



*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 SEPTEMBER 4, 2022
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY
after PENTECOST

GATHERING

PRELUDE — *Air* - Gordon Young

Yun Kang

CALL to WORSHIP

Tori Paquette

One: To those who are hungry, Jesus says:

All: "Come and feast! There's more than enough for all!"

One: To those who are thirsty, he says:

All: "Come and drink! This river never runs dry!"

One: To those who are tired and weary, he says:

All: "Here you will find rest for your soul!"

One: So come you who have much faith and you who would like to have more!

All: For Christ welcomes all! Let us worship God together!

HYMN — *Christ Is Alive!*

TRURO

*Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.*

*Christ is alive! No longer bound
to the distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.*

*In every insult, rift, and war
where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.*

*Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the all,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.*

*Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love and praise.*

PRAYER of CONFESSION

Reverend Jack McAnlis

Living God, we confess the weakness of our faith. While we have heard the news that, "He is risen," we have kept it to ourselves. In church, in the presence of other believers, we have professed Christ's victory over the grave, but in our daily lives, we have lived as if it had no real effect. We have stared into the face of our own mortality and that of others as if we were people with no hope. Forgive us for living a life of futility. Remind us daily that sin, and even death, have no power over us. Raise in our hearts and minds this day the knowledge of the crucified, dead, and buried One who overcame sin and its sting so that we might live today, tomorrow, and forever with him.

SILENT PRAYERS of CONFESSION

Here each worshiper may offer silent prayers of confession.

PROMISE of FORGIVENESS

One: Beloved church, while it is true that we have sinned, it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God's love in Jesus Christ. To all who humbly seek the mercy of God 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.*

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

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING — *Isaiah 55:10-13*

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

TIME for YOUNG DISCIPLES

NEW TESTAMENT READING — *1 Corinthians 15:51-58*

Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled:

'Death has been swallowed up in victory.'

'Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?'

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labour is not in vain.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

I Will Tell You a Mystery...

Pastor Rhodes

HYMN — *In the Bulb There Is a Flower*

PROMISE

*In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

*There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

*In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

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 — *How Great Thou Art* - Carl Boberg

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 o f 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 — *Nearer, My God, To Thee* - Lowell Mason

PRAYER *after* COMMUNION

S E N D I N G

HYMN — *May the God of Hope Go with Us* (sung two times)

ARGENTINA

*May the God of hope go with us everyday,
filling all our lives with joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Praying, let us work for peace;
singing, share our joy for all;
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.*

POSTLUDE — *Grand Chorus* - Alexandre Guilmant

QUESTIONS *for* REFLECTION

- When have you known the sting of death?
- And how has your faith been challenged or changed?

WHO MAY RECEIVE COMMUNION IN THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH?

“The opportunity to eat and drink with Christ is not a right bestowed upon the worthy, but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance, and love. All who come to the table are offered the bread and cup, regardless of their age or understanding.

Worshipers prepare themselves to celebrate the Lord’s Supper by putting their trust in Christ, confessing their sin, and seeking reconciliation with God and one another. Even those who doubt may come to the table in order to be assured of God’s love and grace in Jesus Christ.”

-Book of Order W-3.0409

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 CHANCEL FLOWERS

given by Dave and Marilyn Schoenthaler in memory of their parents. The second arrangement is given in gratitude by Laura Goe Martz: "Thank you to Morrisville teachers whose patience, caring and good humor support the students of our community in achieving their goals and dreams."

WELCOME PASTORAL INTERN, TORI PAQUETTE!

We are delighted to welcome Tori Paquette (they/them), our new pastoral intern from Princeton Seminary, for the 2022-2023 academic year. Tori is passionate about the church and excited to learn more about ministry alongside the saints of MPC. Throughout the year you can expect to see Tori in our education classrooms, in worship, at the Food Center, on pastoral visits, and regularly participating in the life of the church. You can learn more about Tori in our next issue of Currents. But until then, we hope you will extend a very warm MPC welcome to Tori!

SUNDAY SCHOOL IS BACK SEPTEMBER 11

We hope you will join us on Sunday, September 11, as we will be starting Sunday School for all ages! Classes will be 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m., and the rooms are listed below. Teachers and students are very excited to see each other again as we continue to grow in faith at MPC. If you have any questions please contact Pastor Alex at alexlester-abdalla@gmail.com.

- Pre-K—Room 104
- K-4th Grade—Room 208
- Quest Class—Room 200
- High School Seminar—Room 220
- Adult Education—Conference Room

NEW SERMON SERIES, *WHO IS MPC?* BEGINS NEXT SUNDAY

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 8 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!

GROUNDED IN GRACE PICNIC

Join us on September 18, following worship, for our annual *Grounded in Grace* picnic held this year outside the main entrance. Seating will be provided under the Portico for those with mobility issues and on the grass for everyone else. The playground will be open for our young friends and lunch will be provided. Please RSVP by completing the sign up sheet in the Communication Center, or by contacting the church office at 215-295-4191 or office@MPCusa.org. If it rains, the picnic will be held in Fellowship Hall.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL SURVEY

The Education Committee and trusted advisors would like your feedback about our Adult Education offerings at MPC. Please [follow this link](#) or the one provided in your Sunday worship information email. The survey takes less than 3 minutes!

Also, we hope you will join us as our Adult Sunday School classes will be starting back up again on September 11 at 9:30 a.m. in the Conference Room. Have you ever wondered what our church mission statement is and why we say it? Pastor Alex will be leading guided conversations throughout September about the theological, Biblical, and missional implications of MPC's mission statement. In October, Pastor Jack will offer an in-depth conversation about the history of the Bible. We hope you will join us!

YOUTH CLUB STARTS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Calling all youth of the church! Youth Club will begin again for food, fellowship, and faith on Wednesday September 14 at 6:00 p.m. on the church lawn. This year we will be gathering on most Wednesday nights from 6:00-7:30 p.m. and dinner will be provided! We hope you will join us for our first gathering which will be a cookout hosted by our Youth Committee. Please email Pastor Alex at alexlester-abdalla@mpcusa.net to RSVP for the picnic or for more information regarding Youth Club.

DO YOU LIKE TO SING? DO YOU LIKE TO SING WITH OTHERS?

The Chancel Choir will be singing again in worship starting Sunday, September 11! Our first rehearsal will be Thursday, September 8, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Music Room. If you like to sing, are interested in exploring the possibility of being part of the choir, and can commit to most Thursdays and Sundays, please talk with our Director of Music, Tim Carpenter, or be touch with him at timcarpenter@mpcusa.net or (267) 243-3257. Make a Joyful Noise to the Lord!

NURSERY ASSISTANCE NEEDED

Are you an MPC member that loves children and lending a helping hand? We are looking for volunteers now through October to assist in our nursery during Sunday services. If interested, please [follow this link](#) or the one provided in the Sunday worship information emails. You may also contact the church office at office@mpcusa.org to sign up

CLOTHING CENTER REOPENING

The Clothing Center reopens on Thursday, September 22, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We are now accepting clean fall and winter clothing, small appliances, and any other treasures you wish to donate. Please note we do not accept school textbooks, college SAT practice books, or encyclopedias.

Donations can be left any day, except Wednesday, at the basement level by the elevator. Please do not leave donations outside. Come and join us when we open our doors again for another year to raise funds for MPC-supported outreach.

SAVE THE DATE!

THE IVINS OUTREACH CENTER'S FALL ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC IS COMING!

The Ivins Outreach Center's "Fall Annual Golf Classic will be held on Monday, September 19, 2022, at the Yardley Country Club with a shotgun start at 9:00 a.m. Lunch and awards will be at 1:30 p.m. To learn more about sponsorship opportunities and the golf classic, please contact Jean Sawyer at the Ivins Outreach Center calling 215-738-2903 or emailing jean@mv21stccl.org. Hope to see you on "the links"!

STRETCH CLASS OFFERED

A new mindful, meditative stretch class will be meeting at MPC twice a month starting Tuesday, September 13 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in room 220. The classes will be held every other Tuesday thereafter. Those who struggle with stress management, pain management, flexibility, muscle stiffness, self-care and/or lymphatic struggles are encouraged to join. To reserve a spot or for more information visit butterflyessentialwellness.com or call Lynette Thomas at 267-833-7654. Space is limited.

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, September 4

10:30 a.m.	Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:30	Worship Service	Livestream
Noon	Deacon Meeting	Conference Room

MONDAY, September 5

Church office closed

6:00 p.m.	Cub Scout Pack 3	Room 220
7:00	Boy Scout Troop 3	Fellowship Hall
7:00	Boy Scout Troop 3	Lounge
	Parent & Board Meetings	
7:00	Personnel Committee	Zoom

TUESDAY, September 6

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

WEDNESDAY, September 7

9:00 a.m.	Food Center	Parking Lot
2:30 p.m.	Worship Committee	Zoom
6:00	Cub Scout Pack 3	Room 220

WEDNESDAY, September 7 (continued)

7:00 p.m.	Finance Committee	
7:00	Girl Scout Troop 2888	Room 220
7:15	Chancel Chimes	Chapel

THURSDAY, September 8

6:00 p.m.	Oakville Girl Scouts	Fellowship Hall
7:00	Chancel Choir	Music Room
7:00	Weekday Nursery School	Room 222
	Board Meeting	

FRIDAY, September 9

7:00 p.m.	AA Meeting	Lounge
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SATURDAY, September 10

SUNDAY, September 11 - Rally Day

9:30 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages	
10:30	Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:30	Worship Service	Livestream
Noon	Deacon Meeting	Conference Room
11:30	Fellowship Hour	Lounge
11:45 a.m.	Teen Choir	Music Room

To view upcoming events and meetings,
please visit www.mpcusa.org and click on "Calendar" from the home page.

CONTACT US

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