First United Methodist Church

224 Broad Street
PO Box 178
Mason, Texas 76856
(325) 347-5105
www.fumcmason.org



November 22, 2026

Christ the King Sunday

GATHERING/WELCOME

OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW AND SERVE

***CALL TO WORSHIP** **Amanda McMillan**

Family of God, on this Reign of Christ Sunday, we celebrate and remember Christ, who reigns over all creation with love and grace, forming us as a family bound together by God.
We come to worship Christ, who cares for the least of these and calls us to do the same.

We gather to recount all the ways we encounter Christ in our midst—in our neighbor who checks in when we're sick, in our unhoused friends who gather for a meal, in our friends who have been wounded in body and spirit.
We come to worship Christ, who cares for the least of these and reminds us to do the same.

We join our voices with Christians throughout the world and throughout time to give thanks and to seek guidance as we grow in love of God, neighbor, self, and creation.
We come to worship Christ, who cares for the least of these and inspires us to do the same.

Come, you blessed by God, with open hearts, open arms, and open doors to welcome and embrace all of our neighbors, because when we love our neighbors, we love Christ among us.

We come to worship Christ, who cares for the least of these and empowers us to do the same.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, August 2026.

***SONG OF PRAISE: "**Come Ye Thankful People" v. 1,2,3 **UMH#694**

1. Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home; all is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin. God our Maker doth provide for our wants to be supplied; come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.	2. All the world is God's own field, fruit as praise to God we yield; wheat and tares together sown are to joy or sorrow grown; first the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear; Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.
3. For the Lord our God shall come and shall take the harvest home; from the field shall in that day all offenses purge away, giving angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast; but the fruitful ears to store in the garner evermore.	

Acolytes bring in the light of Christ acknowledging the Presence of God.

A YEAR WITH GOD: We *color Christ the King Sunday white and gold to remind us that Jesus is "King of Kings and Lord of Lords" in all times and all places.*

CENTERING PRAYER SONG: People Need the Lord **FWS #2244**

1. People need the Lord, people need the Lord; at the end of broken dreams, he's the open door.	2. People need the Lord, people need the Lord; when will we realize people need the Lord.

CONFESSION: Holy and awesome God, we stand in your presence filled with regret for our many sins and failings. Though there is greatness in us, and a deep longing for goodness we have often denied our better selves and refused to hear your voice calling us to rise to the full height of our humanity. For there is weakness in us, as well as strength. At times we choose to walk in darkness, our vision obscured. We do not care to look within, and we are unwilling to look beyond at those who need our help. O God, we are too weak to walk unaided. Be with us as a strong and wise friend and teach us to walk by the light of your truth. Amen.

All pray in silence.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS:
Leader to people: The Lord is merciful and gracious, endlessly patient, loving, and true, showing mercy to thousands, forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin, and granting pardon. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
People to leader:
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
Leader and people: **Glory to God. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

YOUNG DISCIPLES TIME

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION **Amanda McMillan**

Holy God, open your Word. Give us a spirit of wisdom and revelation, that our eyes may be enlightened, and we may know the hope to which we have been called; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24 **Amanda McMillan**

11 For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out. 12 As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. 13 I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. 14 I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. 15 I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. 16 I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. 20 Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. 21 Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, 22 I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and sheep. 23 I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them; he shall feed them and be their shepherd. 24 And I the Lord will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I the Lord have spoken.

SONG OF PREPARATION: "We Gather Together" " v.1,2 **UMH #131**

1. We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing; he chastens and hastens his will to make known. The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing. Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.	2. Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining, ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine; so from the beginning the fight we were winning; thou, Lord, wast at our side, all glory be thine!

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 25: 31-46 **Pastor Laura**

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, 33 and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. 34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, 35 for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' 37 Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38 And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? 39 And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' 40 And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.' 41 Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, 42 for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' 44 Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?' 45 Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' 46 And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

Pastor: This is the word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON: It Will Be Like This: Come, Be Blessed **Pastor Laura**

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY: Give Thanks **FWS#2036**

***SONG OF THANKS: Doxology** **UMH #95**

***SONG OF COMMITMENT:** **UMH #327**

"Crown Him With many Crowns" v. 1,2,3

1. Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne. Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own. Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.	2. Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave, and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save. His glories now we sing, who died, and rose on high, who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
3. Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scepter sways from pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise. His reign shall know no end, and round his pierced feet fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.	

SENDING FORTH – BLESSING

This service is live-streamed on
Youtube.com/@fumcmason

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MH=United Methodist Hymnal; FWS=The Faith We Sing; W&S=Worship and Song
Asterisk (*) indicates to stand, as you are able.



Prayer Guide for the Week

New every morning is your love, great God of light, and all day long you are working for good in the world. Stir up in us desire to serve you, to live peacefully with our neighbors, and to devote each day to your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Together, Let us pray for

The people of this congregation…
Those who suffer and those in trouble…
Resisting injustice, oppression, and evil…
The concerns of this local community…
The world, its people, and its leaders…
The church universal – leaders, members, and its mission…
The communion of saints…

For the grieving families of: *Troy Klaerner, Patsy Ziriax, Harold Hoerster, George Eastes, Amy Capps.*

For individuals requesting prayers*: The Estes family, especially for baby Dillon, Suzann Bjork-cancer (Hilda UMC) Gay McMillan (Scott McMillan's sister- health problems) Mary Polk, Rene Schulze.*
For our military, law enforcement, and first responders.
U.S. Army: *Kalyn Bauer* ***– Marines:*** *Zane Chalk (Joyce Raska's grandson)*
For our Veterans, military members and their families *who may be struggling with their mental health, that they can get help.*

The chapel is always open for prayer. Come by during the week and experience the current prayer station, use the prayer guide, or just sit in silence.

<u>Assisting in Worship</u>
Lay Reader: Amanda McMillan
Ushers: *Winfred and Carmen Bauer*
Organist/Pianist: Chris Farmer
Music Leader: Leslie Whitworth
Acolytes: *James Pierce*, Coogan Williams

MINISTERS—ALL MEMBERS OF FUMC
STAFF—LISTED BELOW

Rev. Laura Hewett Becker	**Laura.becker@masonfumc.org**
Heilyn Gutierrez, Office Manager	**officemgr@fumcmason.org**
Deandra Palacio Family Ministries	**familyministries@fumcmason.org**
Terri Reardon, RN Wesley Nurse	**Treardon@mhm.org**
Rhett Vacek, A/V Tech	**rhettvacek@gmail.com**
	steadysteps@fumcmason.org
Leslie Whitworth Music Dir.	**lfrommason@yahoo.com**

Giving and Attendance

LAST WEEK'S GIVING (NOV 15, 2026) $11,837.18
NOV MTD GIVING..... .....$27,590.57
NOV. MTD EXPENSE.....$13,964.36
LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE (NOV 15, 2026) 42



SAVE THE DATE:



Nov 19th – Through Nov 30th. Steady Steps Book fair in the Education Wing Hall, proceeds from this book fair are going to Steady Steps.



Today, Nov. 22 – Hanging of the Greens! Following worship, we will have a covered dish lunch in the social hall, followed by a time of fellowship and decorating of the sanctuary in anticipation of the first Sunday of Advent. Please plan to join us for food, fellowship, and "decking the halls"!



FUMC will be doing food distribution at the food pantry TOMORROW, November 23, wear your Navy FUMC T-shirt if you have one.



Coat Donations Needed for the Food Pantry.

This week's Calendar

Sunday, November 22
Birthday: Celeste Kramer
9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages
11:00 AM Worship Service
12:00 Noon- Hanging of the Greens, Covered Dish
4:00 – 5:00 pm Boy Scouts

Monday, November 23
Serving at the Food Pantry
09:30 AM Prayer Shawl
No Chair Yoga
06:30 PM Cantata Rehearsal

Tuesday, November 24
Birthday: Shirley Lyles & Gerry Gamel
09:45 AM Steady Steps Chapel
04:00 PM Steady Steps After School Chapel

Wednesday, November 25
Office open until Noon
No Chair Yoga
06:00 PM Choir Practice

Thursday, November 26
Thanksgiving Day
Office Closed
Steady Steps Closed

Friday, November 27
No Chair Yoga
Saturday, November 28
Birthday: Bobby McMillan

Sunday, November 29
9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages
11:00 AM Worship Service
4:00 – 5:00 pm Boy Scouts