



*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
EPIPHANY SUNDAY
JANUARY 4, 2026 ~ 10:30 A.M.

GATHERING

WORDS of WELCOME

Rev. Alex Lester-Abdalla

PRELUDE — *Ach Gott, vom Himmel sieh darein* - Johann Pachelbel

Yun Kang

PRELUDE — *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* - GO TELL IT

Yun Kang

*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere,
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*

CALL to WORSHIP

Dan Jones, Liturgist

One: Eternal God, by a star you led the magi to the worship of your Son.

All: Guide the nations of the earth by your light, that the whole world may see your glory.

One: Come, let us worship the Lord.

HYMN — *We Three Kings of Orient Are* (verses 1 and 5)

KINGS OF ORIENT

*We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice:
Alleluia! Alleluia! sounds through the earth and skies.
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!*

PRAYER of CONFESSION

God of glory, you sent Jesus as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We too often seek our will instead of your will, both in our lives and in the church. In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and renew a right spirit within us, so we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ. Hear us now, as silently we confess our sin.

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

PROMISE of FORGIVENESS

One: The love and grace of our God shines like a beacon, promising forgiveness. Friends, let us proclaim the good news of salvation.

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

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

RESPONSIVE READING — Selections from *Psalm 119*

One: Happy are they whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord.
All: **Happy are they who observe your decrees and seek you with all their hearts.**
One: Who never do any wrong, but always walk in your ways.
All: **With my whole heart I seek you; let me not stray from your commandments. The righteousness of your decrees is everlasting; grant me understanding, that I may live.**
One: This is the Word of the Lord.
All: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM — *Gloria!* - Josef Reinberger

Gloria in excelsis Deo et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.

*Laudamus te. Benedicimus te. Adoramus te.
Glorificamus te.*

*Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam.
Domine Deus rex celestis Deus pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili unigenite Jesu Christe. Domine Deus
Agnus Dei Filius Patris.*

*Qui tollis peccata mundi miserere nobis. Qui tollis
peccata mundi suscipe deprecationem nostram.*

*Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris miserere nobis. Quoniam
Tu solus Sanctus.*

*Tu solus Dominus. Tu solus altissimus Jesu Christe.
Cum Sancto Spiritu in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.*

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace
to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you,
we glorify you,

We give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God almighty
Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of The Father,
Who takes away the sins of the world, have
mercy on us; you take away the sins of the
world,

Receive our prayer; you are seated at the right
hand of the Father, have mercy on us.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the
Holy Spirit. Amen

TIME for YOUNG DISCIPLES

SCRIPTURE READING — selections from *Matthew 2*

One: This is the Word of the Lord.
All: **Thanks be to God!**

Rev. Dr. Tom Kort

MEDITATION

The Work of Christmas

Rev. Dr. Kort

HYMN — *Here, O Our Lord, We See You* (verses 1, 2, & 3)

*Here, O our Lord, we see you face to face.
Here would we touch and handle things unseen,
here grasp with firmer hand eternal grace,
and all our weariness upon you lean.*

*Here would we feed upon the bread of God,
here drink with you the royal cup of heaven;
here would we lay aside each earthly load,
and taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven.*

*This is the hour of banquet and of song;
this is the heavenly table for us spread.
Here let us feast and, feasting, still prolong
the fellowship of living wine and bread.*

MORECAMBE

AFFIRMATION of FAITH — *Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, 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 sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING

Invitation to Give

Offertory Music — *Rejoice, the Lord Is King* - John Darwall

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.*

S A C R A M E N T o f t h e L O R D ' S S U P P E R

INVITATION

PRAYER of GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.
One: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them up to the Lord.
One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

WORDS of INSTITUTION

COMMUNION of the PEOPLE

MUSIC during COMMUNION — *When at This Table* - Jane Marshall

PRAYER after COMMUNION

S E N D I N G

HYMN — *God of Our Life*

SANDON

*God of our life, through all the circling years, we trust in thee.
In all the past, through all our hopes and fears, thy hand we see.
With each new day, when morning lifts the veil,
we own thy mercies, Lord, which never fail.*

*God of the past, our times are in thy hand. With us abide.
Lead us by faith to hope's true promised land. Be thou our guide.
With thee to bless, the darkness shines as light,
and faith's fair vision changes into sight.*

*God of the coming years, through paths unknown we follow thee.
When we are strong, Lord, leave us not alone. Our refuge be.
Be thou for us in life our daily bread,
our heart's true home when all our years have sped.*

CHARGE and BLESSING

BENEDICTION RESPONSE - *Amen*

POSTLUDE — *Classical Postlude* - Franz Joseph Haydn

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.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES NEXT WEEK

Classes for all ages resume on January 11, 2026.

NEW ADULT SUNDAY CLASS - "CHANGING CULTURE, CHANGING TIMES, AND A CHANGING CHURCH"

Join Carter Lester, Interim Minister at MPC and former adjunct faculty in McCormick Theological Seminary's Doctor of Ministry program, for a three-week series on changes in our country, culture, and churches, and how they impact church life and ministry. The series will run January 11, 18, and 25 beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the conference room, located on the second floor.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A congregational meeting will be held on January 25 immediately following the worship service for the purpose of approving the terms of call for Pastor Alex Lester-Abdalla and presenting the annual 2026 budget.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER CONCERNs

The pastoral staff encourages you to notify the church office regarding hospitalizations and deaths in your immediate family. We will list these pastoral concerns in the bulletin. MPC also has a committed group of members who are part of the MPC prayer chain. If you have prayer concerns for the prayer chain, please contact Ron Workman at ron_workman@prodigy.net to be placed on the prayer chain. **Please note, out of respect for privacy, to be included in the Pastoral Concerns and/or MPC the prayer chain, the individual named must give their permission.** Let us pray without ceasing.

KEEP US BLOOMING IN THE NEW YEAR:CHANCEL FLOWERS NEEDED FOR JANUARY 11

If you would like to give flowers on Sunday, January 11, please contact DeeAnn Martin at 215-493-3865 or email deemar918@aol.com. An arrangement costs \$37 and may be given in memory of a loved one, in celebration of a special event, or in gratitude for a person or ministry. Not only do these flowers add beauty to our worship services, but they then go forward as an outreach ministry to our church family.

"EXTENDING THE TABLE" TO HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

The Deacons will be "Extending the Table" and bringing communion to homebound members in 2026 on the first Sunday of each month. If you are unable to attend Sunday worship in person and would like to receive communion, please contact Kim in the church office at office@mpcusa.org or 215-295-4191. The goals will be to provide home communion at least twice a year to each interested person, beginning in February.

If you have ever served as a Deacon or Elder, would you like to be part of a team of two to extend God's love to our homebound members? You will only be asked to do it two Sundays a year (but can do it more if you would like). To volunteer, please contact A.K. Rosenbaum at akalsomom@verizon.net. Training will be provided.

NEXT READING FOR MPC BOOK DISCUSSION

The next reading for the MPC Book Discussion group is *Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan and will be discussed on January 12. The story is set in 1985 in a small Irish town. During the weeks leading up to Christmas, Bill Furlong, a coal merchant and family man faces into his busiest season. Early one morning, while delivering an order to the local convent, Bill makes a discovery which forces him to confront both his past and the complicit silences of a town controlled by the church.

The MPC Book Discussion Group meets in the conference room from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. You can also attend by Zoom. Contact the church office at office@mpcusa.org or Shellie Stoddard at stoddard.shellie@gmail.com for link and more information.

Inclement Weather Announcements

In the event of inclement weather during this winter season, members will be notified of church closings and delayed openings via email blasts, as well as website and Facebook postings. Every effort will be made to make the information available by 8:00 a.m. Only closing and delayed opening messages will be sent and posted.

MPC Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY, January 4

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Noon Deacons Meeting
Noon Adonai Tabernacle

Sanctuary & Livestream

Conference Room
Room 220

MONDAY, January 5

6:15 p.m. PNC Meeting Room 200
6:30 Cub Scout Pack 3 Rooms 220 & 122
6:30 Scout Troop 3 Fellowship Hall
7:00 Food Center Food Packing Room 4
7:30 Personnel Committee Zoom

TUESDAY, January 6

9:00 a.m. Food Center Produce Prep Room 4
10:00 Weekday Nursery Room 220
School Projects
7:00 p.m. Food Center Distribution Parking Lot

WEDNESDAY, January 7

9:00 a.m. Food Center Distribution Parking Lot
Noon Brown Bag Bible Study Conference Room
6:00 p.m. Youth Club Fellowship Hall
7:00 Girl Scout Troop 2888 Room 220
7:15 Chancel Chimes Rehearsal Room 121

THURSDAY, January 8

10:00 a.m. Clothing Center Room 4
6:00 p.m. Weekday Nursery School Room 225
Board Meeting
7:00 Chancel Choir Rehearsal Music Room

FRIDAY, January 9

SATURDAY, January 10

2:00 p.m. Eagle Scout Court of Honor Sanctuary & & Banquet Fellowship Hall

SUNDAY, January 11

8:30 a.m. God's Thunder Rehearsal Room 121
9:30 Sunday Schol for all ages
10:30 Word in Music Worship Service Sanctuary & Livestream
11:45 Youth Choir Music Room
Noon Adonai Tabernacle Room 220

Want to know when a future event is taking place or want to book a room for your committee or group? Check out the MPC calendar at mpcusa.org/calendar to see when events takes place and room availability.

Introducing mobile giving

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Scan the appropriate QR code with your phone and find MPC by searching code 'FEDN99' or 'Morrisville Presbyterian Church'

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

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