MORRISVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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*
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY
after PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 ~ 10:30 A.M.

G A T H E R I N G

PRELUDE — *For the Beauty of the Earth* - arr. Keith Rowley — Yun Kang

WORDS *of* WELCOME — Rev. Alex Lester-Abdalla

INTROIT — *Come, Lift Your Hearts on High* - MADRID — Chancel Choir

Come, lift your hearts on high: Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky: Alleluia! Amen!
He is our guide and friend; to us he'll condescend.
His love shall never end: Alleluia! Amen!

CALL *to* WORSHIP — Nancy Powers, Liturgist

One: Come, for the God of grace is calling us into the vineyard.
All: We come, trusting not in what we have earned, but in God's generous love.
One: Come, for there is room for all in God's kingdom.
All: We come to worship the God who sees us, seeks us, and welcomes us.
One: Let us worship God, together!

HYMN — *Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!* — DARWALL'S 148TH

Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
For Christ the Lord had led us through the ages long!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns supreme,
empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Let courage be our friend; let wisdom be our guide,
as we in mission magnify the Crucified!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
For Christ the Lord has triumphed o'er the ages long!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

PRAYER *of* CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we are quick to measure what we have done, what we deserve, and what others have received. We resent your generosity when it extends beyond the boundaries we have drawn. Forgive us for forgetting that everything we have is gift. Teach us to trust your grace, to rejoice in the blessing of others, and to make room in your vineyard for all whom you call. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

PROMISE *of* FORGIVENESS

One: Friends, God's grace is greater than we can imagine. It is not measured according to our merit, rather God's mercy is given freely and abundantly. Hear and believe the good news of the gospel:
All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, welcomed, and called into the life of God's kingdom. Thanks be to God. 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.

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

PRAYER *for* ILLUMINATION

RESPONSIVE READING — *Psalm 105:1-6*

One: O give thanks to the Lord; call on his name; make known his deeds among the peoples. Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.

All: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

One: Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually. Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles and the judgments he has uttered,

All: O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM — *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* - arr. James Q. Mulholland

Come, thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!

Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

TIME *for* YOUNG DISCIPLES Rev. Kyle Anderson

SCRIPTURE READING — *Matthew 20:1-16*

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON *God's Not Fair!* Rev. Kyle Anderson

HYMN — *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* AMAZING GRACE

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

AFFIRMATION *of* FAITH — paraphrased from the *Heidelberg Catechism*

We confess that the Son of God is called Jesus, which means Savior, because he saves us from our sins, and because salvation is to be sought or found in no other. Amen.

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 — *As the Deer* - arr. Marilynn Ham

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

S E N D I N G

HYMN — *To God Be the Glory* TO GOD BE THE GLORY

To God be the glory; great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the lifegate that all may go in.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory: great things he has done!

Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory: great things he has done!

CHARGE *and* BLESSING

BENEDICTION RESPONSE — *Alleluia! Amen!* - MADRID

Praise yet our Christ again: Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain: Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore his goodness we'll adore,
Singing forever more: Alleluia! Amen!

POSTLUDE — *Praise Him with the Sound of the Trumpet* - Robert Lau

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.



Join us today for some fellowship time!

TODAY'S CHANCEL FLOWERS

The chancel flowers are offered to the glory of God and are given by Clark and DeeAnn Martin in loving memory of their son, Ryan (September 17, 1971-March 16, 2024): Through the tears that still come so easily, we can still laugh at the memories of your outrageous sense of humor and sharp wit--you are so missed. The second arrangement is given by John and Donna Damiani "in honor of our mother, Inez Mitchell, who fought cancer for 17 years and whose birthday we celebrate on September 21. We give thanks for all cancer survivors and prayers for those who are battling this disease."

YOUTH CLUB STARTS THIS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Youth Club will kick-off the year with a cookout on Wednesday, September 23, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. All 6th through 12th graders are welcome to join this and future gatherings as we look to connect with one another, ourselves, and God through activities, food, and fun. Please note the time change as we will be gathering from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on the first and third Wednesday each month. If you are interested or have any questions, reach out to Pastor Alex at alexlester-abdalla@mpcusa.org.

NEW! CONTEMPLATION INFORMATION SESSION

Looking to deepen your relationship with God? If you are curious about how daily scripture reading, prayer, meditation, and contemplative spiritual practices can transform your daily devotions, join Pastor Alex for an informational session about opportunities to gather in contemplation where he will share some of the learnings from his sabbatical. Together, these simple practices help us access our inner wisdom and discern God's invitation to a fuller and richer spiritual life. Join us in the conference room on Sunday, September 27, after worship to learn more!

COFFEE AND CONNECTION

Do you enjoy drinking coffee on a Sunday morning with casual conversation? Are you looking to connect with other folks in the church? The Faith Formation committee would like to invite you to a new offering for adults during the Sunday School Hour. Each Sunday, at 9:30 a.m., we will gather in the lounge for coffee and casual conversation. Due to this change, Adult Sunday School will not take place in the morning, but instead more information will be provided about classes that will be offered after future worship services. We hope you will join us for coffee and connection on Sunday mornings.

PRAYER SHAWL GATHERING NEXT SUNDAY

We have had wonderful turnouts for our handmade prayer shawl gatherings supporting our Code Blue guests. The next gathering will be on Sunday, September 27, immediately after service in room 220. All supplies will be provided. No experience needed as many will confirm it is very easy to learn. Bring a friend and join in the fun by gathering together to serve in this new way. Contact Katie McHenry at 419-348-7954 or Beth Becker at 215-262-1556 with any questions.

UPCOMING WOMEN'S RETREAT

The Women's Retreat will be held November 6-8 at the Sisters of St. Joseph Center for Spirituality in Ocean Grove, NJ. MPC women are blessed to have retreats subsidized by a fund established in memory of Dorothea Scheidemantel, by her daughter Sally. Not only does this fund greatly reduce the cost to attend the retreat, but it also offers two scholarships that can be used to offset expenses related to retreat participation, such as child care, registration fee, or transportation. Brochures with retreat details and registration forms are available in the Welcome Center. We are limited to twenty-five attendees. If you have any questions, or would like to submit your name to hold a place, please contact Nancy Kernan at nankernan@gmail.com.

USHERS NEEDED

We need you for a new opportunity. Come join our Volunteer Ushering Team! Ushering at church is a simple, fun and meaningful way to serve. It's about showing up on a Sunday with a welcoming spirit, and lending a hand wherever needed. Would you like to try it out at MPC? No pressure, no long-term commitment -- just volunteers willing to give a little of their time, working side-by-side with deacons, to help create a warm and inviting experience for everyone who walks through our doors. Please see Robin Evans after the service, or contact her at robinevans310@gmail.com for more information. You must be at least twelve years of age and a church member.

OCTOBER 4 - WORLD COMMUNION OFFERING

The World Communion Offering is a way for Presbyterians to "love kindness" expressed in action, often involving mercy, faithfulness and steadfast commitment. Racial justice, gender justice, global witness, and ecumenical and interfaith engagement are the important causes supported by this offering. The offering will be collected on Sunday, October 4, during worship. You are welcome to use the special offering envelope, writing "World Communion Offering" in the memo line of your check or give online at mpcusa.org/give. Thank you for participating in this global effort.

MPC CLOTHING CENTER - NEW SEASON, NEW NAME, MORE HOURS

As we prepare to open for a new season this Thursday, September 24, 2026, the MPC Clothing Center will now be known as the MPC Thrift Store. Why change the name? Changing the name better depicts who we are, a store which sells all sorts of merchandise at reduced prices.

Another big change, we will be opening the Thrift Store the first Saturday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to noon beginning Saturday, November 7. This will provide an opportunity for those who work, are in school, or just can't come during our normal schedule. We hope this will also attract new customers, increase revenue for the Outreach Committee to distribute to non-profits and other agencies/organizations within the community, and move merchandise and inventory.

We would love to have volunteers who would be willing to work at the Thrift Store on a Saturday morning. This would be a great opportunity for students who need community service hours. Ideally, we need three volunteers who would assist shoppers, take payments and bag purchases, and put away merchandise at closing. Saturday volunteers would not be responsible for pricing, changing displays, etc. If we have enough volunteers that could be rotated, it would be quite feasible for everyone to work only one to two Saturdays a year, especially since we are closed from mid-June to mid-September. Another volunteer or two to have on the Thursday roster would also be great, as it can be a challenge to fill the schedule from time to time. If you are interested in volunteer opportunities, please contact Kathy Foster at kathleenf949@gmail.com.

We will begin to accept clean, fall/winter clothing & shoes, seasonal home décor (fall/autumn, Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas) on September 8, 2026. **Please do not leave off-season clothing and items, we do not have the space to store them.**

Come and see us on Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and on Saturday, November 7 from 9:00 a.m. to noon! All profits are donated to other community non-profit agencies and organizations through the MPC Outreach Committee

MPC *Weekly Calendar*

SUNDAY, September 20

9:30 a.m.	Sunday School for Children & Youth	
9:30	Coffee & Connection	Lounge
10:30	**Worship Service**	**Sanctuary & Livestream**
11:30	Fellowship Time	Lounge
Noon	Adonai Tabernacle	Chapel
1:30 p.m.	Adonai Tabernacle Banquet	Fellowship Hall
3:00	Apple Picking Festival	Styer Orchard

MONDAY, September 21

6:30 p.m.	Mostly Motets	Music Room
6:30	Scout Troop 3	Fellowship Hall
6:45	Cub Scout Pack 3	Rooms 122 & 220
7:00	Food Center Food Packing	Room 4

TUESDAY, September 22

9:00 a.m.	Food Center Produce Prep	Room 4
9:00	Weekday Nursery School	Room 220
10:00`	Welcoming the Stranger	Room 208

WEDNESDAY, September 23

9:00 a.m.	Food Center Distribution	Parking Lot
9:00	Weekday Nursery School	Room 220
Noon	Brown Bag Bible Study	Conference Room & Zoom

WEDNESDAY, September 23 (continued)

6:30 p.m.	Youth Club	Fellowship Hall
7:15	Chancel Chimes Rehearsal	Room 121

THURSDAY, September 24

8:30 a.m.	Ivins Outreach Center	Lounge
10:00	Thrift Store Open	Room 4
7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Music Room

FRIDAY, September 25

SATURDAY, September 26

SUNDAY, September 27

9:30 a.m.	Sunday School for Children & Youth	
9:30	Coffee & Connection	Lounge
10:30	**Worship Service**	**Sanctuary & Livestream**
11:30	Fellowship Time	Lounge
11:30	Contemplation Information Session	Conference Room
11:30	Prayer Shawl Gathering	Room 220
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 to see when events take place and room availability.

CONTACT US
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