



*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*
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY
after PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

GATHERING

WORDS *of* WELCOME

Rev. Alex Lester-Abdalla

PRELUDE — *Elevation* - Marcel Dupré

Yun Kang

INTROIT — *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* - MADRID

Chancel Choir

*Come Christians, join to sing (Alleluia!, Amen!)
Loud praise to Christ our King (Alleluia!, Amen!)
Let all with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;
Praise is his gracious choice: (Alleluia!, Amen!)*

--C. H. Bateman

CALL *to* WORSHIP

Karl Helland, Liturgist

One: We lift our praise to the one who knows us.

All: We lift our praise to the one who calls us by name.

One: We lift our praise to the one who loves us.

All: We lift praise to the one true God.

One: Come, let us worship the Lord.

HYMN — *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

MADRID

*Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King: Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;
praise is his gracious choice: Alleluia! Amen!
Come, lift your hearts on high: Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky: Alleluia! Amen!
He is our guide and friend; to us he'll condescend;
his love shall never end: Alleluia! Amen!
Praise yet our Christ again: Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain: Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore his goodness we'll adore,
singing forevermore: Alleluia! Amen!*

PRAYER *of* CONFESSION

Holy God, you created the world and called it good. Forgive us for the reckless ways we have eroded and polluted the good earth. Forgive us for the ways we have eroded friendships and relationships in our own families. Forgive us for the ways we pollute your church with selfish ambitions. Remove the sin that keeps us separated from your presence. Show us how to draw closer to you so we can become ambassadors of your love and grace, as silently we confess our sin.

SILENT PRAYERS *of* CONFESSION

Here each worshiper may offer silent prayers of confession.

PROMISE *of* FORGIVENESS

One: Happy are those whose sin is forgiven. Be glad and rejoice. Let us proclaim the good news of the gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. 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

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — selections from *Psalms 16*

One: I say to the Lord, You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you.

All: I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.

One: I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

**All: Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; and my body also rests secure.
You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right
hand are pleasures forevermore.**

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM — *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* - southern folk tune, arr. Virgil Thompson

*My Shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is His Name;
In pastures fresh He makes me feed beside the living stream.
He brings my wand'ring spirit back when I forsake His ways,
And leads me, for His mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.*

*When I walk thru the shades of death, thy presence is my stay;
A word of Thy supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread;
My cup with blessings overflows; thine oil anoints my head.*

*The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;
O may Thy house be mine abode, and all my work be praise!
There would I find a settled rest while others go and come,
No more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.*

--paraphrase of *Psalms 23* by Isaac Watts

TIME for YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — *1 Timothy 4:12-16*

Rev. Dr. Tom Kort

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

What is Holding You Back?

Rev. Dr. Kort

HYMN — *Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us*

BRADBURY

*Savior, like a shepherd lead us; much we need your tender care.
In your pleasant pastures feed us; for our use your fold prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: we are yours.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: we are yours.
We are yours: in love befriend us; be the guardian of our way.
Keep your flock: from sin defend us; seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray.
"Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?"*

*You have promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;
You have mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, power to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.
Early let us seek your favor; early let us do your will.
Blessed Lord and only Savior, with your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still.*

AFFIRMATION of FAITH — from the *Heidelberg Catechism*

One: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

All: **That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ.**

A GRATEFUL HEART

Tony & Lisa Zazzu

OFFERING

Invitation to Give

Offertory Music — *The Church's One Foundation* - arr. Mark Hayes

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 — *O Master, Let Me walk with Thee*

MARYTON

*O Master, let me walk with thee in lowly paths of service free;
tell me thy secret; help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.*

*Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay, and guide them in the homeward way.*

*Teach me thy patience, still with thee in closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that triumphs over wrong.*

*In hope that sends a shining ray far down the future's broadening way;
in peace that only thou canst give, with thee, O Master, let me live.*

CHARGE and BLESSING

BENEDICTION RESPONSE — *Amen*

POSTLUDE — *Triumphal March* - Théodore Dubois

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 by Tim and Carol Carpenter in celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary. The second arrangement is given by Howard and Joan Barley in celebration of the September birthday of Joan's sister, Barbara.

HAVE SOMETHING FOR CURRENTS?

The submission deadline for the next edition of Currents is this week. It is a great opportunity to share what happened in your committee or group these past few months and what members of our congregation could look forward to as the new program year begins and into the Advent season. The fall edition will be sent out in early October. Please forward any questions or submissions to share with the congregation to Damon Miller at damonmiller@mpcusa.org.

CHANCEL FLOWERS NEEDED FOR OCTOBER

If you would like to give flowers on a Sunday in October, please contact DeeAnn Martin at 215-493-3865 or email deemar918@aol.com. The cost of an arrangement is \$37, and may be given in memory of a loved one, in celebration of a special event or in gratitude for a person, act of kindness or ministry. These flowers not only add beauty to our worship service, but they also go forward as an outreach ministry to our church family.

REALM UPDATE

Thank you to those who have logged into Realm, reviewed your information, set your privacy settings, and added your picture. We are on our way to becoming more connected! The email invitation was sent out this past Monday, please check your spam folder if you don't see anything in your inbox. To ensure it is not spam, note the email address will be from "notifications@onrealmmail.org". If you did not receive an email, then we don't have your email on record. Please contact the church office by calling 215-295-4191 or emailing office@mpcusa.org and we will update your email and get you connected.

Stop by upstairs in room 200 after worship today with any questions/problems you are having with Realm and someone will be there to answer your questions.

What is Realm?

MPC recently moved to a new kind of record keeping solution called Realm. It primarily serves the administrative needs of our staff, but it also offers some exciting opportunities to support the way members are involved with MPC! Through Realm you will be able to update your profile information, view your giving, receive notifications about upcoming events, and manage your privacy settings. These are just a few of the ways MPC members will be able to engage with the church, with more to follow in the future.

How do I access Realm?

Stay connected to MPC wherever you go by downloading the Realm Connect app for iPhone and Android devices or you can access Realm through any web browser. Through the privacy setting, you are able to select what information you want to share with other MPC members through the online Directory (address, phone, email). You are also able to add your picture to your profile. **Please note, only MPC members will have access to the online Directory.**

This powerful tool will help the congregation connect to the many ways MPC communicates pastorally, administratively, and financially.

QUESTIONS ABOUT ANNUAL REPORT?

If you have any questions regarding any item in the report, we encourage you to contact the chair of the appropriate committee. The MPC 2024-25 Annual Report is available [at this link](#) and printed copies are available in the Welcome Center. We are grateful for all the wonderful expressions of ministry in the Annual Report.

SEPTEMBER FOOD CENTER REQUEST

For the months of September, the requested item is rice. A shopping cart has been put in the Welcome Center to receive your donations. As always, thank you for your generosity!

HELP ADORN COMMUNION TABLE

Worldwide Communion will be celebrated during worship on Sunday, October 5. To highlight the international character of this service we plan to adorn the communion table using a few colorful cloths from various nations. If you have any that you have collected on your travels to foreign lands, and would like to see displayed in this way, please contact Nancy Powers at 215-295-1635 or at ngplegato@aol.com on or before Sunday, September 27.

JOIN MPC AT HISTORIC FALLSINGTON DAYS!

MPC will be hosting a booth at Fallsington Days, Saturday, October 11, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Stroll down Fallsington's Yardley Avenue to enjoy all the fun, food, crafters, vendors, and entertainment for all ages ongoing throughout the day. Ample and free parking is available at Fallsington Elementary School.

We are also looking for volunteers to greet people, provide literature, and answer questions about MPC. Shifts would be for two hours and begin at 9:30 a.m. to help with set up through 5:00 p.m. to assist breakdown. [Sign up here](#) or contact Damon Miller at damonmiller@mpcusa.org. This is a great opportunity to share with a grateful heart what makes MPC so special within our community and beyond. We hope to see you on October 11.

MPC BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

The MPC Book Discussion Group will meet Monday evenings from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. starting October 20 and spacing the discussions out six weeks to give folks more time to read!

The first reading is *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamanta. A retelling of *Genesis 34* (also known as the rape of Dinah) from Dinah's perspective. Published in 1997, the book has been enjoyed by generations of women. Perhaps you have already read it?

REGISTRATION NOW AVAILABLE FOR NOVEMBER'S WOMEN'S RETREAT

Registration is now available for the Women's Retreat being held on November 7 - 9 at the Sisters of St Joseph Center for Spirituality in Ocean Grove, NJ. Brochures with retreat details, financial assistance information, and registration form are available now in the Welcome Center. Please contact Beth Curtiss at curtissfam@gmail.com with any questions..

iPhone



Introducing 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.

Android



Need Help? email Office@mpcusa.org and ask that your questions be forwarded to the stewardship committee.

MPC Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY, September 14

9:30 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages	
10:30	Worship Service	Sanctuary & Livestream
11:30	Fellowship Time	Lounge
11:30	Realm Assistance	Room 200
Noon	Adonai Tabernacle	Room 220
Noon	Deacons Meeting	Conference Room

MONDAY, September 15

6:30 p.m.	Cub Scout Pack 3	Rooms 122 & 220
6:30	Mostly Motets	Music Room
6:30	Scout Troop 3	Fellowship Hall
7:00	Food Packing	Room 4
7:30	Trustee Meeting	Conference Room

TUESDAY, September 16

9:00 a.m.	Produce Prep	Room 4
6:00 p.m.	Outreach Committee	Zoom

WEDNESDAY, September 17

9:00 a.m.	Food Center Distribution	Parking Lot
Noon	Brown Bag Bible Study	Conference Room & Zoom
7:00 p.m.	Girl Scout Troop 2888	Room 220
7:15	Chancel Chimes Rehearsal	Room 121

THURSDAY, September 18

7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Music Room
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FRIDAY, September 19

SATURDAY, September 20

8:00 a.m.	Newtown Quilters Guild	Conference Room
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SUNDAY, September 21

9:30 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages	
10:30	Worship Service	Sanctuary & Livestream
11:30	Fellowship Time	Lounge
Noon	Adonai Tabernacle	Room 220
Noon	New Usher Training	Sanctuary

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 takes place and room availability.

CONTACT US MORRISVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

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