

Jesus is the Question: Important Questions for our Life of Faith and our Pastoral Search



LENTON
SERMON SERIES

**JESUS IS THE
QUESTION**

March 30, 2025
**WEEK FOUR:
FAITH AND DOUBT**

**YOU OF LITTLE FAITH, WHY DO
YOU DOUBT?**

MATTHEW 14:22-3

John McMillan Presbyterian Church
10:00 a.m. Worship
To Know, to Glorify, and to Serve God
March 30, 2025



Welcome to John McMillan Presbyterian Church

Sunday, March 30, 2025 - 10:00 a.m.

We're glad you are here today. We are a community of people who are disciples of Jesus Christ, and it is our mission to provide a way for this community and the communities around us to know, glorify and serve God. It is our hope that our worship and fellowship today will allow us all to feel God's presence.

If you have any questions about the church, or if there is any way we can help you or pray for you, please let us know.

The Service of the Lord's Day

Prelude

There is a Green Hill Far Away

Smith/Gower

We Gather for Worship

Welcome & Announcements

Jim Hinerman

*Passing of the Peace

The Lord be with you. *And also with you.*

Lift up your hearts. *We lift them to the Lord.*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Let us pass the peace of Christ to each other.

*Introit

*Call to Worship

We are ambassadors for Christ.

God has entrusted to us the message of reconciliation

We gather as God's beloved family,

to worship God and offer our praise.

Let us join our hearts in song and prayer!

Hymn of Adoration #475

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

We Are Called to Pray

Call to Confession *(please be seated)*

Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, we know that we are your good creation; made in your image and called to reflect your goodness. In Jesus Christ, you redeemed our brokenness and brought us into right relationship with you. And yet, despite our best efforts, and sometimes due to our worst efforts, we have sinned. Our sin leaves us feeling alienated and distant from what we love. Forgive us, we pray. Bring us back to wholeness, that we might witness to joy, for the sake of our crucified and risen Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Time for Silent Confession *(A time of silence for personal confession)*

Assurance of Pardon

The Psalms tell us, “Happy are those whose sin is forgiven. Be glad and rejoice, for in Christ, we are a new creation.” **Thanks be to God!**

***Gloria Patri #581** *(Please stand.)*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

Prayers of the People and 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

Anthem

Grace

By Wes Cameron
Chancel Choir

Amazing grace how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me. I was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved; how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed. Amazing grace.....When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun. Amazing grace, amazing grace, my God has shown to me. By him, I've been set free! Praise God for amazing grace. Grace.

We Hear the Word

Word for Today

Matthew 14:22-33

Rev. Emily Miller

Application of the Word

Faith and Doubt - "You of little faith, why do you doubt?"

***Hymn of Reflection #353**

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

We Respond in Faith

***Affirmation of Faith**

(based on 1 Cor. 15 and other scriptures)

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.

We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. Amen

Call for the Offering

Collection of the Offering

Offertory

Savior, Like a Sheperd Leads Us

Celebration Ringers

Arr. by Joel Raney

*Doxology #609

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*Prayer of Dedication

We are Sent in God's Name

*Hymn of Discipleship #684

Faith Begins by Letting Go

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

Allegretto

E.K. Heyser

**Please stand if you are able.*

Upcoming Events & Information

Flowers

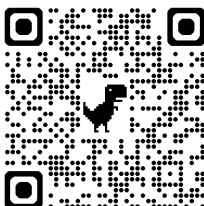
The flowers today are given in honor of Paul Gaudelli's 75th birthday.

Easter Flower Sales

It is now time to order your Easter Flower(s). Easter Lilies & Hyacinths (Blue, Pink, White) will be available for purchase. The cost is \$15.00 for a 5-bloom potted flower. Orders are due no later than this **Sunday, March 30th**. You can put your check made payable to JMPC with Easter Flower in the memo line and place it in the offering plate or give to Catherine in the church office.

To place your order for Easter Flower(s), please "signup" for the flower & color(s) of flower you would like, using the QR Code below for the SignUpGenius or using the web address listed below. Paper order forms are available in the narthex. You can order as many as you would like. Please be sure to put in the comment section who you would like your flower to be in memory or in honor of.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094CAA922A4FE3-55753506-2025>



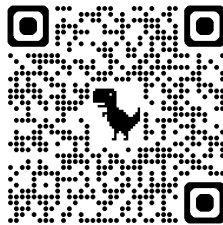
Hot dog & chili luncheon

Interpretation of the church assessment survey will be done at a Hot Dog/Chili Luncheon after worship on **Sunday, April 6**. Please make every effort to attend. Rev. Ralph Lowe will help us work through the data and give us an overview of the survey results.

Easter Egg Hunt

Join us on Saturday, April 12 from 11 to 12 for a children's Easter Egg Hunt, ages 3rd grade and under. There will be a short story time for all the children and then they will be divided into groups by age for the egg hunt. When not hunting eggs, kids will have snack time and Easter pictures to color. Weather permitting, the egg hunt will be outdoors. In case of inclement weather, the hunt will be moved indoors. To ensure that we have plenty of eggs for everyone we are asking that you **sign up in advance** either through the SignUpGenius link below or on the sign-up sheets in the Narthex. Come celebrate the Easter season with us!

[Easter egg hunt sign up](#)



Creation Day

On Sunday, April 27, we will celebrate our annual Creation Day. After worship we will have a picnic lunch and tend to the SHIM garden and orchard. Please join us for this fun, outdoor event. Many hands are needed.

SHIM Garden

It's the most wonderful time of the year.....spring! Our gardeners have planted spinach and peas, weeded the garden and tilled part of the flower border. The seedlings are growing in my basement getting ready to be planted in May.

The garden maintenance requires many hands to keep it growing. You can help and no gardening experience is necessary. We'll teach you everything you need to know. Come to our kick-off meeting on Monday, April 7 at 7:00 PM for more information.

We always need more volunteers in the garden. Please contact Carolyn Brow at worb5@comcast.net if you are interested.

JMPC Book Club

Lady Tan's Circle of Women by Lisa See

Monday, April 28 @ 7:00 pm

All are welcome

This immersive historical novel was inspired by the true story of a woman physician in 15th-century China.

It asks the question: How might a woman like Yunxian break free of the cultural and social traditions and lead a life of such importance that many of her remedies are still used five centuries later? This is a captivating story of women helping each other, a reimagining of the life of one person who was remarkable in the Ming dynasty (Goodreads).

Kids Club & Youth Group

If you are in the 3rd to 6th grade, you are invited to join us at Kids Club from 5-7pm on Wednesdays. Bring \$3 and join us for supper, arts/crafts, games, music and more! Contact person: Linda Pelan at linpel@verizon.net or 412-527-9755. Youth Group (grades 7-12) also meets on Wednesdays.

The last session is April 9!

Greeters

We are looking for friendly faces to welcome all who come through our doors on Sunday mornings. Please scan your calendar and pick a Sunday that works best for you. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. As the Greeters are the “first impression” of the John McMillan congregation, it is our hope that we make all visitors and members feel welcome with a warm handshake, a smile, and the message that we are glad they are here. If you have any questions, contact Suzie Burland.



**875 Clifton Road
Bethel Park, PA 15102**

It is time for Preschool Registration at John McMillan.
We are excited to offer the following Preschool classes for the 2025-2026 school year:

Pre-Kindergarten AM or PM: For children age 4½ as of September 30, 2025, this class meets Monday-Thursday and fosters the development of specific skills that are essential for success in kindergarten. Each day will include free play and gross motor time.

4-Year Olds AM or PM: For children age 4 as of September 30, 2025, this class meets three days per week and lessons are designed to prepare children for kindergarten. Each day includes free play and gross motor time.

3-Year Olds AM or PM: For children age 3 as of September 30, 2025, 2-day (Tuesday & Thursday) or 3-day (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday) classes are offered. Children must be toilet trained. The focus of our 3's curriculum is socialization and learning through play.

Young 3 Year Olds AM: For children turning age 3 June- Sept. 30, 2025, 2-day (Tuesday & Thursday) classes are offered. Children must be toilet trained. The focus of our 3's curriculum is socialization and learning through play.

Registration is now open for all.

Please contact Kim Doughty for a form or to learn more about our program.

412-833-4704 or preschool@johnmcmillanpc.org.

This Week at JMPC

SUNDAY, MARCH 30

10:00 am Worship
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am PNC
2:00 pm Passion Twirl & Poms
7:00 pm Reflections Group

MONDAY, MARCH 31

9:00 am Men's breakfast
1:00 pm Pickleball

TUESDAY, APRIL 1

9:00 am Ladies Pickleball
3:00 pm Passion Twirl & Poms
7:00 pm Meeting Night
8:00 pm Pickleball (Knopp)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2

10:00 am Staff Meeting
4:30 pm South Hills Flute Studio

THURSDAY, APRIL 3

1:00 pm Pickelball
4:30 pm South Hills Flute Studio
4:45 pm The Yee Twirlers
6:00 pm Celebration Ringers
7:00 pm Choir Practice
7:00 pm Line Dance - Brownlee

FRIDAY, APRIL 4

4:30 pm South Hills Flute Studio

SATURDAY, APRIL 5

8:00 am Passion Twirl & Poms
11:00 am Private Event (Mon Valley)

SUNDAY, APRIL 6

10:00 am Worship
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Hot dog/chili luncheon
3:00 pm Passion Twirl & Poms
7:00 pm Reflections Group

This Week's Birthdays

3/31 Don Sauter
4/1 Cheri Clark
4/3 Rosemary Holliday
Addison Linder
4/4 Ava Friday
Anthony Lingis
4/6 Diana Kozel



| *If we've missed your birthday, please contact the church office as we may not have it on file. Thank you!*

JMPC Prayer Concerns **(As of Thursday, March 27, 2025)**

(Please contact the Church Office with any Joys & Concerns)

Joys

Good news: the Bair's family friend, Nicole Rice, has been moved back to rehab.

Prayer Requests

Prayers for the Brenes Family, friends of Caitlin Smith, who recently lost their home and belonging to a devastating fire.

Prayers for Helen Mosapan, niece of Emilee Little's coworker, who was drafted into active duty in Qatar. Her family is struggling with this news.

Please pray for, Julie Jendrysik, friend of Janet Dykstra, who was recently diagnosed with cancer and is undergoing treatment.

Prayers for the family of Neil Houston, former JMPC member, upon his passing.

Prayers for Emilee Little's grandmother, Catherine. She is in hospice and the doctor thinks she has less than 6 months to live.

Previous Prayers Requested

Prayers for Maeven Wolfe, daughter of Alexandra and Nathaniel Wolfe, that her g-tube may be removed and she is able to eat solid foods.

Prayers for government employees who feel unwanted and not needed during this time of ongoing layoffs and firings.

Prayers for Pam Silver, former JPMC member, who recently spent four days in the hospital due to fluid outside her lungs.

Prayers for a family friend of the Bair's, Rick Focht, who is scheduled for surgery April 1st for oral cancer. (Good news: lymph nodes are clear!)

Prayers for the Kovell family upon the death of Jerry.

Prayers for Linda Arnold's friend, Colleen's brother, Ed, who has suffered a heart attack and stroke recently.

Please pray for Debbie Yankowski's friend, Donna. She is in desperate need of a kidney transplant. *Specific contact information is available upon request for anyone interested in being a donor.*

Prayers for Betty Dillion's best friend, Cindy, who is being treated for blood clots, one of which was in her lung and symptoms mimicked a heart attack.

Lynn Willison's friend Gary Marshal, who has been diagnosed with melanoma.

Ciretta Mickey's coworker's niece Denise, who has been diagnosed with Mucosal Carcinoma and is undergoing Immunotherapy.

Lenten Sermon Series for 2025:
Jesus is the Question-
Important Questions to Probe our Life of Faith

March 9: Week #1- Longing, John 1:35-42 “What are you looking for?”

March 16: Week #2 - Identity, Mark 5:1-20 “What is your name?”

March 23: Week #3 – Compassion, Luke 7:36-50 “Do you see this woman?”

March 30: Week #4 – Faith & Doubt, Matthew 14:22-33 “You of little faith, why do you doubt?”

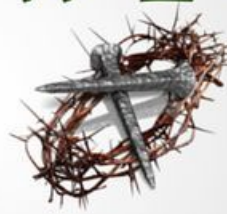
April 6: Week #5 – Worry, Matthew 6:25-34 “Who of you, by worrying, can add a single hour to your life?”

April 13: Palm Sunday - Week #6 – Jesus’ Identity, Mark 8:22-30 “Who do you say that I am?”

Maundy Thursday or Good Friday – Absence, Matthew 27:38-51 “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

April 20: Easter Sunday – Resurrection, Luke 24:1-12, “Why do you look for the living among the dead?”

H O L Y W E E K



Palm Sunday

April 13th @ 10 am

Maundy Thursday

April 17th @ 7:30 pm

Good Friday

April 18th

Pastor's message on Facebook
and website

Easter Sunday

April 20th

Worship @ 10:00am

Pastor Nominating Committee

Please keep them and the church in your prayers as we discern God's call for the next Pastor of JMPC.



Members

Ella Willison
Grace Bogdon
Mary Cullison
Jim Ellis
Betsy Gilbert
Doug Mickey

Megan Sherry
Joe Smith
Laura Waterstram

Welcome Visitors

We are grateful to have you join us in worship this morning and ask you to please register your name in the Friendship Pads.

Our Nursery is available during worship for children up to 3 years old in room 7. Sunday School is available during worship in room 16/18 for children 3 years old to 3rd grade, September through May.

On Wednesday Nights, we gather for Kids Klub (ages 9-12, 3rd- 6th grade) and Youth Group (ages 12-18, 8th-12th). We learn about God, have dinner, and join in fellowship. Bring \$3 for dinner and friends are always welcome!

To learn more about our programs, church activities & missions, we invite you to also:

Pick up a copy of our newsletter, *The Interface*, in the Narthex (Lobby).

Contact the church office 412-833-4704 or jmpc@johnmcmillanpc.org

Visit our website: www.johnmcmillanpc.org

Visit us on Facebook or our YouTube channel.

This week, please pray for:

Joann, Dennis, Rhiannon and Trevin Bair

Susan Baux

Mary Berry

Grace and Leslie Bogdon

Jeanie Bonnewell

JMPC STAFF

Ministers: All People of JMPC
Music Director: Carolyn Brow
Office Manager: Catherine Sams
Tech/AV: Jackie Druga

Pastor: Rev. Emily Miller
Organist: Elisabeth Jeffries
Preschool Director: Kim Doughty

JMPC SESSION - Clerk: Cindy Fast

Spiritual Development: Suzie Burland, Kathleen Mazzola, Joe Smith
Outreach: Michelle Chenevert, Cheryl Davies, Lynn Willison
Resources: Bryan Durkin, Sam Page, Chris Todd

JMPC DEACONS

Class of 2025: Jeanie Bonnewell, Toni Sulkowski, Laura Waterstram
Class of 2026: Joann Bair, Bob Burland, Judy Willison
Class of 2027: Scott Nowak, Zach Smith, Paul Zandhuis

Our partners in ministry

The staff of Pittsburgh Presbytery; Congregations in the South Branch of Pittsburgh Presbytery; First Presbyterian Church of Duquesne and Pastor Judi Slater; The Chigumula Church in Malawi Africa; South Hills Interfaith Movement; World Vision; Hebron USA, Chiapas Partners

In the Event of an Emergency

March Deacon of the Month: Jeanie Bonnewell
She can be reached at (412) 216-8066
Pastor Emily Miller (412) 519-4274
emily@johnmcmillanpc.org
You can also call the church at 412-833-4704.

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