



*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*
SEVENTH SUNDAY
after PENTECOST
JULY 12, 2026 ~ 10:30 A.M.

GATHERING

WORDS *of* WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Carter Lester

MINUTE *for* MINISTRY

PNC Update

David Hough & Nancy McHenry

PRELUDE — Nun danket alle Gott - George Kaufmann

Yun Kang

CALL *to* WORSHIP

Suzanne Barletto, Liturgist

One: Even youths will faint and be weary;

All: And the young will fall exhausted.

One: But they who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength.

All: They shall mount up with wings as eagles;

One: They shall run and not be weary;

All: They shall walk and not faint.

HYMN — *Morning Has Broken*

BUNESSAN

*Morning has broken like the first morning;
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!*
*Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.*
*Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation; praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!*

PRAYER *of* CONFESSION

Rev. Kerry Pidcock-Lester

There are many times we think we love you well, O God. But upon hearing your call to love with all our heart, and all our mind, and all our strength, we confess that our love for you is too often a diluted love, made flat by lesser loyalties and a divided heart. Too often we try to restrict who the neighbor is that we are called to love. Too often we fail to see ourselves as your beloved child. Forgive us; in grace rekindle our love for you and our neighbor, and help us to see anew your love for us.

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

PROMISE *of* FORGIVENESS

One: Take comfort in the assurance that even those things that are hidden from memory, or are too deep for our words, are not beyond God's forgiving love. God knows us completely and God loves us completely. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God!

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

GLORIA PATRI

*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.*

LITURGY of the WORD

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON — *Psalms 139*

One: O Lord, you have searched me and known me. Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

All: **If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.**

One: If I say, 'Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night,'

All: **Even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.**

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

TIME for YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON — *Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23*

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

Soil, Seeds, and the Sower

Rev. Dr. Lester



HYMN — *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

AZMON

*O for a thousand tongues to sing, my dear Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of God's grace!*

*The name of Jesus charms our fears, and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears, brings life, and health, and peace.*

*Christ speaks, and listening to his voice new life the dead receive;
the mournful waken to rejoice; the poor in heart believe.*

*My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.*

*To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heaven.*

AFFIRMATION of FAITH — from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth.

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

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.

OFFERING

Invitation to Give

Offertory Music — *Nearer, My God, to Thee* - Lowell Mason

Doxology — *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

*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

Eliana Song, violin
OLD HUNDREDTH

S E N D I N G

HYMN — *Be Thou My Vision*

SLANE

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.*

*Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
thou mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.*

*High King of Heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

CHARGE and BLESSING

POSTLUDE — *Celebration* - David Paxton

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.org.***

ATTRIBUTION FOR SERMON ART

Gogh, Vincent van, 1853-1890. Sower at Sunset, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57797>[retrieved June 22, 2026]. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Van_Gogh_-_S%C3%A4mann_bei_untergehender_Sonne.jpeg.

TODAY'S CHANCEL FLOWERS

The chancel flowers are offered to the glory of God and are given by Myrtle Lauver in loving memory of her husband, George. The second arrangement is given “in loving memory of Dorothea E. Scheidemantel, a devoted member quietly serving God,” by her daughter, Sally Sue Scheidemantel.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR TODAY

During the summer months, fellowship hour after worship will be held on a limited basis. Today's Fellowship Hour will be held in the Memorial Garden, weather permitting.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Morrisville Presbyterian Church Session has called for a congregational meeting to be held immediately following the worship service on Sunday, July 26, for the purpose of receiving the report of the Pastor Nominating Committee and voting to elect the next Senior Pastor/Head of Staff of Morrisville Presbyterian Church. The Pastor Nominating Committee is planning for the Senior Pastor/Head of Staff candidate to participate and preach during the worship service on July 26.

Members who are unable to attend the worship service or congregational meeting in person may watch the service online at www.mpcusa.org and cast their vote by emailing votempcseniorpastor@gmail.com. Online voting will close promptly at 11:45 a.m. on July 26. If approved, the new senior pastor would start on Monday, August 31.

SAVE THE DATE TO MEET OUR NEW PASTOR

There will be an informal meet and greet in the lounge prior to the service at 9:30 a.m. for MPC members to meet this candidate on a more casual, personal level prior to the service. After the congregational meeting, there will be an all-church picnic in the Memorial Garden to celebrate this momentous occasion. All members of the congregation are encouraged to attend the events on July 26.

PRAYERS FOR THE YOUTH-IN-MISSION TRIP (JULY 11-18)

Thank you for your generous support as we return to Pipestem, West Virginia to provide hope, and help homeowners rebuild, repaint and repair their homes. We hope you will join us in praying for the group while they are away. We pray for wisdom and understanding, for good group relationships, for our homeowners, and for safe travels. The participants are as follows: Students - Max Dous, Elisabeth Halloran, Bella Keys, Charlie Layden, Ella Halloran, and Micah Subers; Adult Leaders - Heidi Dous, Tom Evans, Avery Gardner, April Halloran, Travis Keys, Tracy Massey, and Alex Lester-Abdalla. The Youth-in-Mission Team will be leading worship on Sunday, July 19, following their trip. We hope to see you there!

DEACON'S BACKPACK DRIVE

Now is the time to help gather school supplies for our Deacons' Backpack Drive! These donations will directly support elementary students in our community who face financial hardship and need extra help preparing for the school year. A collection bin will be available in the Welcome Center for donated items starting in July. Cash donations may be placed in the offering plate or sent to MPC by mail or online.

If you'd like to purchase a new backpack to fill, here's a list of requested items:

- No 2 pencils
- Black or blue pens
- 1 permanent marker
- Pencil sharpeners
- Small pack of crayons
- Small pack of colored pencils
- Pack of graph paper
- Ruler
- 2 three-subject spiral notebooks
- 5 plastic subject folders
- Pack of wide-ruled notebook paper
- Scotch tape

All backpacks will be blessed during our service on August 16 and distributed before the start of the new school year. If you have any questions, please contact Paula Marseglia at 267-303-6133 or email Paula307@comcast.net. Thank you for your generosity and for helping our local students begin the year equipped and ready to learn!

PASTOR ALEX'S RETURN FROM SABBATICAL

Pastor Alex returned to MPC on Monday, July 6, and will be helping lead the Youth-in-Mission Trip through the worship service on July 19. He will then be away for his final week of sabbatical, July 20-26, as was planned and approved with the Personnel Committee and Session. He is looking forward to being completely back on July 27.

DISPOSABLE FLATWARE PACKETS FOR TASK

Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK) routinely needs to purchase more than 10,000 packets of plastic flatware to distribute with their food. If you have a supply of unopened packets at home from takeout food purchases, we will gladly take them off your hands. A basket for your donations will be on the cabinet in the narthex as you exit the sanctuary.

FOOD CENTER'S SUMMER REQUEST

Over the next few summer months, the requested food donation is whatever you may wish to donate. Items should be shelf-stable and non-perishable. Donated items should not be in glass containers. A marked shopping bin has been put in the Welcome Center to receive your donations. Thank you for your continued generosity!

MPC Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY, July 12

Youth-in- Mission trip continues

10:30 a.m.	Worship Service	Sanctuary & Livestream
11:30	Fellowship Hour	Memorial Garden/Lounge
Noon	Adonai Tabernacle	Chapel

MONDAY, July 13

Youth-in- Mission trip continues

6:30 p.m.	Mostly Motets	Music Room
7:00	Food Center Food Packing	Room 4

TUESDAY, July 14

Youth-in- Mission trip continues

9:00 a.m.	Food Center Produce Prep	Room 4
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WEDNESDAY, July 15

Youth-in- Mission trip continues

9:00 a.m.	Food Center Distribution	Parking Lot
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THURSDAY, July 16

Youth-in- Mission trip continues

FRIDAY, July 17

Youth-in- Mission trip continues

SATURDAY, July 18

Youth-in- Mission trip returns

9:00 a.m.	Newtown Quilters Guild	Conference Room
10:00	Calling Hour for Marion Rea	Lounge
11:00	Marion Rea Memorial Service	Sanctuary

SUNDAY, July 19 - Youth-in-Mission Sunday

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

11:30	Fellowship Hour	Memorial Garden/Lounge
Noon	Adonai Tabernacle	Chapel

CONTACT US

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