



*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 AUGUST 21, 2022
ELEVENTH SUNDAY
after PENTECOST

GATHERING

PRELUDE — *Mr. Purcell's Wedding March* - John Cook

Fred Astmann

CALL to WORSHIP

Bill Hughes

One: Happy are those who walk in God's ways.
All: Blessed are those who observe God's commandments.
One: Faithful are those whose eyes are fixed on righteousness.
All: Joyful are those whose hearts are filled with praise.
One: Come, let us love the Lord our God.
All: We come to worship the One who leads us in the ways of life.

HYMN — *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*

UNSER HERRSCHER

*Open now thy gates of beauty, Zion, let me enter there,
where my soul in joyful duty waits for God who answers prayer;
O how blessed is this place, filled with solace, light, and grace.*

*Gracious God, I come before thee; let thy will be unto me;
where we find thee and adore thee, there a heaven on earth must be;
to my heart O enter thou; let it be thy temple now.*

*Speak, O Lord, and I will hear thee; let thy will be done indeed;
may I undisturbed draw near thee, while thou dost thy people feed.
Here of life the fountain flows; here is balm for all our woes.*

PRAYER of CONFESSION

Pastor Alex Lester-Abdalla

Loving God, you call us into community and bless us with abundant life. But we confess, with sorrow, that we often forget who has given us that life. We forget your living word and move off your paths to serve our own worldly desires. We quarrel with one another trying to decide "who is the greatest." We cherish our resentments, shutting off our hearts from forgiveness and reconciliation. Forgive us when we wander from your love. Draw us into community with each other, and fill us with your grace, that we may grow in faithfulness and work together in peace.

SILENT PRAYERS of CONFESSION

Here each worshiper may offer silent prayers of confession.

PROMISE of FORGIVENESS

One: God is at work, nurturing our growth and showing us the ways that lead to life. God is at work, reconciling us to one another and teaching us the paths of love. God is at work, hearing our confessions, forgiving our disobedience, and blessing us in love. 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

OLD TESTAMENT READING — *Psalm 119:1-8*

One: Happy are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord.

All: Happy are those who keep his decrees, who seek him with their whole heart, who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways.

One: You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently. O that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!

All: Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.

One: I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous ordinances.

All: I will observe your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

TIME *for* YOUNG DISCIPLES

NEW TESTAMENT READING — *1 Corinthians 3:1-9*

And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarrelling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? For when one says, 'I belong to Paul', and another, 'I belong to Apollos', are you not merely human?

What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labour of each. For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

The grass withers and 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

Baby Steps

Pastor Rachel Rhodes

HYMN — *Faith Begins by Letting Go*

LUX PRIMA

*Faith begins by letting go, giving up what had seemed sure,
taking risks and pressing on, though the way feels less secure;
pilgrimage both right and odd,
trusting all our life to God.*

*Faith endures by holding on, keeping memory's roots alive
so that hope may bear its fruit; promise fed, our souls will thrive,
not through merit we possess
but by God's great faithfulness.*

*Faith matures by reaching out, stretching minds, enlarging hearts,
sharing struggles, living prayer, binding up the broken parts;
till we find the commonplace
ripe with witness to God's grace.*

PROFESSION *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 — *Exodus* - Ernest Gold

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 — *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

ST. DENIO

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.*

*Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!*

POSTLUDE — *Jerusalem* - Hubert Parry

QUESTION *for* REFLECTION

- How is God challenging your faith to grow?

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 WE WELCOME FRED ASTMANN AS GUEST ORGANIST

Fred Astmann is a retired sales rep for the Allen Organ Company, and continues as a supply organist in over 325 different churches over the years. He is an active volunteer, organ consultant, and runs a referral service to help churches find organists.

TODAY'S CHANCEL FLOWERS

The chancel flowers are offered to the glory of God and are given by Jill Monroe Dillon in loving memory of her father, John R. Monroe: "We carry you in our hearts." The second arrangement is given by Linda Mocolak in loving memory of her father, Herbert R. Young.

WAKING UP WHITE BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP MEETS TODAY

We will be having a discussion at MPC on the book *Waking Up White* by Debbie Irving. This is a chance for us to explore questions and issues of identity and race as we strive each day to become better Christians and members of our community. This book was selected by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) for a presbytery-wide discussion in 2016. We hope all will feel free to join this discussion, whether these are issues you have been exploring for a long time or whether you are looking for a place to start. The only prerequisites are reading the book (or as much as you can) and an interest in conversation with fellow members of your church family! We plan to meet for one two-hour session, today, Sunday, August 21, from noon - 2:00 p.m. following worship. Lunch and childcare will be provided.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL BACKPACK DRIVE ENDS NEXT SUNDAY

The Deacons are excited to once again serve students in the community by holding our annual Back to School Backpack Drive. The Ivins Outreach Center will distribute the bags to students in grades 9-12 with the greatest needs.

We are asking our "generous" congregation to put specific items in a backpack or messenger bag and place the bags in the bins located in the Communication Center before or after Sunday services or at 7:30 p.m. on Monday evenings. Backpacks and donations will be accepted up until Sunday, August 28.

If you would like to make a donation to this important drive, you can do so on the Online Giving Portal at mpcusa.org/give, then entering your donation amount on the "Deacons Fund" line or by sending in a check to the Church Office. **Please include "Backpack Drive" in the respective notes section or memo line.**

Thank you so much for your generosity and for making this back-to-school time of the year so special for these students. If you have any questions, please contact Patti Sheffer at 267-394-0776.

Please include these items in the backpack for high school students:

#2 Pencils	3- Ring Binders
Colored Pencils	Loose Leaf College Ruled Paper
Pencil Sharpener/Eraser	Colored Binder Dividers
Black/Blue Pens	2-Pocket Folders
Highlighters/Markers	Single-Subject Spiral Notebooks
Book covers	Sticky Notes/Flags
Wire-Bound Weekly Planner	Dictionary/Thesaurus

Thanking you in advance, Patti Sheffer and Lori Newman.

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.

CHANCEL FLOWERS NEEDED FOR SEPTEMBER

If you would like to give flowers on a Sunday in September, please contact DeeAnn Martin by phone at 215-493-3865 or by email at deemar918@aol.com. The cost of an arrangement is \$30 and may be given in memory of a loved one, in celebration of someone or a special event, or in gratitude for a ministry or an act of kindness. These flowers not only add beauty to our Sunday worship, but they also serve as an outreach ministry to our church family.

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

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"!

HEY MPC YOUTH! DO YOU NEED COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS?

Get a jump start on your community service requirements by signing up to help at the Food Center this summer. Visit mpcusa.org/food-center to click on "Volunteer Sign Up" links to view available opportunities. Please email MPCfoodcenter@gmail.com with any questions or if you need additional information.

Get those pesky hours out of the way now! Imagine how jealous all your friends will be when they are scrambling to fulfill hours at the last minute! Sign up now!

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF BUCKS COUNTY NEEDS MPC VOLUNTEERS!

Faith Build 2022 is a Habitat for Humanity project of building homes in Bristol where faith groups and congregations have come together to put their faith into action! The 125th Habitat Bucks home has begun in Bristol and volunteers are needed assisting at a work site or at a Restore location, and making substantial donations. Interested? Please contact Ray Hendrickson at hrh1453@gmail.com or 215 495-3114 to be a part of *Faith Build 2022*! For more information on volunteering and to sign-up, you may also visit habitatbucks.org/volunteer.

MPC Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY, August 21

10:30 a.m.	Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:30	Worship Service	Livestream
Noon	<i>Waking Up White</i>	Memorial Garden
	Book Discussion Group	

MONDAY, August 22

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	Cub Scout Pack 3	Room 220
	Committee Meeting	

TUESDAY, August 23

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

WEDNESDAY, August 24

9:00 a.m.	Food Center	Parking Lot
6:00 p.m.	Cub Scout Pack 3	Room 220
7:00	Girl Scout Troop 2888	Room 220
7:15	Chancel Chimes	Sanctuary

THURSDAY, August 25

6:00 p.m.	Oakville Girl Scouts	Room 220
-----------	----------------------	----------

FRIDAY, August 26

7:00 p.m.	AA Meeting	Lounge
-----------	------------	--------

SATURDAY, August 27

SUNDAY, August 28

10:30 a.m.	Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:30	Worship Service	Livestream
11:30	Teacher Training	Room 220
3:00 p.m.	Young Adult Gathering	Snipes Farm

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

Introducing mobile giving

iPhone



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.

CONTACT US

MORRISVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

771 North Pennsylvania Ave. | Morrisville, PA 19067 | 215.295.4191 | Office@MPCusa.net

Rachel A. Rhodes, <i>Senior Pastor & Head of Staff (ext. 234)</i>	RachelRhodes@MPCusa.net
Alexander Lester-Abdalla, <i>Associate Pastor (ext. 225)</i>	AlexLester-Abdalla@MPCusa.net
Jack McAnlis, <i>Minister of Visitation (ext. 232)</i>	JackMcAnlis@MPCusa.net
Timothy Carpenter, <i>Director of Music</i>	TimCarpenter@MPCusa.net
Yun Kang, <i>Principal Organist</i>	YunKang@MPCusa.net
David Sterling, <i>Property Manager (ext. 231)</i>	DavidSterling@MPCusa.net
Laurie Jacobson, <i>Financial Secretary (ext. 226)</i>	LaurieJacobson@MPCusa.net
Damon Miller, <i>Communication Coordinator</i>	DamonMiller@MPCusa.net
Nicole Brice, <i>Administrative Assistant (ext. 0)</i>	Office@MPCusa.net