



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 FEBRUARY 6, 2022
FIFTH SUNDAY
after EPIPHANY

GATHERING

PRELUDE — *Be Thou My Vision* - arr. Jason Krug

Handbell Ensemble

CALL to WORSHIP

Steve James

One: God, stretching to the heavens,
All: God, lofty like the clouds,
One: God, mighty like the mountains,
All: God, immense like the great deep,
One: Your salvation is expansive and generous,
All: Your feast is overflowing with water turned into wine,
One: Your table is endless with many seats of your grace.
All: Let us celebrate our God of wonder and abundance!

HYMN — *Come, Behold, the Feast of Heaven*

CWM RHONDDA

<i>Come, behold! the feast of heaven Alleluia! has to mortal flesh been given. Alleluia!</i>	<i>All who trust in God belong Alleluia! at this banquet with this throng. Alleluia!</i>
<i>Hear the Word of God declared: Alleluia!</i>	<i>Share the mystic holy food; Alleluia!</i>
<i>"Come! the banquet is prepared." Alleluia!</i>	<i>taste and see: the Lord is good. Alleluia!</i>
<i>All is ready, come attend Alleluia!</i>	<i>As the Lord our God has willed, Alleluia!</i>
<i>as the Lord's invited friend; Alleluia!</i>	<i>here the hungry soul is filled; Alleluia!</i>
<i>come from north, west, south, and east; Alleluia!</i>	<i>here the weary are refreshed. Alleluia!</i>
<i>celebrate the joyful feast. Alleluia!</i>	<i>All who share God's feast are blessed Alleluia!</i>

PRAYER of CONFESSION

Pastor Rachel Rhodes

Loving Lord, we long to be your faithful people, but our good intentions run out and we come up empty. We recognize the times when we do not hear your Spirit calling us, or when we are quick to judgement, or when we doubt whether we are good enough to be loved. For all the ways we fall short in our sin, forgive us, Gracious One. Change us—like water into wine—to become what the world lacks, that our community, our nation, our church, and all creation may know your justice and love.

SILENT PRAYERS of CONFESSION

Here each worshiper may offer silent prayers of confession.

PROMISE of FORGIVENESS

One: To all who turn from sin and sorrow, to all who turn to God in hope, this is God's Word of grace: We are accepted, we are forgiven, we are loved. This is the gift that never ceases to be given from our loving God. 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

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — *Psalms 36:5-10*

One: Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.

All: Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your judgements are like the great deep; you save humans and animals alike, O Lord.

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

All: They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

One: For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

All: O continue your steadfast love to those who know you, and your salvation to the upright of heart!

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING — *John 2:1-11*

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of the Lord will stand forever.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

What Does It Look Like?

Paster Lester Abdalla

HYMN — *We Come as Guests Invited*

WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN

*We come as guests invited when Jesus bids us dine,
his friends on earth united to share the bread and wine;
the bread of life is broken; the wine is freely poured
for us, in solemn token of Christ our dying Lord.*

*We eat and drink, receiving from Christ the grace we need,
and in our hearts believing on him by faith we feed;
with wonder and thanksgiving for love that knows no end,
we find in Jesus living our ever-present friend.*

*One bread is ours for sharing, one single fruitful vine,
our fellowship declaring renewed in bread and wine:
renewed, sustained, and given by token, sign, and word,
the pledge and seal of heaven, the love of Christ our Lord.*

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.

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 — *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* - arr. Jason Krug

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 — *Sing of God Made Manifest*

SALZBURG

*Sing of God made manifest in a child robust and blest,
to whose home in Bethlehem where a star had guided them,
magi came and gifts unbound, signs mysterious and profound:
myrrh and frankincense and gold grave and God and king foretold.*

*Sing of God made manifest when at Jordan John confessed,
"I should be baptized by you, but your bidding I will do."
Then from heaven a double sign—dove-like Spirit, voice divine—
hailed the true Anointed One: "This is my beloved Son."*

*Sing of God made manifest when Christ came as wedding guest
and at Cana gave a sign, turning water into wine;
further still was love revealed as he taught, forgave, healed,
bringing light and life to all who would listen to God's call.*

*Sing of God made manifest on the cloud-capped mountain's crest,
where the law and prophets waned so that Christ alone remained:
glimpse of glory, pledge of grace, given as Jesus set his face
towards the waiting cross and grave, sign of hope God would save.*

POSTLUDE — *Lift High the Cross* - Sydney Nicholson

Yun Kang

QUESTION for REFLECTION

- What does the fullness of life look like to you?

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 HANDBELL ENSEMBLE

Members of today's Handbell Ensemble are: Carol Carpenter, Beth Curtiss, Kathryn Jarvis, Nancy Powers, AK Rosenbaum, Kristine Schmidt, and Natalie Sturr.

IN-PERSON EDUCATION AND MUSIC RETURNS

As we have returned to in-person worship, plans are in place to return to in-person education and music programs. Below you will also find specific updates for each activity.

EDUCATION

- Pre-K through High School Sunday School classes will return in-person starting **February 20** from 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.
- Confirmation Class will meet in-person starting **February 20** from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- For the time being, Adult Sunday School will continue to meet over Zoom from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

If you would like to be added to the Adult Education email distribution list or if you have any questions about Children's Sunday School or Confirmation Class, please be in touch with Pastor Alex at alexlester-abdalla@mpcusa.net.

MUSIC

- Chancel Choir (Adult Choir) will return for in-person rehearsals starting **February 10**.
- Teen Choir rehearsal will return after worship beginning **February 20**.
- Children's Music will return during worship on **February 20**.
- God's Thunder (Youth Handbell Choir) will return for in-person rehearsals starting **February 23**.

If you would like more information about any of our choir programs, please be in touch with Music Director Tim Carpenter, at timcarpenter@mpcusa.net.

2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering envelopes are available in the Communication Center. If you would like them mailed, please contact Laurie Jacobson at the church office or at lauriejacobson@mpcusa.net and she will send them to you. Please note that envelopes were not given to those who have signed up for online giving.

BOOK DISTRIBUTION UPDATED NEEDS AND REQUESTS:

Cold weather is bringing changes, but we are still finding ways to continue to distribute books. We have depleted the reserves of dictionaries and Bibles so if you have copies of either item, we can distribute them immediately. Currently, 90% of the books taken are those read by children under the age of 5. Almost no books (except Harry Potter and Lemony Snicket) for children above the third grade are taken. We have great interest in children's books on dinosaurs, trucks, "Disney Princesses" (including Pinkalicious, Dora, etc.). New coloring books are always welcome. Adults take current best sellers (published within the past couple of years), cookbooks, religious books, and Civil War books.

If you have books that fall outside of the above categories, you will find Good Stuff on Route 1 will usually take them. The Salvation Army and Good Will, a short distance away from Good Stuff, also take books.

For the time being, please do not drop off large used toys. There is no place to store them while we wait for the weather to warm up and the handling of them is too time consuming for the current volunteers. If we decide to add toys we will need a separate volunteer to handle this category. If you are interested in working with donated toys, please contact Susan Light at susanklight@gmail.com. Thank you for your generous and cheerful support.

MPC Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY, February 6

9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School via Zoom
10:30 **Worship Service** Sanctuary
10:30 **Worship Service** Livestream

MONDAY, February 7

7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 3 Fellowship Hall
7:00 Rebecca Circle via Zoom

TUESDAY, February 8

6:00 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 3 Fellowship Hall
6:00 Pack 3 - Webelos Room 104
6:30 Alcoholics Anonymous Room 220

WEDNESDAY, February 9

9:00 a.m. Food Center Parking Lot
Noon Brown Bag & Bible Study Conference Room
6:00 p.m. Youth Club Sanctuary
7:00 Girl Scout Troop 2888 Room 220
7:15 Chancel Chimes Sanctuary

THURSDAY, February 10

10:00 a.m. Clothing Center Room 4
Noon Alcoholics Anonymous Room 220
6:30 p.m. Oakville Girl Scouts Room 220
7:00 Chancel Choir Sanctuary

FRIDAY, February 11

6:00 p.m. Pack 3 - Wolf Den Fellowship Hall
7:00 AA Meeting Room 220

SATURDAY, February 12

SUNDAY, February 13

9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School via Zoom
10:30 **Worship Service** Sanctuary
10:30 **Worship Service** Livestream

CONTACT US

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