



*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*
ELEVENTH SUNDAY
after PENTECOST
AUGUST 9, 2026 ~ 10:30 A.M.

GATHERING

WORDS *of* WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Tom Kort

PRELUDE — *O Waly Waly* - English Folk Melody, arr. Linda Lamb

Chancel Chimes

CALL *to* WORSHIP

AK Rosenbaum, Liturgist

One: Return to the Lord with all your heart,
All: For God is gracious and merciful.
One: Through Christ, we are reconciled to God.
All: This is not our own doing, but a gift from God.
One: Come, let us worship and Praise the Lord.

HYMN — *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

HYMN TO JOY

*Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.*
*All thy works with joy surround thee; earth and heaven reflect thy rays;
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.*
*Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.*
*Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began.
Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife.
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.*

PRAYER *of* CONFESSION

Rev. Alex Lester-Abdalla

God of grace and God of glory, you sent your only son to save lost sinners. We confess that we are lost. We exchange lies for truth. We seek to be served, while you call us to be your servants. We speak unkind words and criticize others for the same sins we overlook in ourselves. Forgive us. Without your grace we will forever be lost in our foolish ways. Wash us clean and renew a right spirit within us, as silently we confess our sin.

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

PROMISE *of* FORGIVENESS

One: Listen to the promise of God. As far as the east is from the west, so far does God remove our transgressions from us. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.
All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia! Thanks be to God.

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

RESPONSIVE READING — *Psalm 28:6-9*

One: Blessed be the Lord, for he has heard the sound of my pleadings.

All: **The Lord is my strength and my shield, in him my heart trusts; so I am helped, and my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.**

One: The Lord is the strength of his people; he is the saving refuge of his anointed.

All: **O, save your people, and bless your heritage; be their shepherd, and carry them forever.**

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

TIME for YOUNG DISCIPLES

Drew Hunger

SCRIPTURE READING — *Ecclesiastes 3:4b & 2 Samuel 6:16-21*

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

I Hope You Dance

Rev. Dr. Kort

HYMN — *I Danced in the Morning*

LORD OF THE DANCE

*I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth.
At Bethlehem I had my birth.*

*Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.*

*I dance for the scribe and the Pharisee,
but they would not dance and they would not follow me.
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John.
They came with me and the dance went on.*

*Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.*

*I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame.
The holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and stripped and they hung me high,
and left me there on a cross to die.*

*Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.*

*I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black.
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,
but I am the dance and I still go on.*

*Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.*

*They cut me down and I leapt up high.
I am the life that will never, never die.
I'll live in you if you'll live in me,
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.*

*Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.*

AFFIRMATION of FAITH — *Philippians 2*

Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

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 — *Simple Gifts* - American Folk Melody, arr. Anna Laura Page

Chancel Chimes & piano

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 — *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

*Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the church in one;
holy Zion's help forever, and our confidence alone.*

*To this temple, where we call you, come, O Lord of hosts, and stay;
come, with all your loving kindness; hear your people as we pray,
and your fullest benediction shed within these walls today.*

*Here bestow on all your servants what they seek from you to gain;
what they gain from you, forever with the blessed to retain;
and hereafter in your glory evermore with you to reign.*

*Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,
laud and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one:
one in might and one in glory while unending ages run!*

CHARGE and BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Kyle St. Sauveur

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.org.*

TODAY'S CHANCEL FLOWERS

The chancel flowers are offered to the glory of God and are given in memory of Lois Wahlen by her daughters: Lee, Kathy and Sandi. The second arrangement is given "with great joy and gratitude to God for the August 3 birth of Grace Elisabeth Jackson, daughter of Sarah (Kernan) and Ryan Jackson, sister of Madison, niece of Erin and Joe Aronson, and granddaughter of Nancy and John Kernan."

REGARDING TODAY'S SERVICE

Yun Kang, our faithful organist and pianist, is in South Korea visiting her family. In her stead we welcome our multitalented bass section leader, Kyle St. Sauveur, as our pianist of today's service.

LUNCH AND LISTEN—ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Are you interested in learning more about faith and life? Have you wanted to connect with other people in the church? If so, we hope you will join us after worship next Sunday, August 16, in the conference room for a lunch and listening session. The Faith Formation committee is discerning new opportunities for parents of young children, young adults, men, and other adult groups in the church. We would love to include you in our discernment. Please RSVP by emailing Alex at alexlester-abdalla@mpcusa.org to make sure you get a lunch order!

LUNCH AND LISTEN—YOUTH CLUB

Are you passionate about the care and support of youth ministry? Are you a youth, parent, or interested in volunteering? If so, we hope you will join us after worship next Sunday, August 16, in the conference room for a lunch and listening session. The Faith Formation committee is discerning new opportunities for youth in preparation for the new program year. We would love to include you in our discernment. Please RSVP by emailing Alex at alexlester-abdalla@mpcusa.org to make sure you get a lunch order!

CELEBRATING SCOUTING AMERICA TROOP 3

Troop 3 would like to invite members of MPC, our Charter Organization, to the troop's 115th year celebration picnic. It will be held on Saturday, August 22, outside (weather permitting) by the Education Building lawn. The picnic runs from noon to 2:00 p.m. Any and all are invited. Please come and enjoy a hot dog or two. We hope to see you there!

Yours in Scouting, Bill Burgess COR,Tr3

PHISHING AND SCAM EMAILS

On occasion you may receive an email from a pastor or staff member requesting you to contact them through email only. The email usually states the subject they wish to discuss with you is "sensitive" or "personal" and you can't call them because they are in a "prayer meeting." Should you receive an email of this kind, DO NOT RESPOND TO IT. DELETE IT. These emails are not from the church. Should you be unsure if the email you received is valid, please call the church or person directly or write a NEW email to the person.

DISPOSABLE FLATWARE PACKETS FOR TASK

Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK) routinely needs to purchase more than 10,000 packets of plastic flatware to distribute with their food. If you have a supply of unopened packets at home from takeout food purchases, we will gladly take them off your hands. A basket for your donations will be on the cabinet in the narthex as you exit the sanctuary.

FOOD CENTER'S SUMMER REQUEST

Over the next few summer months, the requested food donation is whatever you may wish to donate. Items should be shelf-stable and non-perishable. Donated items should not be in glass containers. A marked shopping bin has been put in the Welcome Center to receive your donations. Thank you for your continued generosity!

LAST DAYS - DEACON'S BACKPACK DRIVE

Now is the time to help gather school supplies for our Deacons' Backpack Drive! These donations will directly support elementary students in our community who face financial hardship and need extra help preparing for the school year. A collection bin is available in the Welcome Center for donated items. Cash donations may be placed in the offering plate or sent to MPC by mail or online.

If you'd like to purchase a new backpack to fill, here's a list of requested items:

- No 2 pencils
- Black or blue pens
- 1 permanent marker
- Pencil sharpeners
- Small pack of crayons
- Small pack of colored pencils
- Pack of graph paper
- Ruler
- 2 three-subject spiral notebooks
- 5 plastic subject folders
- Pack of wide-ruled notebook paper
- Scotch tape



All backpacks will be blessed during our service on August 16 and distributed before the start of the new school year. If you have any questions, please contact Paula Marseglia at 267-303-6133 or email Paula307@comcast.net. Thank you for your generosity and for helping our local students begin the year equipped and ready to learn!

YOUTH IN MISSION TRIP 2027 - SAVE THE DATE!

If you know of any youth interested in going on a meaningful trip of service and fun, please save the date for our trip next year: July 10 to July 17, 2027. Please contact Heidi Dous at heididous@gmail.com or Pastor Alex Lester-Abdalla at alexlester-abdalla@mpcusa.org for more information or questions.

ON-LINE MEMBER DIRECTORY

MPC rolled out Realm to the congregation back in September 2025. One of the features of Realm is an on-line Member Directory that is only accessible to active members of MPC who have created a Realm log-in. At this time, all active members will be added to the directory whether you have created a log-in or not. If you do not wish to be in the directory, please contact the church office by emailing office@mpcusa.org or calling 215-295-4191. Please note that printed copies of the directory will no longer be available. If you want to access the member directory, you will need to create a Realm log-in.

Cub Scout Pack 3 & Scouts BSA Troop 3

FALL MARKET & COMMUNITY DAY

at Morrisville Presbyterian Church
Saturday, September 12th | 9am to 1pm

free admission - family friendly - all are welcome

Interested in becoming a vendor?
Contact us at fallmarket@morrisvillescouts.org

MPC Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY, August 9

10:30 a.m.	Worship Service	Sanctuary & Livestream
11:30	Fellowship Hour	Memorial Garden/Lounge
Noon	Adonai Tabernacle	Chapel

MONDAY, August 10

6:30 p.m.	Mostly Motets	Music Room
7:00	Food Center Food Packing	Room 4

TUESDAY, August 11

9:00 a.m.	Food Center Produce Prep	Room 4
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WEDNESDAY, August 12

9:00 a.m.	Food Center Distribution	Parking Lot
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THURSDAY, August 13

FRIDAY, August 14

SATURDAY, August 15

SUNDAY, August 16

10:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Backpack Blessing)	Sanctuary & Livestream
11:30	Fellowship Hour	Memorial Garden/Lounge
Noon	Adonai Tabernacle	Chapel

Want to know when a future event is taking place or want to book a room for your committee or group? Check out the MPC calendar at mpcusa.org/calendar to see when events take place and room availability.

CONTACT US MORRISVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

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