



*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* CHRISTMAS EVE  
7:30 P.M.  
DECEMBER 24, 2025

## GATHERING

**PRELUDE** — *The First Nowell* - arr. Robert Below

Yun Kang

**CHORAL INTROIT** — *Be Joyful, Earth and Sky* - Bohemian folk tune / arr. Jan Bender

Family Choir

*Be joyful, earth and sky, Hallelujah!  
Unto us God's Son came nigh, Hallelujah!  
All the earth rejoices,  
Lift we now our voices! Hallelujah!*

**LIGHTING of the ADVENT & CHRIST CANDLE**

Tom, Robin, Lynn, & Cara Evans

**CALL to WORSHIP**

Rev. Dr. Tom Kurt

**HYMN** — *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

ADESTE FIDELES

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;  
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!  
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!  
True God from true God, Light from light eternal,  
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;  
very God, begotten, not created!  
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!  
Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!  
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

## LITURGY of the WORD

**EVENING PRAYER**

Rev. Alex Lester-Abdalla

**FIRST LESSON** — *Isaiah 7:14*

**HYMN** — *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

HYFRYDOL

*Come, thou long expected Jesus,  
born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us;  
let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth thou art;  
dear desire of every nation,  
joy of every longing heart.*

*Born thy people to deliver,  
born a child and yet a king,  
Born to reign in us forever,  
now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal Spirit  
rule in all our hearts alone;  
By thine all sufficient merit  
raise us to thy glorious throne.*

**SECOND LESSON** — *Luke 2:1-7*

Sarah Zazzu

**ANTHEM** — *Make My Life a Bethlehem* - Craig Courtney

*Make my life a Bethlehem, a manger of my heart,  
Let me hear the angels sing and let the music start,  
May I fall in simple faith and worship on my knees,  
In the manger of my heart let Christ be born in me.*  
  
*In my life there is a place that's scattered with the straw  
of every disappointment, each regret and every flaw.  
In this dark and dismal place my beasts of burden lie  
weary from the heavy load they long to lay aside.  
Make my life...*  
  
*Come and sweep this stable clean and swaddle it with light,  
And let the child be born in me upon a start-lit night.  
For though He's born a thousand times in far off Bethlehem,  
until the Savior's born in me I cannot worship him.  
Make my life...*

— Peggy Martin

**THIRD LESSON** — *Luke 2:8-14*

Paul Clough

**HYMN** — *Angels We Have Heard on High*

GLORIA

*Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!*  
  
*Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!*  
  
*Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

**FOURTH LESSON** — *Luke 2:15-20*

Emily Zazzu

**OFFERING**

Invitation to Give

Offertory Anthem — *Wasn't That a Mighty Day?* - R. Nathaniel Dett

Chancel Choir

*Wasn't that a mighty day when Jesus Christ was born?  
God sent Jesus into this world to come as a little child;  
In a manger they laid him low, and his mother was both meek and mild.  
Wasn't that a mighty day when Jesus Christ was born?*

*The shepherds heard that angel song, it came down from the sky:  
“Peace on earth good will to men”, and the heavens join in the cry,  
Wasn’t that a mighty day when Jesus Christ was born?  
Wasn’t that a mighty day when Jesus Christ was born?  
Christ was born of Mary, a virgin; and because there was no room in the inn,  
she wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger.*

—Traditional words and melody

## FIFTH LESSON — 2 Corinthians 9:15

### CHRISTMAS MEDITATION

*God’s Gift For You*

Rev. Dr. Kort

## 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 & SHARING *of the* CUP

#### COMMUNION *of the* PEOPLE

#### COMMUNION ANTHEM — *Good Shepherds!* - Angevin carol set by Robert Gronquist

*Lay down your staffs, O shepherds leave your sheep.*

*From hamlets come, your flocks will quiet keep.*

*Come weep no more, your souls with joy renew.*

*Come hasten to adore the Christ who comes to comfort you!*

*There you will see him lying in a stable, an infant poor and languishing and feeble.*

*O wondrous love of Him our faithful shepherd who comes that we might love.*

*Then spread the news, the wonders of this night,*

*This gift of God, the radiance of His light.*

*Go forth with joy and tell to all the people: God shares our human birth,*

*And heaven He gives us here on earth.*

#### PRAYER *after* COMMUNION

#### SHARING *the* LIGHT *of* CHRIST

**ANTHEM** — *Le Sommeil de l'Enfant Jésus* - French carol, arr. Ron Jeffers

*Entre le boef et l'âne gris, dors le petit fils:  
Mille anges divins, mille séraphins  
Volent à l'entour de ce grand Dieu d'amour.*

*Entre les roses et les lys, dors le petit fils.  
Mille...*

*Entre les pastoureaux jolis, dors le petit fils.  
Mille...*

Between the ox and grey donkey, sleep, my little son.  
A thousand divine angels, a thousand seraphim,  
Hover around this great God of love

Between the roses and the lilies, sleep, my little son.  
A thousand divine angels...

Among the handsome shepherds, sleep, my little son.  
A thousand divine angels...

**HYMN** — *Silent Night, Holy Night!*

STILLE NACHT

*Silent night, holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
'round yon virgin mother and child!  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace,  
sleep in heavenly peace.*

*Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight;  
glories stream from heaven afar,  
heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia:  
Christ the Savior is born;  
Christ the Savior is born!"*

*Silent night, holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.*

*Silent night, holy night!  
Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
with the angels let us sing  
Alleluia to our King:  
Christ the Savior is born;  
Christ the Savior is born.*

**CHARGE and BLESSING**

**POSTLUDE** — *Silent Night* - arr. Franz Gruber

**WELCOME TO OUR CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**

Worship at MPC is open to everyone—if you have no church home, we invite you to begin the new year with us in worship, service, and study. We gather for worship each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. We invite you to visit us at [mpcusa.org](http://mpcusa.org) to learn more about our church.

May God’s hope, peace, joy, and love fill your heart this night and every night.

**TONIGHT’S SERVICE**

We thank all who have made this evening’s worship service possible for all who attended or visited us online. From those who decorated our sanctuary and planned the service to those who participated by reading, singing, or serving communion, all made this evening special as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Mobile giving**



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](mailto:Office@mpcusa.org) and ask that your questions be forwarded to the Stewardship Committee.



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