



*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 FEBRUARY 19, 2023  
SEVENTH SUNDAY  
after the EPIPHANY

## GATHERING

**PRELUDE** — *Prelude in G minor* - Florent Schmitt

Yun Kang

**INTROIT** — *Be Still and Know That I Am God* - Kyle St. Sauveur

Chancel Choir & Instruments

*Be still, and know that I am God!  
I am exalted among the nations,  
I am exalted in the earth.*

--Psalm 46:10

**CALL to WORSHIP** — Psalm 95:1-7

Pastor Rachel Rhodes

One: O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

**All: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

One: For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

**All: In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.**

One: The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed.

**All: O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!**

One: For he is our God,

**All: And we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.**

**HYMN** — *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*

MIT FREUDEN ZART

*Sing praise to God who reigns above,  
the God of all creation,  
the God of power, the God of love,  
the God of our salvation.  
With healing balm my soul is filled,  
and every faithless murmur stilled:  
to God all praise and glory!*

*What God's almighty power has made  
God's gracious mercy keepeth;  
by morning glow or evening shade  
God's watchful eye ne'er sleepeth.  
Within the kingdom of God's might,  
lo! all is just and all is right:  
to God all praise and glory!*

*The Lord is never far away,  
but, through all grief distressing,  
an ever-present help and stay,  
our peace and joy and blessing,  
as with a mother's tender hand  
God gently leads the chosen band:  
to God all praise and glory!*

*This all my toilsome way along  
I sing aloud thy praises,  
that all may hear the grateful song,  
my voice unwearied raises.  
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart;  
both soul and body, take your part:  
to God all praise and glory!*

**PRAYER of CONFESSION** — written by John Wurster

Pastor Alex Lester-Abdalla

God of perfect love, you continually bring forth life, transforming sadness to joy, and despair to hope. Although we are weak, you are strong. Our ways are flawed, but your ways are true. We think we are right, but you are never wrong. Forgive us, redeem us, transform us. Take away the sin that burdens us, and restore us to the people you would have us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

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

**PROMISE of FORGIVENESS**

One: Relentlessly God seeks us out. With abundant grace and boundless mercy, God seeks us out. This is good news!

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**

**FIRST SCRIPTURE READING** — *John 1:1-5*

At the beginning of everything God expressed himself. That personal expression, that word, was with God, and was God, and he existed with God from the beginning. All creation took place through him, and none took place without him. In him appeared life and this life was the light of mankind. The light still shines in the darkness and the darkness has never put it out.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**MUSIC for THOSE WHOSE REST is in the LIGHT of the LORD**

*Requiem* - John Rutter

Requiem æternam

*Requiem æternam dona eis Domine:  
et lux perpetua luceat eis.*

*Te decet hymnus, Deus in Sion,*

*et tibi reddetur votum in Jerusalem;  
exaudi orationem meam,  
ad te omnis caro veniet.*

*Kyrie, eleison!  
Christe, eleison!  
Kyrie, eleison!*

*Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,  
and may light eternal shine upon them.*

*It is fitting that a hymn should be raised  
unto Thee in Zion  
and a vow paid to Thee in Jerusalem;  
give ear to my prayer, O Lord,  
unto Thee all flesh shall come at last.*

*Lord, have mercy!  
Christ, have mercy!  
Lord, have mercy!*

## Out of the Deep

*Out of the deep have I called unto thee, O Lord.  
Lord, hear my voice.  
O let thine ears consider well the voice of my complaint.  
If thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss,  
O Lord, who may abide it?  
For there is mercy with thee, therefore shalt thou be feared.  
I look for the Lord; my soul doth wait for him; in his word is my trust.  
My soul fleeth unto the Lord  
before the morning watch, I say, before the morning watch.  
O Israël trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy,  
and with him is plenteous redemption.  
And he shall redeem Israël from all his sins.*

--Psalm 130

## Pie Jesu

*Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem,  
Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis sempiternam requiem.*

*Blessed Lord Jesus, grant them rest,  
Blessed Lord Jesus, grant them eternal rest.*

## **AFFIRMATION of FAITH** - from *A Brief Statement of Faith* (1991)

Tori Paquette

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image of every race, gender, and people, to live as one community. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## **HYMN** — *When in Our Music God is Glorified*

ENGELBERG

*When in our music God is glorified,  
and adoration leaves no room for pride,  
it is as though the whole creation cried:  
Alleluia!*

*How often, making music, we have found  
a new dimension in the world of sound,  
as worship moved us to a more profound  
Alleluia!*

*So has the church, in liturgy and song,  
in faith and love, through centuries of wrong,  
borne witness to the truth in every tongue:  
Alleluia!*

*And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night  
when utmost evil strove against the light?  
Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight:  
Alleluia!*

*Let every instrument be tuned for praise!  
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!  
And may God give us faith to sing always:  
Alleluia!*

## OFFERING

Hope Massey

Invitation to Give

Offertory Music — *Andante* from *Violin Sonata No. 2, BWV 1003*  
J.S. Bach, transcribed by Marcel Grandjany

Cheryl Cunningham, harp

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

## TIME for YOUNG DISCIPLES

### MUSIC for THOSE WHOSE REST is in the LIGHT of the LORD (continued)

*Requiem* - John Rutter

#### Sanctus

*Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth.  
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.  
Hosanna in excelsis.  
Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.  
Hosanna in excelsis.*

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and majesty.  
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.*

#### Agnus Dei

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
dona eis requiem.*

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
grant them rest.*

*Man that is born of a woman hath but a short time to live,  
and is full of misery. He cometh up, and is cut down  
like a flower; he fleeth as it were a shadow.*

*In the midst of life, we are in death;  
of whom may we seek for succor?*

*I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord;  
He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live;  
and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.*

#### The Lord is My Shepherd

*The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing.  
He shall feed me in a green pasture, and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.  
He shall convert my soul, and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his Name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me;  
Thy rod and thy staff comfort me.*

*Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me;  
Thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.  
But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;  
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

--Psalm 23

### Lux æterna

*I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me.  
Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord,  
for they rest from their labors;  
even so saith the Spirit.*

*Lux æterna luceat eis, Domine;  
Cum sanctis tuis in æternum, quia pius es.  
Requiem æternam dona eis, Domine,  
et lux perpetua luceat eis.*

*Let eternal light shine upon them, O Lord;  
with Thy saints forever, for Thou art merciful.  
Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,  
and may light perpetual shine on them.*

## **PRAYERS of THANKSGIVING and SUPPLICATION**

Maddie McCleskey

### **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.**

## **S E N D I N G**

### **HYMN — New Songs of Celebration Render**

RENDEZ À DIEU

*New songs of celebration render to God who has great wonders done;  
love sits enthroned in ageless splendor; come and adore the mighty One.  
God has made known the great salvation which all the saints with joy confess.  
God has revealed to every nation truth and unending righteousness.*

*Joyfully, heartily resounding, let every instrument and voice  
peal out the praise of grace abounding, calling the whole world to rejoice.  
Trumpets and organs, set in motion such sounds as make the heavens ring;  
all things that live in earth and ocean, sound forth the song; your praises bring.*

*Rivers and seas and torrents roaring, honor the Lord with wild acclaim;  
mountains and stones, look up adoring, and find a voice to praise God's name.  
Righteous, commanding, ever glorious, praises be sung that never cease:  
just is our God, whose truth victorious establishes the world in peace.*

## **CHARGE and BLESSING**

### **POSTLUDE — Classical Postlude - Franz Joseph Haydn**

## **THOUGHTS for REFLECTION**

- *In the midst of death, life persists, in the midst of untruth, truth persists, in the midst of darkness light persists.*  
Mahatma Gandhi
- *The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.*  
John 1:5

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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***\*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](mailto:Bulletin@MPCusa.net).***

### **ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE**

The participants in this morning's musical offerings are:

Singers: Tiun Duong, Laura Goe, Jan Johnson, Summer Kuhns (soloist), Maureen Kyle, Ashley Librizzi; Carol Carpenter, Betsy Jurey, Carolyn Landis, Nancy McHenry, Kim Neighbor, and Sandy Parker. Karl Helland, David Massey, Larry Parker, Nancy Powers; Arnould Dorgeles, Drew Hunger, Seth McHenry, Clark Martin, Eric Moyer-Harrington, Konan Noël, and Kyle St. Sauveur.

Instrumentalists: Erica Simon, flute; Beth Benson, oboe; Christine Mello, 'cello; Cheryl Cunningham, harp; Bill Trigg, timpani; Anthony DiBartolo, glockenspiel; Yun Kang, organ.

Today's Introit was commissioned by the choir and composed by Kyle St. Sauveur, a composition student at Westminster Choir College and our bass section leader.

We welcome today the many singers who, although not part of this congregation, love to sing and especially love this Requiem.

### **TODAY'S CHANCEL FLOWERS**

The chancel flowers are offered to the glory of God and are given by Curt Rimler in loving memory of his mother, Dorothea C. Rimler. The second arrangement is given in gratitude for our Chancel Choir that beautifully enriches our worship each Sunday and the voices who are sharing their talents in a special way today with "The Word in Music". We are especially grateful for our Director of Music, Tim Carpenter, who so generously gives of his time and talents to lift up the gift of music to God's glory each week. We are also so blessed with the talent of our organist Yun Kang, whose beautiful piano solos are a gift each Sunday.

### **SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER THIS TUESDAY!**

Come join us this Tuesday, February 21, for the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper being served from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. This dinner kicks off Youth Ministry's fundraising for the 2023 Youth in Mission trip to Pipestem, WV. The support our MPC community shows this outreach every year always overwhelms us. A free will offering will be accepted in lieu of purchasing tickets. Short on time? Stop in and we can assemble your supper to go!

### **JOIN US FOR LENTEN SMALL GROUPS!**

Have you ever wanted to dive into Lent a bit more than you have in the past? Or commit to something for Lent that's more spiritually meaningful than giving up chocolate? Here is your chance! Join us for our Lenten Small Groups this year and see what God might do through us and among us as we explore what it means to be "God's People Under Construction." In these groups, we'll explore saints and sinners throughout history with the help of Karen Wright Marsh's book, *Vintage Saints and Sinners: 25 Christians Who Transformed My Faith*. You'll also have a chance to enjoy time and conversation with new friends at MPC. Starting February 27, these Lenten Small Groups will meet at different times throughout each week for 5 weeks. You can sign up for the day and time that work best for you! Stop by the Communication Center today to sign up or contact the church office at 215-295-4191 or [office@mpcusa.org](mailto:office@mpcusa.org), and let's journey through Lent together!

### **CODE BLUE IS NOW A PART OF MPC!**

We have partnered with Advocates for the Homeless and Those in Need (AHTN) for this March to provide a hot meal and a cot for the night when weather conditions become dangerous for unsheltered individuals. We are for asking for volunteers to help us grocery shop, prepare meals, and on the nights that we host, serve meals. For more information or to volunteer, contact Fran Akelewicz at 908-419-4908 or [fakelewicz@gmail.com](mailto:fakelewicz@gmail.com).

### **THANK YOU FROM CUB SCOUT PACK 3**

Cub Scout Pack 3 wishes to thank the members of MPC for their overwhelming support during the Pack's Bake Sale last Sunday.

### **MPC VOLUNTEER DAY FOR HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**

Friday, March 10, has been designated as "MPC Volunteer Day" at the Habitat for Humanity's Hillcrest Avenue building site in Morrisville. We will be working outside, so you will need to dress appropriately. If you wish to volunteer, please contact Ray Hendrickson at 215-495-3114 or at [hrh1453@gmail.com](mailto:hrh1453@gmail.com) to obtain information. A link will be sent to you to create an account and register as a volunteer.

### **OUR YOUNGEST DISCIPLES NEED YOUR HELP!**

Did you know childcare is offered every Sunday morning during worship for ages 0-4 in our church Nursery? It's an incredibly important ministry in the life of our church and we need your help to keep it up and running! Thanks to the faithful work of our church leaders we have a Child Safe Policy that allows us to provide this care with the help of our Nursery Coordinator and 1-2 volunteers each week. Keep in mind you can still hear the whole service from the nursery and communion will be brought to you anytime it is being served in worship. Would you be willing to serve in this way? Our most urgent need is for volunteers in February and March, but we will take volunteers whenever they are available! If you would be willing to serve in this way, please stop by the nursery and speak with our Nursery Coordinator, Nicole Brice, or email Nicole at [nicolebrice@mpcusa.org](mailto:nicolebrice@mpcusa.org). You may also contact the Chair of the Children & Family Committee, Carol Carpenter, at [carol.w.carpenter@gmail.com](mailto:carol.w.carpenter@gmail.com). Our youngest disciples and their families will thank you!

### **CHANCEL FLOWERS NEEDED FOR MARCH**

If you would like to give an arrangement on a Sunday in March, please contact DeeAnn Martin at 215-493-3865 or email [deemar918@aol.com](mailto:deemar918@aol.com). The cost of an arrangement is \$30 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. Each Sunday these flowers add beauty to our worship service and also serve as an outreach ministry to our church family.

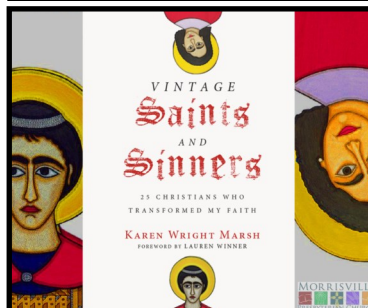
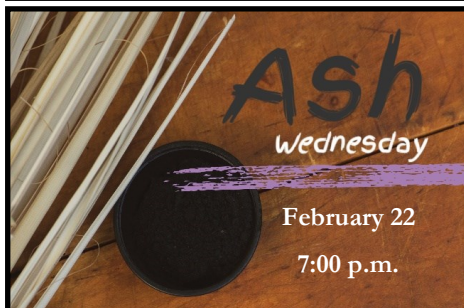
### **SYRIA/TURKEY RELIEF FUND**

A 7.8 magnitude earthquake near the Turkey-Syria border struck in the early hours of February 6, 2023. This earthquake is estimated to affect more than 23 million people and to date, it is estimated that 36,000 have perished! The [Presbyterian Disaster Assistance](#) (PDA Presbyterian Disaster Assistance) is working to aid those impacted by this earthquake and is so grateful for the outpouring of prayers and calls from congregations (MPC!) and individuals (You!) asking how they can help! MPC has assisted the PDA for years and now is a most important time to reach out to our brothers and sisters in Christ being affected by this awful disaster! The MPC Outreach Committee has already made the commitment to assist the PDA with this disaster, so might you also help? You may use a check made out to MPC and place "Syria/Turkey Relief" on the comment line. There will also be baskets in the sanctuary labelled "Disaster Relief". MPC has always been a most giving church.

### **WEEKDAY NURSERY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSES**

MPC Weekday Nursery School is enrolling for the 2023-2024 school year now. The nursery school serves children aged 2.7-4 years old. Please join us at one of our Open Houses to learn what we are all about on March 16 from 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.; and April 1 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Visit [Weekdaynursery.org](http://Weekdaynursery.org) for more information!

**Start your Lenten journey with us.**



## MPC Weekly Calendar

### SUNDAY, February 19

9:30 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages	
<b>10:30</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
<b>10:30</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>	<b>Livestream</b>
11:30	Fellowship Hour -	Lounge
	Hosted by: Nominating Committee	
11:30	Girl Scout Cookie Sale	Communication Center
11:45	Nominating Comm.	Conference Room

### MONDAY, February 20

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 Meeting	

### TUESDAY, February 21 - Shrove Tuesday

Noon	Deborah Circle	Lounge
12:30 p.m.	Staff Meeting	Conference Room
5:30	Shrove Tuesday	Fellowship Hall
	Pancake Supper	
6:00	Cub Scout Pack 3	Room 220

### WEDNESDAY, February 22 - Ash Wednesday

9:00 a.m.	Food Center	Parking Lot
Noon	Brown Bag & Bible Study	Zoom
1:00 p.m.	Prayer Meeting	Zoom
6:00	Cub Scout Pack 3	Room 220

### WEDNESDAY, February 22 (continued)

7:00 p.m.	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	<b>Sanctuary &amp; Livestream</b>
	<b>Worship Service</b>	
7:00	Girl Scout Troop 2888	Room 220
7:15	Chancel Chimes	Chapel

### THURSDAY, February 23

10:00 a.m.	Clothing Center	Room 4
6:00 p.m.	Oakville Girl Scouts	Fellowship Hall
7:00	Chancel Choir	Music Room

### FRIDAY, February 24

	Women's Retreat begins	Offsite
6:30 p.m.	AA Meeting	Lounge

### SATURDAY, February 25

	Women's Retreat continues	Offsite
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### SUNDAY, February 26 - First Sunday in Lent

	Women's Retreat Ends	
8:30 a.m.	God's Thunder Rehearsal	Chapel
9:30	Sunday School for all ages	
<b>10:30</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
<b>10:30</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>	<b>Livestream</b>
11:30	Fellowship Hour -	Lounge
	Hosted by: Personnel Committee	
11:30	Girl Scout Cookie Sale	Communication Center
11:45	Nominating Comm.	Conference Room
11:45	Teen Choir	Music Room

## Introducing mobile giving

iPhone



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

## CONTACT US

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