



*Grounded in the grace of God,
we are a vibrant Christian community,
disciples of all ages, gathered for worship and nurture,
scattered to serve and to love.*
MPC Mission Statement adopted by the Session March 31, 2008

WORSHIP for MAY 21, 2023
SEVENTH SUNDAY
of EASTER

GATHERING

PRELUDE — *Aria* - Caleb Simper

Yun Kang

MINUTE for MINISTRY

Take Me Out to the Ballgame

Lisa Zazzu

INTROIT — *Kyrie* - Kyle St. Sauveur

Chancel Choir

*Kyrie Eleison,
Christe Eleison,
Kyrie Eleison.*

*Lord have mercy,
Christ have mercy,
Lord have mercy.*

CALL to WORSHIP

Nancy McHenry

One: Like the early church in Philippi we pray,
All: **That there is comfort in Christ and consolation from love.**
One: Like the Apostle Paul we wish,
All: **To make joy complete by living in community.**
One: As people of God we attempt,
All: **To be of one mind and one heart.**
One: Gathered in the love of the Triune God,
All: **Let us worship God together!**

HYMN — *A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!*

DEO GRACIAS

*A hymn of glory let us sing!
New songs throughout the world shall ring:
Christ, by a road before untrod,
ascends unto the throne of God.*

*The holy apostolic band
upon the Mount of Olives stand,
and with his followers they see
their Lord ascend in majesty.*

*To all, the shing angels cry,
"Why stand and gaze upon the sky?
This is the Savior!" thus they say;
"This is his glorious triumph-day."*

*"You see him now, ascending high
up to the portals of the sky.
Hereafter you shall Jesus see
returning in great majesty."*

*O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
all praise to you let earth accord.
You are, while endless ages run,
with Father and with Spirit one.*

PRAYER of CONFESSION

Pastor Rachel Rhodes

Christ our Saviour, as you ascended, you left work to us. You called us to keep the movement going, to witness to the ends of the earth: to pray, to heal, and to glorify you through our thoughts, words, and deeds. You called us to show the world a glimpse of the goodness you have given us. We have fallen short of this call. We have hidden ourselves in fear, sought our own comfort, and resigned ourselves to the status quo. Forgive us, and strengthen us to do your will, that we may be signs of your coming reign.

SILENT PRAYERS *of CONFESSION* *Here each worshiper may offer silent prayers of confession.*

PROMISE *of FORGIVENESS*

One: People of God, listen to this prayer: "Protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one." This is the prayer that Christ prayed on our behalf, responding to our longing with presence and peace. So let us proclaim the good news of the gospel:

All: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen!**

RESPONSE *to GOD'S GRACE* — *Glory to the Father*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.
Amen. Amen. Amen.*

GLORIA PATRI

L I T U R G Y o f t h e W O R D

PRAYER *for ILLUMINATION*

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — *Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16*

One: Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

All: **I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us.**

One: We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and God's might, and the wonders that God has done.

All: **In the sight of their ancestors God worked marvels in the land of Egypt, in the fields of Zoan.**

One: God divided the sea and let them pass through it, and made the waters stand like a heap.

All: **In the daytime God led them with a cloud, and all night long with a fiery light.**

One: God split the rocks open in the wilderness, and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep.

All: **God made streams come out of the rock, and caused waters to flow down like rivers.**

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM — *Si Qua Ergo Consolatio* — Kyle St. Sauveur

The translation of this text is as follows:

"Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind." —*Philippians 2:1-2 (NIV)*

TIME *for YOUNG DISCIPLES*

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — *Philippians 2:1-2*

If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

SERMON

Be of the Same Mind

Pastor Lester-Abdalla

HYMN — *O for a World*

AZMON

*O for a world where everyone
respects each other's ways,
where love is lived and all is done
with justice and with praise.*

*O for a world where goods are shared
and misery relieved,
where truth is spoken, children spared,
equality achieved.*

*We welcome one world family
and struggle with each choice
that opens us to unity
and gives our vision voice.*

*The poor are rich; the weak are strong;
the foolish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong,
who perishes will rise.*

*O for a world preparing for
God's glorious reign of peace,
where time and tears will be no more,
and all but love will cease.*

AFFIRMATION of FAITH — *The Scots Confession (Chapter 1)* (see note on page 4)

We confess and acknowledge one only God, to whom only we must cleave, whom only we must serve, whom only we must worship, and in whom only we must put our trust; who is eternal, infinite, unmeasurable, incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible: one in substance, and yet distinct in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost: By whom we confess and believe all things in heaven and in earth, as well visible as invisible, to have been created, to be retained in their being, and to be ruled and guided by his inscrutable Providence, to such end as his eternal wisdom, goodness, and justice has appointed them, to the manifestation of his own glory.

PRAYERS of THANKSGIVING and SUPPLICATION

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*debts and debtors*)

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.

OFFERING

Invitation to Give

Offertory Music — *Since Christ My Soul From Sin Set Free* - James M. Black

Doxology — *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.*

Prayer of Dedication

R E C E P T I O N o f N E W M E M B E R S

PRESENTATION

PROFESSION of FAITH

PRAYER

Holy God, we praise you for calling us to be a servant people, and for gathering us into the body of Christ. We thank you for choosing to add to our number friends in faith. Together, may we live in your Spirit, and so love one another, that we may have the mind of Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom we give honor and glory. Amen.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

S E N D I N G

HYMN — *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant* (verses 1, 2, & 5)

THE SERVANT SONG

*Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.*

*We are pilgrims on a journey; we're together on the road.
We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.*

*When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.*

CHARGE and BLESSING

BENEDICTION RESPONSE — *Dresden Amen*

POSTLUDE — *Psalm of Glory* - Dorothy Wells

QUESTION for REFLECTION

- Describe a time when you felt that you finally understood someone who is different from you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

****Please note all announcements for Sunday bulletins are due by noon the Tuesday before they are to be published. Please email announcements to Bulletin@MPCusa.net.***

TODAY'S GUEST CONDUCTOR

We are pleased to have Kyle St. Sauveur, our bass section leader, conducting the choir this morning. Kyle wrote today's anthem specifically for this service.

THANK YOU!

This morning we gratefully recognize and honor our dedicated Sunday School teachers who give their time and energy to encourage faith formation in God's Children of all ages:

Pre-K to 12 Teachers: Beth Keys, Lisa Kutch, Gail Flesch, Greg Neiman, Emily Bausher, Caroline Thompson, James Gilbride, Elizabeth Lester-Abdalla, Dave Massey, Kathryn Gilbride, Wendy McCleskey, Russell McCleskey, Dan Jones, and Patrick Gilbride

We hope you will join us in sharing appreciation for these people who serve faithfully to a crucial mission of this church, as we seek to grow in compassion and love.

THE SCOTS CONFESSION

The Book of Confessions is being studied in our Adult Education Class. This affirmation coincides with today's discussion. The Scots Confession is the first Reformed confession in the English language. Written by John Knox and five colleagues in 1560 AD and adopted by the Scottish Parliament, this statement has been called the charter of the Church of Scotland and of world Presbyterianism. This Confession teaches that Christ is the head of the church and lists the marks of the true church. It affirmed that all things necessary to believe for salvation are sufficiently expressed in Scripture, the Word of God. It emphasizes that grace alone is sufficient for salvation.

TODAY'S CHANCEL FLOWERS

The Chancel Flowers are offered to the glory of God and are given by Mary Ellen Scheppach in memory of Lester Wright. The second arrangement is given by Lew Mohr to thank the CMC (our Congregational Ministry Committee) for the lovely tea they provided last month for our senior members. It was a wonderful afternoon sharing delicious food, music and fellowship and was so very appreciated.

NEW OPPORTUNITY!

Beginning today, a spiral bound book will be available in the Welcome Center for the specific purpose of receiving the Joys and Concerns of the people of MPC. As you feel led to share, write down your prayers in this notebook. Each Sunday morning, these prayers will be directed to the pastoral staff and incorporated into worship during the Prayers of the People. What a gift to be knitted together in this way. Thanks be to God!

TODAY, YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUTH-IN-MISSION'S 2023 TRIP TO WEST VIRGINIA!

Every year our church commissions a group of teens and adults to travel to Pipestem, West Virginia and make home repairs for residents in need. The group will stay at the Appalachian South Folk Life Center and along with repairing homes, we will engage in a week-long devotional on “The Kingdom of God.” There are a couple of ways you can support our teens and adults in their mission.

Please join us today for a car wash and bake sale following worship service. If you miss it today, or your car gets dirty again, we'll be having another car wash and bake sale on Sunday, June 25, following the worship service. So, whether you are streaming worship from home or worshiping in-person, please plan on stopping by MPC for a car wash and to pick up some yummy treats!

The Youth-in-Mission are also raising funds through a “Stock Sale.” To participate in the stock sale, you can stop by the Welcome Center starting May 21 through the month of June. You can also give by check or through the [MPC Online Giving Portal](#). If giving by check, please write “YIM Stock Sale” on the memo line of your check. If giving online, please enter your donation amount next to “YIM Stock Donation.”

As always, the Youth-In-Mission appreciate your ongoing and generous support.

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME!

Join us on Saturday, June 24, at 6:30 p.m. when MPC will be heading out to the Trenton Thunder baseball game for a night of fun, food, and fellowship. This is a great opportunity for us to spend time together as a church family outside of the walls of the church building. Tickets are \$8 per person and can be purchased before worship in the Welcome Center or by contacting the church office. We encourage you to purchase your tickets as soon as possible so that we can make sure we have enough seats reserved for our group.

MPC GREETER

Please sign up to be a greeter in the Welcome Center. A smile, kind words, and an offer of assistance are the only requirements. You can sign up as an individual, family, or a group. The sign-up sheet is in the Welcome Center. Any questions, contact Lisa Zazzu at ljazzu@verizon.net.

GOT MILK?

Can you help? Our Food Center MILK shelves are empty. We could use donations of boxed shelf stable milk or cans of evaporated milk. A shopping cart has been put in the Welcome Center to receive your donations. Thank you!

CLOTHING CENTER CLOSES FOR SUMMER ON JUNE 15

The Clothing Center is preparing for their closing for the summer and will no longer be accepting donations after June 1. Please visit mpcusa.org/clothing-center for information on accepted items and how you can donate. Thank you for another successful year. We couldn't do it without your support. We look forward to seeing you again in September.

CHANCEL FLOWERS NEEDED FOR JUNE

If you would like to give an arrangement of flowers on a Sunday in June, please contact DeeAnn Martin at 215-493-3865 or email deemar918@aol.com. An arrangement is \$30 and may be given in memory of a loved one, in celebration of someone or a special event (lots of June graduations!), or in gratitude for a ministry or act of kindness. These flowers not only add beauty to our worship services but they also serve as an outreach ministry to our MPC family.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

The Women's Retreat is taking place July 28-30, and will be held at the Pendle Hill Quaker Retreat Center in Wallingford, PA. The presenter is Pastor Diane Jamison Fitch who will lead us in study on the topic *Transitions: Invitations to New Beginnings*, based on *Isaiah 43:18-19*. Look for the pink brochures in the literature racks to register or call the church office at 215-295-4191. Registration deadline is Monday, June 5.

A generous bequest in honor of Dorothea (Dot) E. Scheidemantel has underwritten the cost of the retreat. The bequest includes scholarships of \$100 each to help with the cost of childcare, transportation, or registration. Contact Pastor Rachel Rhodes at rachelrhodes@mpcusa.net or through the church office at 215-295-4191 to make a confidential request for this support.

UPDATE FOR SMALL GROUP BOOK DISCUSSION MEETING & READINGS

Our next book for discussion is *Shadow of the Silk Road* by Colin Thubron. It is the story of an eight month-long journey, "tracing the passage not only of trade and armies but also of ideas, religions and inventions. But alongside this rich and astonishing past, *Shadow of the Silk Road* is also about Asia today: a continent of upheaval" (Goodreads). The meeting date has been rescheduled (again) to **Tuesday, June 6**. Please feel free to attend even if you haven't read to the end! We will meet in the lounge, from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. The selection scheduled for discussion that date (*The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini) will be rescheduled for the summer or fall. Contact Shellie Stoddard at 215-510-5717 or email stoddard.shellie@gmail.com with questions or to confirm your attendance.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Graduating high school seniors and college students may be eligible for scholarships offered by Morrisville Presbyterian Church for the 2022-2023 school year. A list of scholarships and information is available on the MPC website at mpcusa.org/youth-ministry. **Application deadline is May 31, 2023.** Submissions need to include completed application form and one letter of reference. Applications must be submitted by the May 31 deadline to office@mpcusa.net or mailed to the church office at Morrisville Presbyterian Church, 771 Pennsylvania Ave., Morrisville, PA 19067.

Welcome New Members

Please extend an especially warm welcome to our New Members joining Morrisville Presbyterian Church today: Heather Bray, Christi Anne DeSciscio, and Nicole Weitz. What a joy it is to welcome new friends into our mission and ministry here at MPC!

Heather Bray originally joined Morrisville Presbyterian Church on June 30, 1957 and was a member for 49 years. Heather's



daughter and son grew up here and participated in Youth Club. She served as a deacon for six years, an elder for twelve years, treasurer of Presbyterian Women for fifteen years, Circle leader for five years and an office volunteer every Thursday for a number of years. In 2006, at a time of unrest within the church, Heather transferred to the Newtown Presbyterian Church. When COVID hit, she started listening to the MPC church service online where she got to know the current staff and the worship service as it is now. When Heather finally felt comfortable going back to church in person, she knew that MPC was where she wanted to be. In her heart, it has always been her church home and she is very grateful to be back.

Christi Anne DeSciscio lives in Morrisville with husband Matthew and daughters, Camila Hope and Mackenzie Rose. Prior



to moving to Pennsylvania, Christi Anne and Matthew lived in Westfield, NJ and attended Simpson United Methodist Church in Old Bridge, NJ. At Simpson, Christi Anne was a member of the choir and leader of the Praise Band. After receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology at Boston College, she earned her Master's Degree in Biomedical Sciences from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. She works in clinical trials for Novo Nordisk, Inc. in Plainsboro, NJ.

When the girls aren't keeping them busy, Christi Anne enjoys going to the movies, concerts, and watching plays with Matthew. They also love watching soccer together and finding new places to explore in and around Bucks County.



Nicole Weitz lives in Levittown with her husband of eleven years, Chad, and her two sons, Ethan and Austin. Nicole works full-time remotely for Acosta Food Service and has been with the company for fourteen years. She loves music and taking daily walks, as well as gardening. Nicole is truly excited to become a church member and become more involved with the MPC community.

MPC Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY, May 21

9:00 a.m.	New Member Class & Special Session Meeting	Lounge
9:30	Sunday School for all ages	
10:30	Worship Service	Sanctuary
	Teacher Appreciation	
	Reception of New Members	
10:30	Worship Service	Livestream
	Teacher Appreciation	
	Reception of New Members	
11:30	Fellowship Hour - Hosted by: Congregational Ministry	Lounge
11:30	Youth in Mission	Parking Lot
	Car Wash & Bake Sale	

MONDAY, May 22

5:45 p.m.	Outreach Committee	Zoom
6:00	Cub Scout Pack 3	Room 220
6:30	Mostly Motets	Music Room
7:00	Boy Scout Troop 3	Room 220
7:00	Boy Scout Troop 3	Lounge
	Parent & Board Meeting	
7:00	Session Committee	Conference Room
	Chair Meeting	
7:30	Session Meeting	Conference Room

TUESDAY, May 23

9:00 a.m.	Ivins Outreach Center Meeting	Lounge
12:30 p.m.	Staff Meeting	Conference Room
7:00	Financial Task Force	Room 200

WEDNESDAY, May 24

9:00 a.m.	Food Center	Parking Lot
6:00 p.m.	Cub Scout Pack 3	Room 220
6:00	Youth Club	Fellowship Hall
7:00	Girl Scout Troop 2888	Fellowship Hall
7:15	Chancel Chimes	Chapel

THURSDAY, May 25

10:00 a.m.	Clothing Center	Room 4
6:00 p.m.	Oakville Girl Scouts	Fellowship Hall
7:00	Chancel Choir	Music Room

FRIDAY, May 26

6:30 p.m.	AA Meeting	Lounge
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SATURDAY, May 27

SUNDAY, May 28

10:30 a.m.	Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:30	Worship Service	Livestream

To view upcoming events and meetings, please visit www.mpcusa.org and click on "Calendar" from the home page.

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Once set up, you can schedule recurring gifts or make one-time offerings with one click.

Need Help? email Office@mpcusa.org and ask that your questions be forwarded to the stewardship committee.

CONTACT US

MORRISVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

771 North Pennsylvania Ave. | Morrisville, PA 19067 | 215.295.4191 | www.MPCusa.org | Office@MPCusa.org

Rachel A. Rhodes, <i>Senior Pastor & Head of Staff</i> (ext. 234).....	RachelRhodes@MPCusa.net
Alexander Lester-Abdalla, <i>Associate Pastor</i> (ext. 225).....	AlexLester-Abdalla@MPCusa.net
Jack McAnlis, <i>Minister of Visitation</i> (ext. 232).....	JackMcAnlis@MPCusa.net
Timothy Carpenter, <i>Director of Music</i>	TimCarpenter@MPCusa.net
Yun Kang, <i>Principal Organist</i>	YunKang@MPCusa.net
David Sterling, <i>Property Manager</i> (ext. 231)	DavidSterling@MPCusa.net
Laurie Jacobson, <i>Financial Secretary</i> (ext. 226)	LaurieJacobson@MPCusa.net
Damon Miller, <i>Communication Coordinator</i>	DamonMiller@MPCusa.net
Nicole Brice, <i>Administrative Assistant</i> (ext. 0).....	Office@MPCusa.org