



*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 OCTOBER 2, 2022
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY
after PENTECOST

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

GATHERING

PRELUDE — *Stand Up, Stand Up For Jesus* - James Mansfield Yun Kang

CHORAL INTROIT — *Blessed Jesus, at Your Word We Have Come* - Text by T. Clausnitzer Chancel Choir

CALL to WORSHIP Pastor Rachel Rhodes

One: Grounded in the grace of God,

All: We are a vibrant Christian community, disciples of all ages,

One: Gathered for worship and nurture,

All: Scattered to serve and to love!

One: May our life together be a reflection of God's love and grace!

All: May our worship be pleasing to God alone! Let us worship God together!

HYMN — *In Christ There Is No East or West* MC KEE

*In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.*

*In Christ shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord
close-binding humankind.*

*Join hands, disciples of the faith,
whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God
are surely kin to me.*

*In Christ now meet both east and west;
in him meet south and north.
All Christly souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.*

PRAYER of CONFESSION Tori Paquette

God, you have given each of us many gifts, but sometimes we cannot recognize what gift we have to share, so we hide it under a bushel. God, you remind us that all of creation is worthy, but sometimes we let ourselves be convinced that some are more special than others. God, you call us to work, to live, to love together as parts of one body, but sometimes we decide that membership in the body is limited by our understandings. God, for the times we have ignored or mislabeled Your gifts, for those times we have cut another off from the body, we offer words of repentance, we ask for forgiveness and grace.

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

PROMISE *of* FORGIVENESS

One: God is the giver of many gifts. God is the Creator of the one body. God is slow to anger and quick to forgive. God helps us to heal the wounds and reunite the body. We are forgiven, loved, and accepted. And so, together, let us 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.*

LITURGY *of the* WORD

PRAYER *for* ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — *Psalms 63:1-8*

One: O God, you are my God; I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

All: **Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.**

One: My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips when I think of you on my bed and meditate on you in the watches of the night,

All: **For you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy. My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.**

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

TIME *for* YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — *Romans 12:1-8*

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Body of Christ

Pastor Alex Lester-Abdalla

HYMN — *For Everyone Born* (verses 1, 3, 5)

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 overhead,*

Refrain:

*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 sinner and saint, a place at the table,
the just and unjust, the need to forgive,
in anger, in hurt, a mindset of mercy,
for just and unjust, a new way to live,*

Refrain

*For everyone born, a place at the table,
a covenant shared, a welcoming space,
a rainbow of race and gender and colour,
for everyone born, the chalice of grace,*

Refrain

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

We trust in God the Holy Spirit everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls people to all ministries of the Church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

OFFERING

Invitation to Give

Offertory Music — *Nearer My God To Thee* - Lowell Mason

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 of 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.

THE BREAKING *of the* BREAD

COMMUNION *of the* PEOPLE

MUSIC *during* COMMUNION — *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether* - Harold W. Friedell

*Draw us in the Spirit's tether, for when humbly in Thy name,
two or three are met together, Thou art in the midst of them;
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Touch we now Thy garment's hem.

*As the brethren used to gather in the name of Christ to sup,
then with thanks to God the Father break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

So knit Thou our friendship up.

*All our meals and all our living make us sacraments of Thee,
that by caring, helping, giving, We may true disciples be.
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

We will serve Thee faithfully.

-- Percy Dearmer

PRAYER *after* COMMUNION

S E N D I N G

HYMN — *We All Are One in Mission*

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

*We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united by Christ, Lord of all.
A single, great commission compels us from above
to plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.*

*We all are called for service to witness in God's name.
Our ministries are different; our purpose is the same:
to touch the lives of others by God's surprising grace,
so every folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.*

*Now let us be united and let our song be heard.
Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming word.
We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.*

POSTLUDE — *Classical Postlude* - Franz Joseph Haydn

QUESTION *for* REFLECTION

- How is God calling you to love your neighbor?

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.net.***

TODAY'S FLOWERS IN OUR SANCTUARY

The flowers in our sanctuary today are from yesterday's Celebration of Life Service for Nancy Conover Anderson who had been a member of our church family since 1946. They are given by her son and daughter-in-law, Roger and Nancy Anderson, and family in loving memory of Nancy and in gratitude for a beautiful woman and a life well lived.

NEW SERMON SERIES, WHO IS MPC? CONTINUES TODAY!

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

Did you know our church has a mission statement?! You may have been attending here for years and have no idea what our mission statement says or what it calls forth from us as we imagine our impact in the world and in our church family and community. Over the course of the next weeks, we're going to explore who we are (or who we claim to be), and how God might be challenging us to look at that call more deeply and more creatively than we ever have before! And keep an eye out for this mission statement—it's in more places than you might realize!

PEACE AND GLOBEL WITNESS OFFERING - SEASON OF PEACE

The [Peace and Global Witness Offering](#), one of four special offerings of the [Presbyterian Church \(U.S.A.\)](#), enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice across the world. By supporting this offering you are promoting ministries of reconciliation and peace within cultures of violence and conflict – including those near Morrisville, PA! This offering will be distributed as follows:

- 25% - MPC Congregational Peace Initiatives investing in local responses to injustice and violence.
- 25% - Linking congregations in ministries of peace and reconciliation through presbyteries and synods
- 50% - Advocating for peace making and justice through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness

This special offering will be collected today for “World Communion Sunday.” Please include “Peace and Global Offering” on the comment line of your check, or in the "Notes" section if using the [online portal](#). As always, thank you for your generous support so that MPC can promote the Peace of Christ!

Now may the Lord of peace . . . give you peace at all times in all ways. 2 Thessalonians 3:16

FELLOWSHIP HOUR IS BACK!

Please join us for a time of fellowship and light refreshments, with an extra element, following Sunday services. Each host committee will have an educational table to share information about its mission and activities. Today's host for Fellowship Hour will be the Youth Ministry group. Next week's host will be Presbyterian Women. Please come, visit, enjoy a light snack, and stop by to hear and learn more about our host group.

MEN'S RETREAT '22 THIS SATURDAY - DEADLINE TO ENROLL IS TUESDAY

Men of MPC, please join Pastor Alex on Saturday, October 8, when we will be undertaking two specific projects to support Snipes Farm and Education Center's greater mission: planting water-loving native plants in the recently created "bioretention basin," and planting trees adjacent to the basin. The bio-retention basin lies at the heart of efforts to harvest flooding that reaches the farm from the surrounding developed areas, so that water recharges and feeds the streams during times of drought. Trees near the basin and streams help to clean water as it moves over and under the land. Please register through the church office by Tuesday, October 4. The cost is \$20 which covers a box lunch and donation to Snipes. Please dress to work and bring work gloves and a refillable water bottle. The day will start at 9:00 a.m. If you have any questions, please call Beth Curtiss at 215-801-7421.

PRAYERS AND SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE....

Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with our sisters and brothers of Christ in Ukraine. The baskets labelled "Ukraine Relief Fund" are no longer being placed in the sanctuary, but your monetary support through the online portal or Sunday offering plate is so very welcome. Gifts received are given to the Presbytery Disaster Assistance (PDA), designated for Ukraine.

To learn more about how Presbyterian Mission is helping those in Ukraine and around the world, please visit presbyterianmission.org.

CPR CLASS OFFERED

A CPR and First Aid certification class will be sponsored by the Board of Deacons and offered to anyone interested on Saturday November 5 at 9:30 a.m. It will run approximately three hours and the cost is \$65.00, payable by cash or check on the day of class. Preregistration is required by October 30. Please contact Joy Rees at reesfam5@yahoo.com or 215-280-4999, or Ruth Levan at jlevan4@verizon.net or 267-808-0945 if interested.

JOIN REBECCA CIRCLE - NEXT MEETING OCTOBER 10

All women of MPC are invited to become part of Rebecca Circle. Gather with friends, new and old, once each month for fellowship and a program. Topics include religion, spirituality, self-help, information, local trips and fun. Join this active, supportive and joyous group of sisters in Christ on the second Mondays of the month now through May, at 7:00 p.m. in the Lounge. For information, contact Jen Jones 215 962-3655.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED!

The Morrisville Presbyterian Towers, a low cost housing facility in Morrisville for qualified seniors and handicapped persons that MPC supports in various ways, needs a volunteer to assist in their commissary for a few hours each month. Located within walking distance of MPC, this facility has long been supported by many members and pastors of MPC. The commissary is located within its facilities, and has become an invaluable source for groceries and apartment necessities. If interested, please contact Ray Hendrickson at 215-495-3114 or Carol Hernandez at 215-518-3487.

iPhone



Introducing mobile giving

Android



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.

MPC *Weekly Calendar*

SUNDAY, October 2 - World Communion Day

8:30 a.m.	<i>God's Thunder</i> Rehearsal	Chapel
9:00	New Member Class	Lounge
9:30	Sunday School for all ages	
10:30	Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:30	Worship Service	Livestream
11:30	Fellowship Hour	Lounge
	Host: Youth Ministry	
11:45	Teen Choir	Music Room
Noon	Deacon Meeting	Conference Room

MONDAY, October 3

6:00 p.m.	Cub Scout Pack 3	Room 220
6:30	Mostly Motets	Music Room
7:00	Boy Scout Troop 3	Fellowship Hall
7:00	Boy Scout Troop 3	Lounge
	Parent & Board Meetings	
7:00	Personnel Committee	Zoom
7:30	Youth Ministry	Conference Room

TUESDAY, October 4

1:00 p.m.	Congregational Ministry	Zoom
6:00	Cub Scout Pack 3	Fellowship Hall
7:00	Food Center	Parking Lot

WEDNESDAY, October 5

9:00 a.m.	Food Center	Parking Lot
Noon	Brown Bag & Bible Study	Zoom

WEDNESDAY, September 28 (continued)

1:00 p.m.	Prayer Meeting	Zoom
2:30	Worship Committee	Zoom
6:00	Youth Club	Fellowship Hall
6:00	Cub Scout Pack 3	Room 220
7:00	Girl Scout Troop 2888	Room 220
7:15	Chancel Chimes	Chapel

THURSDAY, October 6

10:00 a.m.	Clothing Center	Room 4
6:00 p.m.	Oakville Girl Scouts	Fellowship Hall
7:00	Chancel Choir	Music Room

FRIDAY, October 7

7:00 p.m.	AA Meeting	Lounge
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SATURDAY, October 8

9:00 a.m.	Men's Retreat	Snipes Farm
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SUNDAY, October 9

8:30 a.m.	<i>God's Thunder</i> Rehearsal	Chapel
9:00	New Member Class	Lounge
9:00	Girl Scout Badge Event	Fellowship Hall
9:30	Sunday School for all ages	
10:30	Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:30	Worship Service	Livestream
11:30	Fellowship Hour	Lounge
	Host: Presbyterian Women	
11:45	Teen Choir	Music Room

CONTACT US

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