in sublime  
simplicity, in unsurpassable  
brevity, in beautiful  
order, and with liturgical  
solemnity.*" Its present  
form is dated no later than  
the 4th Century.

—CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH 1988

#### 1 John 5:11-12

*And this is the testimony,  
that God gave us eternal  
life, and this life is in his  
Son. Whoever has the Son  
has life; whoever does not  
have the Son of God does  
not have life.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**AFFINITY GROUPS  
AND CHILDREN'S  
SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
will NOT meet today.

**YEAR END GIVING**  
Secure online portal  
available by clicking on the  
"Give Online" button at  
madisonheightschurch.com  
or drop off your gift in the  
secure lock box outside the  
church office. Gifts of stock  
are tax-deductible. Call the  
office for more information.

**WOMEN'S CONFERENCE**  
will be January 9-10 (Friday  
night and Saturday morning)  
at The Lodge with guest  
speaker Susan Tyner.

SCAN TO  
REGISTER



**MISSION CONFERENCE**  
will be Jan. 11th. Join us  
for Sunday morning where  
we will hear from several  
of our Mission Partners.  
Dr. Richard Pratt will be  
preaching and other ministry  
partners will be leading our  
Affinity Groups. Then join  
us for a Back Porch event  
that evening at 5:30pm for  
a chili fundraiser dinner for  
the Jamaica trip and featured  
speaker **Rev. Jasper Bacon**  
with In His Steps Ministries.  
Our elementary aged children  
will have a mission project  
that evening.

**CHURCH OFFICE** will be  
closed Dec. 31st & Jan. 1st for the  
New Year Holiday.

## CONTACT US

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## SERMON NOTES

1 John 2 :1-2 • *"Jesus: Advocate and Propitiation"*

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*Our Mission is to be a Refuge for Broken People where we  
Experience the Grace of Christ and Express the Truth of the Gospel.*

CCLI #2901455

## GIVING @ MHC

*Final calendar year giving numbers through December 2025 will be available near the end of January 2026.*

*As of the end of November we received \$1,319,380 for a \$1,375,000 annual budget.*

*A complete budget presentation will be part of the congregational meeting.*

## WHO IS MADISON HEIGHTS?

There is no better answer than to listen to these  
four important messages about our mission!



## VISITING MHC?

Please let us know who you are by  
filling out this electronic visitor's card.

