



*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  
SECOND SUNDAY  
in LENT  
MARCH 1, 2026 ~ 10:30 A.M.

## GATHERING

### WORDS of WELCOME

Rev. Alex Lester-Abdalla

PRELUDE — *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* - arr. Don Hustad

Yun Kang

INTROIT — *God Is Calling through the Whisper* - Polish Carol

Chancel Choir

*God is calling through the voices of our neighbors' urgent prayers,  
through their longing for redemption and for rescue from despair.  
Place of hurt or face of needing; strident cry or silent pleading;  
God is calling—can you hear? God is calling—can you hear?*

### CALL to WORSHIP

Karl Helland, Liturgist

One: When we are hungry for bread, Jesus says,

All: **“I am the bread of life.”**

One: When we thirst, Jesus says,

All: **“Drink from the cup of salvation.”**

One: When we are hungry for eternal life, Jesus says,

All: **“Come to me, for I am the resurrection and the life.”**

One: Come, let us worship the Lord.

HYMN — *God Is Here!* (verses 1, 2 & 3)

ABBOT'S LEIGH

*God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,  
may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.  
Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts  
wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.*

*Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace;  
here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place.  
Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech,  
here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.*

*Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold;  
here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old.  
Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore  
what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.*

### PRAYER of CONFESSION

God of our lives, you have called us to bear witness to the cross and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We confess that in our personal lives, and as a church, we keep this good news to ourselves. Forgive our hesitations to show in word and in deed the wonders of your love. In your mercy forgive us. In your mercy heal us. In your mercy send us out into the world to be your bold disciples. Here us, as silently, we now confess our personal sins.

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

### PROMISE of FORGIVENESS

One: Listen to the promise of the scriptures, “though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow.” Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

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

Je - sus, Re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

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Je - sus, Re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

LITURGY of the WORD

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

RESPONSIVE READING — *Psalm 145:4-7*

- One: One generation will commend your works to another; they will tell of your mighty acts.  
**All: They will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty and meditate on your wonderful works.**
- One: They will tell of the power of your awesome works, and will proclaim your great deed.  
**All: They will celebrate your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness.**
- One: This is the Word of the Lord.  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM — *Uni Caritas* - Ola Gjeilo

*Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.  
 Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.  
 Exsulemur, et in ipso jucundemur.  
 Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.  
 Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.  
 Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.  
 Simul ergo cum in unum congregamur:  
 Ne nos mente dividamur, caveamus.  
 Cessent iurgia maligna, cessent lites.  
 Et in medio nostri sit Christus Deus.  
 Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.  
 Simul quoque cum beatis videamus,  
 Glorianter vultum tuum, Christe Deus:  
 Gaudium quod est immensum, atque probum,  
 Saecula per infinita saeculorum. Amen.*

—traditional Latin chant

Where charity and love are, God is there.  
 Love of Christ has gathered us into one.  
 Let us rejoice in Him and be glad.  
 Let us fear, and let us love the living God.  
 And from a sincere heart let us love one.  
 Where charity and love are, God is there.  
 At the same time, therefore, are gathered into one:  
 Lest we be divided in mind, let us beware.  
 Let evil impulses stop, let controversy cease.  
 And in the midst of us be Christ our God.  
 Where charity and love are, God is there.  
 At the same time we see that with the saints also,  
 Thy face in glory, O Christ our God:  
 The joy that is immense and good, unto the  
 World without end. Amen

TIME for YOUNG DISCIPLES

SCRIPTURE READING — selections from *Luke 22*

Rev. Dr. Tom Kort

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

MEDITATION

*Did Jesus Use a Seating Chart?*

Rev. Dr. Kort

**HYMN** — *For Everyone Born* (verses 1, 2 & 3)

FOR EVERYONE BORN

*For everyone born, a place at the table, for everyone born, clean water and bread,  
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing, for everyone born, a star over head,  
and God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace:  
yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!*

*For woman and man, a place at the table, revising the roles, deciding the share,  
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power, for woman and man, a system that's fair,  
and God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace:  
yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!*

*For young and for old, a place at the table, a voice to be heard, a part in the song,  
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled, for young and for old, the right to belong,  
and God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace:  
yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!*

**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 — The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want - arr. Lloyd Larson

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.*

**SACRAMENT of the LORD'S SUPPER**

**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** — *Called as Partners in Christ's Service*

BEECHER

*Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,  
we respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,  
equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.*

*Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,  
let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.*

*Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old,  
blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.*

*Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, in a small or global sense,  
help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence.  
Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care,  
bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.*

*So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life  
that surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.  
Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,  
messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.*

**CHARGE and BLESSING**

**BENEDICTION RESPONSE** — *Amen*

**POSTLUDE** — *A Tune for the Trumpet* - J. S. Bach

## 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.org](mailto:Bulletin@MPCusa.org).***

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

The Chancel Flowers are offered to the glory of God and are given by Larry and Phyllis Low “in loving memory of our dear cousin, Dr. Donna Miedama Carr.” The second arrangement is given by Ron and Ruth Workman in loving memory of Ron's father, William R. Workman.

### **CODE BLUE PREPARATIONS TODAY**

In this extreme cold and frigid weather, we hope you are staying warm! Code Blue preparations are under way for the month of March. As we have done in the past, MPC will open its doors providing shelter to those in need as we support Advocates for the Homeless and Those in Need (AHTN). We will be preparing meals ahead of time, to be kept in the freezer, and used as needed. This cook day has been scheduled for today, Sunday, March 1 after worship service. If you are interested in volunteering to cook and serve meals in March, or would like to be added to the email chain, please email [mpccodeblue@gmail.com](mailto:mpccodeblue@gmail.com). Your support of this ministry is greatly appreciated. Please reach out to Beth Becker or Dawn Flook with any questions.

### **PRAYER SHAWL GATHERING - BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!**

We had a wonderful turnout for our first prayer shawl gathering and will be holding another next Sunday, March 8, immediately after service in room 220. All supplies will be provided. Many will confirm it is very easy to learn and fun to gather together to serve in this new way.

### MPC BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP'S RESCHEDULED MEETING & NEXT READING

The meeting to discuss *Fire Weather: A True Story from a Hotter World* has been rescheduled to tomorrow, Monday, March 2 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the conference room. You can also attend by Zoom. Contact the church office at [office@mpcusa.org](mailto:office@mpcusa.org) or Shellie Stoddard at [stoddard.shellie@gmail.com](mailto:stoddard.shellie@gmail.com) for link and more information.

The group's next reading is *My Friends* by Fredrik Backman. The author returns with an unforgettably funny, deeply moving tale of four teenagers whose friendship creates a bond so powerful that it changes a complete stranger's life twenty-five years later. Discussion on the book will take place on Monday, April 13, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

### FOOD CENTER'S MARCH REQUEST

For the month of March, the requested food donation is mac and cheese. A shopping cart has been put in the Welcome Center to receive your donations. Thank you for your continued generosity!

### SOCIAL JUSTICE AWARENESS

One of the aims of the Outreach Committee is to develop awareness of social injustices and work to combat them through education and advocacy. Anyone who wishes to receive information regarding upcoming events and efforts to address social justice issues locally and globally, please contact Alice Garcia at 609-230-1786 or [agarcia28@verizon.net](mailto:agarcia28@verizon.net) or Carol Carpenter at 267-243-1951 or [carol.w.carpenter@gmail.com](mailto:carol.w.carpenter@gmail.com) to add your name to our contact list.

### THANK YOU!

Please join the Nursery Committee in thanking Ray Hendrickson for his hard work and time in building a great new coat rack and drop zone for MPC's nursery. We are so blessed to have members like Ray who have a generous heart and amazing talents!

**Lenten Soup Suppers**  
**6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall**  
Gather for a wonderful time as we share a simple meal and fellowship, accompanied by the evening's program & speakers

**Reflections on Lent**  
*REFLECTIONS ON LENT*

**Wednesday, March 18**  
**Lisa Zazzu**

**Wednesday, March 25**  
**Ray Hendrickson**

**April 2**  
Fellowship Hall  
**JOIN US for MAUNDY Thursday**  
6:00 p.m. Soup Supper  
6:30 p.m. Worship Service

**April 5**  
10:30 a.m.  
**JOIN US for EASTER Sunday**  
**He is Risen!**  
Livestream of service available at [mpcusa.org](http://mpcusa.org)

## MPC Weekly Calendar

### SUNDAY, March 1 - Second Sunday in Lent

9:30 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages	
<b>10:30</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>	<b>Sanctuary &amp; Livestream</b>
11:30	Nominating Committee	Room 200
11:30.	Code Blue Food Preparations	Fellowship Hall
11:45	Youth Choir	Music Room
Noon	Adonai Tabernacle	Chapel
Noon	Deacons Meeting	Conference Room

### MONDAY, March 2

5:30 p.m.	Book Discussion Group	Conference Room
6:30	Mostly Motets	Music Room
6:30	Cub 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, March 3

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, March 4

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	Room 121

### THURSDAY, March 5

10:00 a.m.	Clothing Center	Room 4
7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Music Room

### FRIDAY, March 6

### SATURDAY, March 7

### SUNDAY, March 8 - Third Sunday in Lent

8:30 a.m.	God's Thunder Rehearsal	Room 121
9:30	Sunday School for all ages	
<b>10:30</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>	<b>Sanctuary &amp; Livestream</b>
11:30	Nominating Committee	Room 200
11:45	Youth Choir	Music Room
Noon	Adonai Tabernacle	Chapel

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](http://mpcusa.org/calendar) to see when events takes place and room availability.

### 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.

### CONTACT US MORRISVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

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