



*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  
SIXTH SUNDAY  
after EPIPHANY  
FEBRUARY 15, 2026 ~ 10:30 A.M.

## GATHERING

### WORDS of WELCOME

Rev. Alex Lester-Abdalla

PRELUDE — *O Lamm Gottes unschuldig* - Johann Pachelbel

Yun Kang

INTROIT — *Come Into God's Presence* - Anonymous

Chancel Choir

*Come into God's presence singing "Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia."*

### CALL to WORSHIP

Elizabeth Lester-Abdalla, Liturgist

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

**All: Worship the Lord with gladness. Come into his presence with singing.**

One: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, enter his courts with praise. Give thanks to God;

**All: For the Lord is good, God's steadfast love endures to all generations.**

One: Come, let us worship the Lord our God.

HYMN — *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

HYMN TO JOY

*Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!  
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.*

*All thy works with joy surround thee; earth and heaven reflect thy rays;  
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.*

*Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began.  
Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan.  
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife.  
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.*

### PRAYER of CONFESSION

God of the Covenant, you promise to write your law in our hearts, that we would be your faithful people, even as you are our faithful God. Yet, we still stray from your ways. We have failed to love you with all of our heart, mind, and strength. We have failed to love our neighbor. Forgive us. Renew us. Restore us, as silently we confess our sin.

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

### PROMISE of FORGIVENESS

One: God is merciful and just, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen and 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 — *Psalm 96:1-4a*

One: Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

**All: Sing to the Lord and bless the Lord's name; proclaim the good news of salvation from day to day.**

One: Declare the glory of the Lord among the nations and the wonders of the Lord among all peoples,

**All: For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!**

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### ANTHEM — *Lift Your Eyes and See the Glory* - Joseph M. Martin

*Lift your eyes and see the glory, Christ adorned in majesty,  
shining bright upon the mountain, to the world, a mystery.  
With the ancient prophets standing, Christ appears in garments white,  
covered by a cloud of glory clothed in everlasting light.*

*Like a start, His face was shining, He who was the light of all,  
and his faithful friends beheld it, filled with wonder, filled with awe.  
From the heavens a voice was sounding: "This is my beloved Son;"  
words fulfilling all the prophets, coming from the heart of God.*

*This our shout of acclamation: Christ the Son is King of kings.  
Jesus through transfiguration glimpse of God's splendor brings.  
Glory, blessings, laud and honor be to Christ, the Lord of grace!  
Fill your heart with alleluias; tune your voice to sing this praise.*

— Joseph M. Martin, alt. by Carol Carpenter

## TIME for YOUNG DISCIPLES

### SCRIPTURE READING — selections from the *Song of Solomon*

Rev. Dr. Tom Kort

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

### SERMON

*Glass Slipper Theology*

Rev. Dr. Kort

### HYMN — *I Love to Tell the Story*

HANKEY

*I love to tell the story of unseen things above,  
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.  
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;  
it satisfies my longings as nothing else could do.  
I love to tell the story; 'twill be my them in glory  
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

*I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat  
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!  
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard  
the message of salvation from God's own holy Word.  
I love to tell the story; 'twill be my them in glory  
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

*I love to tell the story, for those who know it best  
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it, like the rest.  
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,  
'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long.  
I love to tell the story; 'twill be my them in glory  
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

**AFFIRMATION of FAITH** — from 1 John 4:7-12

**Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.**

**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 — *We Gather Together* - arr. Mark Hayes

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** — *Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

AR HYD Y NOS

*“Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.  
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.  
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”*

*“Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Here you heard my dear Son's story; here you touched him, saw his glory.  
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.”*

*“Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.  
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.  
Here my Spirit's power filled you; here my tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.”*

**CHARGE and BLESSING**

**BENEDICTION RESPONSE** — *Amen*

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

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

The Chancel Flowers are offered to the glory of God and are given by Curt Rimler in loving memory of his mother, Dorothea Rimler, on her heavenly birthday. The second arrangement is given by Caroline B. Pickering in loving memory of her brother, Russell (Rusty) Brown, Jr.

### **TODAY! VOLUNTEER TO CREATE PRAYER SHAWLS**

Here's an opportunity to support our Code Blue guests with handmade prayer shawls. Katie McHenry has offered to teach us how to make prayer shawls for our Code Blue guests. Supplies will be provided. Katie promises it is very easy to learn and she will help us. Please join us following the worship service today, February 15, in room 220.

### **SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER**

Join us Tuesday, February 17, for the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper being served from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome to this wonderfully intergenerational opportunity to share a meal with the MPC community as we prepare for the upcoming Holy Season. This dinner kicks off Youth Ministry's fundraising for the 2026 Youth in Mission trip to Pipestem, WV. The support from our MPC community for this outreach every year always overwhelms us. A free will offering will be accepted in lieu of purchasing tickets.

### **FOOD CENTER'S FEBRUARY REQUEST**

For the month of February, the requested food donation is pasta sauce (preferably not in glass jars). A shopping cart has been put in the Welcome Center to receive your donations. Thank you for your continued generosity!

### **UPCOMING ADULT SUNDAY CLASSES**

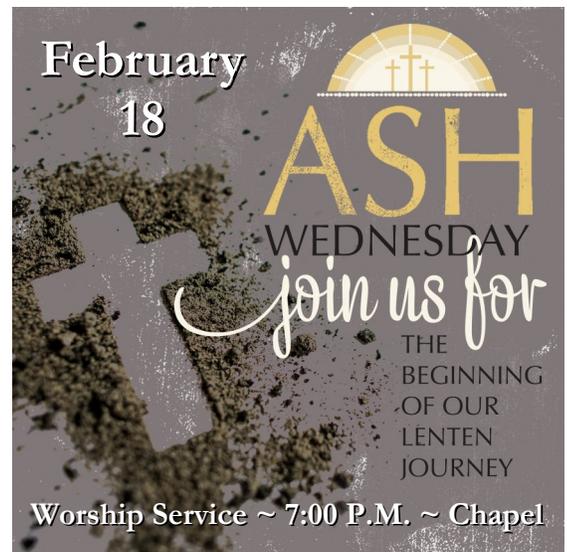
On February 22, Elizabeth Dugan will be leading a discussion of *Deuteronomy 6:1-9* and *Psalms 19*. She will be discussing the context in which each was written and the emphasis on the Law and covenant between God and the Israelites.

On March 1, Rabbi Amiel T. Monson from Congregation Beth El in Yardley will be with us to discuss these same two passages from a Jewish perspective.

Please join us for this interesting discussion as we gain insight into the beliefs of our friends and neighbors. Classes begin at 9:30 a.m. and are held in the Conference Room, located on the second floor.

### **CODE BLUE PREPARATIONS RESCHEDULED**

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 rescheduled to Sunday, March 1. 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.



### THANK YOU FROM PACK 3

Thank you to everyone who purchased during our Cub Scouts Pack 3 Bake Sale after service last week. You made it a great success by purchasing over \$500.00 of baked goods. I hope you all enjoyed them.

Bill Burgess, COR, Pack 3

### 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](mailto: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.

### MPC BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP'S NEXT READING

The MPC Book Discussion group's next reading is *Fire Weather: A True Story from a Hotter World* by John Vaillant. While not a winner, it was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in General Nonfiction and is a comprehensive account of the 2016 Fort McMurray wildfire in Canada. The book explores the connection between the fire, climate change, and the petrochemical industry.

Discussion on the reading will take place on Monday, February 23 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.

### SCOUT TROOP 3 CLOTHING DRIVE

Scout Troop 3 is hosting a Clothing Drive through May 3. Along with clean clothing, you can donate books and clean houseware items for this fundraiser. The goal is to reach 4000 lbs. of soft items. You can drop off your donations on Monday evenings in Fellowship Hall from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. If it's more convenient to drop off items on Sunday before or after service, we will have a trash can marked for the Scout Drop-Off at the bottom of the steps outside of room 4. Thank you for your participation during this fundraiser.



### Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday, February 17

5:30 - 7:00 p.m. ~ Fellowship Hall



Free will offering. Supper supports Youth in Mission

### 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



## MPC Weekly Calendar

### SUNDAY, February 15

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>
11:45	Youth Choir	Music Room
Noon	Adonai Tabernacle	Chapel
Noon	Prayer Shawl Volunteer Event for Code Blue	Room 220
Noon	Nominating Committee	Room 200

### MONDAY, February 16

6:30 p.m.	Mostly Motets	Music Room
6:30	Scout Troop 3	Fellowship Hall
7:00	Food Center Food Packing	Room 4
7:30	Trustee Meeting	Conference Room

### TUESDAY, February 17 - Shrove Tuesday

9:00 a.m.	Food Center Produce Prep	Room 4
10:00	Weekday Nursery	Room 220
	School Projects	
5:30 p.m.	Shrove Tuesday	Fellowship Hall
	Pancake Supper	
6:00	Outreach Committee	Zoom

### WEDNESDAY, February 18 - Ash Wednesday

9:00 a.m.	Food Center Distribution	Parking Lot
Noon	Brown Bag Bible Study	Conference Room
<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	<b>Chapel</b>
	<b>Worship Service</b>	
7:00	Girl Scout Troop 2888	Room 220

### THURSDAY, February 19

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

### FRIDAY, February 20

8:30 a.m.	Weekday Nursery School	Fellowship Hall
	Coffee & Conversation	
5:00	Scout Troop 3 Event	Room 220

### SATURDAY, February 21

8:00 a.m.	Scout Troop 3 Event	Room 220
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### SUNDAY, February 22

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>
11:45	Youth Choir	Music Room
Noon	Adonai Tabernacle	Chapel
Noon	Nominating Committee	Room 200

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

771 North Pennsylvania Ave. | Morrisville, PA 19067 | 215.295.4191 | [Office@MPCusa.org](mailto:Office@MPCusa.org) | [www.MPCusa.org](http://www.MPCusa.org)

J. Thomas Kort, <i>Transitional Pastor/Head of Staff</i> .....	<a href="mailto:TomKort@MPCusa.org">TomKort@MPCusa.org</a>
Alexander Lester-Abdalla, <i>Associate Pastor (ext. 225)</i> .....	<a href="mailto:AlexLester-Abdalla@MPCusa.org">AlexLester-Abdalla@MPCusa.org</a>
Carter Lester, <i>Interim Pastor of Visitation</i> .....	<a href="mailto:RevCarterLester@gmail.com">RevCarterLester@gmail.com</a>
Timothy Carpenter, <i>Director of Music</i> .....	<a href="mailto:TimCarpenter@MPCusa.org">TimCarpenter@MPCusa.org</a>
Yun Kang, <i>Principal Organist</i> .....	<a href="mailto:YunKang@MPCusa.org">YunKang@MPCusa.org</a>
Kevin Subers, <i>Coordinator of Christian Education</i> .....	<a href="mailto:KevinSubers@MPCusa.org">KevinSubers@MPCusa.org</a>
David Sterling, <i>Property Manager (ext. 231)</i> .....	<a href="mailto:DavidSterling@MPCusa.org">DavidSterling@MPCusa.org</a>
Amanda White, <i>Financial Support Administrator</i> .....	<a href="mailto:AmandaWhite@MPCusa.org">AmandaWhite@MPCusa.org</a>
Damon Miller, <i>Communication Coordinator</i> .....	<a href="mailto:DamonMiller@MPCusa.org">DamonMiller@MPCusa.org</a>
Kimberly Turner, <i>Administrative Assistant (ext. 0)</i> .....	<a href="mailto:Office@MPCusa.org">Office@MPCusa.org</a>