



*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 14, 2023  
CHILDREN'S SUNDAY

## GATHERING

**PRELUDE** — *The Lord Is My Shepherd (Psalm 23)* - Robert Lau

Yun Kang

**MINUTE for MINISTRY**

*Prayers of the People*

Elizabeth Dugan

**INTROIT** — *God Welcomes All* - THEMBA AMEN

Agape Choir

*God welcomes all, strangers and friends.  
God's love is strong and it never ends.*

**CALL to WORSHIP** - from *Romans 15:7* and *Galatians 3:28*

One: God welcomes all.

**All: Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you.**

One: There is no longer Jew or Greek.

**All: There is no longer slave or free.**

One: There is no longer male and female.

**All: For all are one in Christ Jesus.**

One: We are called to be a welcoming people.

**All: Let us worship God together.**

**HYMN** — *God of Great and God of Small*

GOD OF GREAT AND SMALL

*God of great and God of small, God of one and God of all,  
God of weak and God of strong, God to whom all things belong,  
alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.*

*God of land and sky and sea, God of life and destiny,  
God of never-ending power, yet beside me every hour,  
alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.*

*God of silence, God of sound, God by whom the lost are found,  
God of day and darkest night, God whose love turns wrong to right,  
alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.*

*God of heaven and God of earth, God of death and God of birth,  
God of now and days before, God who reigns forevermore,  
alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.*

**PRAYER of CONFESSION**

Dear God, we try to remember to live the way Jesus taught us but sometimes we do not do our best. We do not always treat others kindly. Jesus taught that we are all children of God. Still, we do not always include people who are different from us. Please forgive us. Help us to be more loving and welcoming to all.

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

**PROMISE of FORGIVENESS**

One: Beloved church, the mercy of the risen Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. As we seek to follow the example of the risen Christ in our words and actions, let us give thanks and proclaim the good news of the gospel:

**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.*

## G O D W E L C O M E S A L L

### A LITANY of WELCOMING- from *Whoever You Are*, by Mem Fox

Reader 1: Little one, whoever you are, wherever you are, there are little ones just like you all over the world.  
Reader 2: Their skin may be different from yours and their homes may be different from yours.  
Reader 1: And their lands may be different from yours.  
Reader 2: Their lives may be different from yours, and their words may be very different from yours.  
Reader 1: But inside, their hearts are just like yours, whoever they are, wherever they are, all over the world. Psalm 24 tells us: The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and all who live in it.

### SONG — *Somos el Cuerpo de Cristo — We Are the Body of Christ*

<i>Somos el Cuerpo de Cristo.</i>	<i>We are the body of Christ.</i>
<i>Hemos oído el llamado</i>	<i>We've answered yes to the call of the Lord!</i>
<i>Somos el cuerpo de Cristo</i>	<i>We are the body of Christ.</i>
<i>Traemos su santo mensaje</i>	<i>We come to bring the Good News to the world!</i>
<i>Dios viene al mundo a través de nos otros.</i>	<i>Somos el Cuerpo de Cristo.</i>
<i>God is revealed when we love one another.</i>	<i>We are the body of Christ.</i>
<i>Mundo a cumplir la misión de la iglesia.</i>	<i>Somos el Cuerpo de Cristo.</i>
<i>Bringing the light of God's mercy to others.</i>	<i>We are the body of Christ.</i>

### A LITANY of WELCOMING (Continued)

Reader 1: Little one, whoever you are, wherever you are, there are little ones just like you all over the world.  
Reader 2: Their smiles are like yours, and they laugh just like you.  
Reader 1: Their hurts are like yours, and they cry like you too, whoever they are, wherever they are, all over the world.

### HYMN — *Here in This Place*

GATHER US IN

*Here in this place the new light is streaming;  
now is the darkness vanished away;  
see in this space our fears and our dreamings  
brought here to you in the light of this day.  
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;  
gather us in, the blind and the lame;  
call to us now, and we shall awaken;  
we shall arise at the sound of our name.*

*We are the young, our lives are a mystery.  
We are the old who yearn for your face.  
We have been sung through-out all of history,  
called to be light to the whole human race.  
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;  
gather us in, the proud and the strong;  
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly;  
give us the courage to enter the song.*

*Not in the dark of buildings confining,  
not in some heaven light years away:  
here in this place the new light is shining;  
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.  
Gather us in and hold us forever;  
gather us in and make us your own;  
gather us in, all peoples together,  
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.*

# SACRAMENT of BAPTISM

## PRESENTATION & PROMISES

## THANKSGIVING OVER *the* WATER

## WELCOMING *the* NEWLY BAPTIZED

With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ's church, for we are all one in Christ. We promise to love, encourage, and support you, to share the good news of the gospel with you, and to help you know and follow Christ.

## BAPTISM SONG — *Little Sisters, Welcome* - William Schoenfeld

Agape & Teen Choirs

*Little sisters, welcome! Earth is yours to live in.  
Arms of love protect you. Little sisters, welcome.  
  
Little sisters, welcome! Jesus cares about you.  
Jesus now enfolds you. Little sisters, welcome.  
  
Little sisters, welcome! We, the church of Jesus,  
We will help your growing. Little sisters, welcome!  
  
Jesus loves you, this we know for the Bible tells us so.  
Little ones to him belong. Jesus loves you, this we know.  
  
Little sisters, welcome! God will make you happy.  
Jesus save and keep you. Little sisters, welcome!*

## LITURGY of *the* WORD

## A LITANY of WELCOMING (Continued)

Reader 1: Little one, when you are older and when you are grown, you may be different, and they may be different, wherever you are, wherever they are, in this big wide world.  
Reader 2: But remember this: Joys are the same, and love is the same. Pain is the same and blood is the same.  
Reader 1: Smiles are the same, and hearts are just the same —  
Reader 2: Wherever they are, wherever you are, wherever we are, all over the world.

## PSALTER READING — *Psalms 107:1-3*

Pulpit Side: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,  
Lectern Side: For his steadfast love endures forever.  
Pulpit Side: Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,  
Lectern Side: Those he redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands,  
Pulpit Side: From the east and from the west,  
Lectern Side: From the north and from the south

## SONG — *He's Got the Whole World In His Hands* - Traditional Spiritual

*He's got the whole world in his hands  
He's got the whole wide world in his hands ...  
  
He's got you and me brother in his hands  
He's got you and me sister in his hands ...  
  
He's got the tiny little baby in his hands  
He's got the tiny little baby in his hands ...  
  
He's got everybody here in his hands  
He's got everyone out there in his hands ...  
  
He's got the whole world in his hands ...*

**TIME for YOUNG DISCIPLES** — *The Big Umbrella* by Amy June Bates

One: By the front door, there is an umbrella.  
It is big. It is a big, friendly umbrella.  
It likes to help.  
It likes to spread its arms wide.  
It loves to give shelter.  
It loves to gather people in.  
It doesn't matter if you are tall, or hairy, or plaid.  
It doesn't matter how many legs you have.  
Some people worry that there won't be enough room under the big umbrella.  
But the amazing thing is. . . there is.  
There is always room.

All: **How precious is your steadfast love, O God!**  
**All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.**

*Psalm 36: 7*

**SONG** — *God Welcomes All* - THEMBA AMEN

*God welcomes all, strangers and friends.  
God's love is strong and it never ends.*

**HYMN** — *Let Us Build a House*

TWO OAKS

*Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions: all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.*

*Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,  
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.  
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;  
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.*

*Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine, and wheat;  
a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;  
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.*

*Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone  
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;  
let us bring an end to fear and danger: all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.*

*Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;  
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.*

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

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and calling all to the gospel. We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, and calls us all to all ministries of the church. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## OFFERING

Invitation to Give

Offertory Music — *Jesus Loves Me* - Anna Warner

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

## 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.

## S E N D I N G

I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb.

*Revelation 7:9*

SONG — *We Are the Church*

Agape Choir & Congregation

*I am the church, you are the church, we are the church together.  
All who follow Jesus, all around the world, yes, we're the church together.  
The church is not a building. The church is not a steeple.  
The church is not a resting place. The church is the people.  
I am the church...*

## CHARGE *and* BLESSING

BENEDICTION RESPONSE — *Shalom* - Traditional

*Shalom my good friends. Shalom.  
'Til we meet again. Shalom.*

POSTLUDE — *Festal Piece* - G. F. Handel

## QUESTIONS *for* REFLECTION

- How big is your umbrella?
- What do you do to welcome people into our church?

## CONTACT US

### MORRISVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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*\*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](mailto:Bulletin@MPCusa.net).*

### **REGARDING TODAY'S SERVICE**

Thank you to all who helped to make this Children's Sunday worship service possible: Carol Carpenter, Eric Moyer-Harrington, Tim Carpenter, Luisa Herrera, Yun Kang; helpers: Isabella Keys, Courtney Neiman, Eliana Song, and the parents of all the children who are part of the Agape Choir. Of course, this service could not happen without the children themselves: Ashlynn Ackerman, Harrison Bausher, Lincoln Bausher, McKinley Bausher, Connor Bowsher, Anton Burghardt, Darien Dzul, Rafaela Sibel Herrera, Addison Keys, Alexandra Keys, Tucker McCleskey, Benjamin Rhodes, and Madeline Rhodes.

### **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Receiving the sacrament of baptism today are Isla Nancy and Nora Michelle Aronson, daughters of Joe and Erin Aronson. Please join us in welcoming the newest members of Christ's church.

### **TODAY'S CHANCEL FLOWERS**

The Chancel Flowers are offered to the glory of God and are given by Joe and Erin Aronson "in gratitude for the grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins and community who've loved our girls so well." The second arrangement is given by Roger and Nancy Anderson "in loving memory of our mothers, Helen Borden and Nancy C. Anderson." The windowsill flowers are given by Cynthia Laird in celebration of all those mothers who loved and nurtured their children and those who were "like mothers" to children who needed love and nurturing.

### **NEW OPPORTUNITY!**

Beginning on May 21st, 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!

### **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 on Sunday, May 21, (rain date June 4) for a car wash and bake sale following worship service. If you miss it in May, 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 worshipping 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. To give online visit [mpcusa.org/give](http://mpcusa.org/give) and click "Online Giving Portal" to 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 beginning today, April 30, 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.

### **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](mailto: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 215-294-4191. 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](mailto: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](mailto:stoddard.shellie@gmail.com) with questions or to confirm your attendance.

## MPC Weekly Calendar

### **SUNDAY, May 14 - Children's Sunday**

9:30 a.m.	Agape Choir	Sanctuary
<b>10:30</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
<b>10:30</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>	<b>Livestream</b>
11:30	Fellowship Hour - Hosted by: Deacons	Lounge

### **MONDAY, May 15**

6:00 p.m.	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 Parent & Board Meeting	Lounge
7:00	New Officer Training	Conference Room

### **TUESDAY, May 16**

12:30 p.m.	Staff Meeting	Conference Room
6:30	Butterfly Essential Wellness Class	Room 220

### **WEDNESDAY, May 17**

9:00 a.m.	Food Center	Parking Lot
6:00	Cub Scout Pack 3	Room 220
7:00	Girl Scout Troop 2888	Fellowship Hall
7:00	Ivins Outreach Board Meeting	Lounge
7:15	Chancel Chimes	Chapel

### **THURSDAY, May 18**

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 19**

6:30 p.m.	AA Meeting	Lounge
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### **SATURDAY, May 20**

### **SUNDAY, May 21**

8:30 a.m.	God's Thunder	Chapel
9:00 a.m.	New Member Class & Special Session Meeting	Lounge
9:30	Sunday School for all ages	
<b>10:30</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
	<b>Teacher Appreciation</b>	
	<b>Reception of New Members</b>	
<b>10:30</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>	<b>Livestream</b>
	<b>Teacher Appreciation</b>	
	<b>Reception of New Members</b>	
11:30	Fellowship Hour - Hosted by: Congregational Ministry	Lounge
11:30	Youth in Mission	Parking Lot
	Car Wash & Bake Sale	

To view upcoming events and meetings,  
please visit [www.mpcusa.org](http://www.mpcusa.org) and click on  
"Calendar" from the home page.

## **Introducing mobile giving**

iPhone



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!

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