



*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 24, 2025

## GATHERING

### WORDS *of* WELCOME

Rev. Alex Lester-Abdalla

### PRELUDE — *All the Way My Savior Leads Me* - Adam Mason

Yun Kang

### CALL *to* WORSHIP

Nancy Kernan, Liturgist

One: I will bless the Lord at all times;

**All: His Praise shall continually be in my mouth.**

One: My soul makes it boast in the Lord, let the humble hear and be glad.

**All: O Magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.**

One: Come, let us worship the Lord.

### HYMN — *Morning Has Broken*

BUNESSAN

*Morning has broken like the first morning;  
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!*  
*Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dewfall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.*  
*Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,  
born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation; praise every morning,  
God's recreation of the new day!*

### PRAYER *of* CONFESSION

God of grace and God of glory, you sent your son to save lost sinners. We confess that we are lost. We confess that we are sinners. Forgive our pride and arrogance. Forgive how quickly we speak harsh and hurtful words. Forgive our indifference to those you have called us to serve. Have mercy upon us as silently we confess our sin.

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

### PROMISE *of* FORGIVENESS

One: For God so loved the world, He sent his son to us. Not to condemn us or punish us, but to love and save us. Believe the good news of the gospel.

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Alleluia! Praise the Lord.**

### 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 — *Psalm 111:1-4*

One: Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

**All: Great are the deeds of the Lord! They are studied by all who delight in them.**

One: Full of majesty and splendor is the work of the Lord, whose righteousness endures forever.

**All: Gracious and full of compassion is the Lord, whose marvelous deeds are to be remembered.**

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## ANTHEM — *I Dream I See a Just World* - Ennio Morricone

Wendy Yazujian

*Nella fantasia io vedo un mondo giusto*

*Lì tutti vivono in pace e in onestà*

*Io sogno d'anime che sono sempre libere come le nuvole che volano*

*Pien d'umanità in fondo all'anima*

*Nella fantasia io vedo un mondo chiaro*

*Lì anche la notte è meno oscura*

*Io sogno d'anime che sono sempre libere come le nuvole che volano*

*Pien d'umanità in fondo all'anima*

*Nella fantasia esiste un vento caldo*

*Che soffia sulle città, come amico*

*Io sogno d'anime che sono sempre libere come le nuvole che volano*

*Pien d'umanità in fondo all'anima*

I dream I see a just world

There everyone lives in peace and honesty

I dream of souls who are always free like clouds flying

Full of humanity at the bottom of the soul

I dream I see a clear world

Even the night is less dark there

I dream of souls who are always free like clouds flying

Full of humanity at the bottom of the soul

I dream there is a warm wind

Blowing over the cities, as a friend

I dream of souls who are always free like clouds flying

Full of humanity at the bottom of the soul

## TIME for YOUNG DISCIPLES

### SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — *Matthew 23:27-28*

Rev. Dr. Tom Kort

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## SERMON

*Spiritual Duffers*

Rev. Dr. Kort

## HYMN — *O Jesus, I Have Promised*

ANGEL'S STORY

*O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;  
be thou forever near me, my Master and my friend;  
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,  
nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.*

*O let me feel thee near me! The world is ever near:  
I see the sights that dazzle; the tempting sounds I hear.  
My foes are ever near me, around me and within;  
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer and shield my soul from sin.*

*O let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still,  
above the storms or passion, the murmurs of self-will;  
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;  
O speak, and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.*

*O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee  
that where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be.  
And, Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;  
O give me grace to follow, my Master and my friend.*

## AFFIRMATION *of* FAITH — from 1 John 4:27-28

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

## 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 — *All to Jesus, I Surrender* - Winfield Weeden

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 — *Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing*

SICILIAN MARINERS

*Lord, dismiss us with your blessing;  
fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
let us each, your love possessing,  
triumph in redeeming grace.  
O refresh us, O refresh us,  
traveling through this wilderness.*

*Thanks we give and adoration  
for your gospel's joyful sound;  
may the fruits of your salvation  
in our hearts and lives abound.*

*Ever faithful, ever faithful  
to your truth may we be found.*

*Savior, when your love shall call us,  
from our struggling pilgrim way,  
let no fear of death appall us,  
glad your summons to obey.  
May we ever, may we ever  
reign with you in endless day.*

### CHARGE *and* BLESSING

### POSTLUDE — *A Joyous Song of Praise* - Samuel Wesley

## 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](mailto:Bulletin@MPCusa.org).*

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

The chancel flowers are offered to the glory of God and are given in loving memory of Herbert R. Young by his wife, Joan Young, and children Bob Young and Linda (Young) Mocolak. The second arrangement is given in loving memory of Jack and Jeanne Durand Burgess by J'Ann and John Jr.

### **CHANCEL CHOIR AND CHANCEL CHIMES RESUME REHEARSALS!**

The Chancel Choir begins rehearsing regularly again on Thursday, September 4, at 7:00 p.m. in the music room. Chancel Chimes' first fall rehearsal will be Wednesday, September 10, at 7:15 p.m. in room 121. If you are interested in joining either (or both!) of these groups, please contact Tim Carpenter at [timcarpenter@mpcusa.org](mailto:timcarpenter@mpcusa.org) or text 267-243-3257.

### **HELP NEEDED FOR COMMUNITY MEAL**

The next scheduled Community Meal is Friday, August 29. Please note, this is the Friday before the Labor Day weekend. There are many ways help can be provided for this meaningful mission. Would you be interested in hosting this with your committee, friends or family; be interested in lending a hand that evening; have a great dinner recipe you'd like to share; like to bake some dessert for the evening; like to share some items from your overflowing vegetable garden for our guests to enjoy? We appreciate any and all help! Email [MPCCodeBlue@gmail.com](mailto:MPCCodeBlue@gmail.com) or call Dawn Flook at 215-962-9542 to sign up.

### **LOOKING FOR SUNDAY ADULT EDUCATION TOPICS**

Do you have a topic you are passionate about that you would like to share with Adult Education group? Adult Ed is looking for members of the congregation who would like to share with the class an experience they have had which helped shape their faith, a book they have read that enhanced their faith, or an organization they belong to which helps fulfill the mission of the church. If you would like to share with the class for one or more sessions, please contact Christopher Bannister at [bannistercr@gmail.com](mailto:bannistercr@gmail.com) or 401-932-3619.

### **SUNDAY ADULT ED WILL BEGIN ON SEPTEMBER 7**

This year the Adult Education on Sundays will be using a curriculum titled *The Present Word; Judah, from Isaiah to Exile*. This curriculum will help the class to see the hand of God in our own lives and all human affairs. It will provide a base for the weekly discussions, provide opportunities for multiple leaders, and provide continuity for the fall semester. It also will allow for a departure into other subjects throughout the year.



### **BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY BEGINS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**

Brown Bag Bible Study will be continuing with their discussions of Luke by venturing into the Book of Acts. Rev. Dr. Carter Lester will be leading our weekly discussions. The book to start will be *Acts for Everyone, Part One* (ISBN 13:9780664266424) by N. T. Wright. This volume covers chapters 1-12 of Acts. There is also a *Part Two* (ISBN # 13: 9780664268725) which covers the remainder of the Book of Acts. Both books are available from a variety of sources such as [PCUSASStore.com](http://PCUSASStore.com), [Amazon](http://Amazon.com), or [ChristianBook.com](http://ChristianBook.com). If you need assistance in acquiring a book, please contact Christopher Bannister at [bannistercr@gmail.com](mailto:bannistercr@gmail.com).

### **REBECCA CIRCLE STARTS SEPTEMBER 8**

Looking for a way to share faith, fun and fellowship? Come give Rebecca Circle a try! We meet in the lounge, September through May, on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Our programs range from spiritual, informative, hands on, to just plain fun. Come as you are. No experience necessary. All women of MPC are welcome. For information call or text Jen Jones at 215-962-3655.

### **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. The Rev. Dr. Anne Stewart from Princeton Seminary will be our leader. MPC women are blessed to have retreats subsidized by a fund established in memory of Dorothea Scheidemantel by her daughter, Sally. Not only does this fund greatly reduce the cost to attend the retreat, it also offers two scholarships that can be used to offset expenses related to retreat participation such as child care, registration fee, or transportation. Brochures with retreat details and registration forms are available now in the Welcome Center. We are limited to 25 attendees. If you have questions, please contact Beth Curtiss at [curtissfam@gmail.com](mailto:curtissfam@gmail.com).

### **SUMMER FOOD CENTER REQUEST**

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

### **HELP KEEP BLESSING BOXES FULL**

At the bottom of the MPC parking lot near W. Trenton Ave, on the property of the Ivins Outreach Center, you will see two small structures resembling small houses. These are small community-based boxes filled with essential items such as non-perishable foods, toiletries/hygiene products, beverages and baby supplies. These boxes are placed in easily accessible locations with the sole purpose of helping those facing financial hardship. The idea is simple: "Take what you need, leave what you can."

These Blessing Boxes rely on the generosity of individuals to stock them with items that can make a significant difference in the lives of struggling families. It's not just about providing food or basic necessities; it's about spreading a sense of community, compassion and kindness. These boxes create a space where people can come together to help one another, fostering a strong sense of unity within a community.

To date, only a handful of people stock the boxes, and we are asking that you consider adding items to the box when you are able. Individual size portions are best, such as:

- Protein/power/breakfast bars
- Packages of peanut butter or cheese crackers, or any crackers
- Ramen noodles
- Microwavable individual cups of soup, mac and cheese, or Chef Boyardee cups
- Applesauce or fruit cups (if you have plastic spoons, add those)
- Canned foods, but the pop top cans are best, of fruit, soup, stew, vegetables, tuna fish
- Bottles of water or some other beverage
- Hygiene items, such as toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, soap, shampoo, chap stick, tissues, or wet wipes
- Small individual size bags of chips, cookies, or snack items



# CONGREGATIONAL PICNIC - SEPTEMBER 7



## *With a Grateful Heart*

Join our MPC family immediately following worship on Sunday, September 7th for a Rally Day Picnic celebrating our 2025 stewardship theme, "With a Grateful Heart".

Festivities will include delicious potluck food, fun music, face painting and games for children, a fabulous pie eating contest that promises not to disappoint, and lots more! Come make new friends, laugh out loud, enjoy heartfelt fellowship for all ages, enjoy our gorgeous new Memorial Garden, and make memories that will last a lifetime!

Attendees are invited to bring a side dish or dessert to share. The main dish and drinks will be provided. Sign up in the Welcome Center or contact the church office by calling 215-295-4191 or emailing [office@mpcusa.org](mailto:office@mpcusa.org).

Please contact Nancy McHenry at 215-514-9685 by Thursday, Sept. 4, if you want to participate in the pie-eating contest!



**Plug into**

**MPC &**

**be involved!**

Check for updates in  
bulletins & emails!

Visit [mpcusa.org](http://mpcusa.org) &

follow us on

Facebook & Instagram

Rebecca Circle

Brown Bag

Chancel Choir

Clothing Center

Code Blue

Adult Sunday School

Chancel Chimes

Food Center

Youth Club

Community

Deborah Circle

**and more!**

# Introducing Realm!

## *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.**

## *How do I get started to join Realm?*

Soon you will receive an email from Morrisville Presbyterian Church inviting you to use your email address as your login and create a password. To ensure it is not spam, note the email address will be from "notifications@onrealmmail.org". If you have any trouble or questions, stop by the Conference Room after worship on September 14 and someone will be there to answer your questions. If you are unable to attend, contact the church office by calling 215-295-4191 or emailing office@mpcusa.org and your message will be forwarded for someone to assist you.

This powerful tool will help the congregation connect to the many ways MPC communicates pastorally, administratively, and financially. Look for your email and join us!

## **WELCOME KEVIN SUBERS, MPC'S NEW COORDINATOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**



MPC is pleased to welcome Kevin Subers, who has joined the staff of MPC as the Coordinator of Christian Education.

Kevin has more than a decade of experience in children, youth, and adult ministry in several different church settings. He is a trained Godly Play Instructor and holds a certification in vocational ministry from Princeton Theological Seminary. Kevin also holds a Master's Degree in Social Work from Temple University and is an ordained ruling elder in the Presbyterian Church USA.

He believes that children and youth already possess an inherent spirituality and the best way to engage in faith formation is through play, curiosity, story telling, and imagination. He is excited to support children, youth, families, and teachers at MPC in their intergenerational journey of faith. Kevin believes that offering thoughtful and engaging Christian Education across generations is critical in equipping the church to faithfully follow Jesus during times of political and economic

uncertainty.

At his day job, Kevin is a clinical social worker at a Federally Qualified Health Center in Philadelphia. He works within an integrated care team providing health and mental health care to patients regardless of their ability to pay.

Kevin, his spouse Shannon, their son Micah, and their terrier labrador mix Chloe live nearby in Morrisville Borough. In his free time Kevin enjoys watching baseball, going on bike rides along the Delaware Canal towpath, and reading broadly on topics of theology, faith, history, economics, and engaging in causes for social and economic justice.

## SUPPORT ADOPT A SOUTH AFRICAN PRE-SCHOOL

Adopt a South African Pre-School (ASAP) will be holding a yard sale on Saturday September 6 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at 156 Pine Lane, Yardley, PA. MPC Outreach Committee recognizes ASAP as a worthy cause and is contributing to support their mission. This program establishes libraries of educational toys in South Africa and is training teachers to use them, turning informal daycares into preschools. Come for the deals or to donate to this impactful cause.

# YARD SALE EXTRAVAGANZA

## TO BENEFIT ADOPT A SOUTH AFRICAN PRESCHOOL (ASAP)

### Event Details

**Date:** Saturday, September 6th, 2025

**Time:** 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

**Location:** 156 Pine Lane, Yardley, PA

**Rain Date:** Saturday, September 13th, 2025



**DONATION DROP-OFF ANYTIME ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH (156 PINE L., YARDLEY)**

## WHY??

Why Donate, Shop, and Support ASAP to:

- Clean out your garage, attic, or closet and donate items you don't need!
- Give pre-loved items a second life, reduce waste, and help the environment!
- Find that perfect, irresistible thing at the right price!
- Feel great by helping educate at-risk South African preschoolers and teachers!

## Our Mission

- Donors are giving 11,500 children in impoverished South African communities the chance to learn through play—many have never held a toy before!
- ASAP establishes libraries of educational toys and is turning 227 informal daycares into preschools.
- Since 2020, 1,100 women are becoming teachers, not just babysitters. Help us expand our reach! [www.adoptasouthafricanpreschool.org](http://www.adoptasouthafricanpreschool.org) (A 3-minute home page video tells the story.)

## Special FEATURES

- Free Lemonade or Iced Tea while you browse
- Raffle Prizes! Those who donate or purchase items enter a raffle for beautiful, handmade South African items.
- For your convenience, we accept cash, check, or a donation on the website: [www.adoptasouthafricanpreschool.org](http://www.adoptasouthafricanpreschool.org)

## Spread THE WORD!

Tell your friends, family, and co-workers! The more, the merrier. Share this event on social media, local community boards, and with anyone looking for a fun and fruitful Saturday.

## See You **THERE!**

We can't wait to welcome you to our Adopt a South African Preschool yard sale. Whether you come for the deals, the good company, or the chance to donate to an impactful cause, we promise a feel-good Saturday! And just 4 minutes away is the Yardley Friends Meeting, same-day yard sale!

For questions, or more details text or phone:  
Nancy Schongalla 267-974-5253  
Or email: [Nancy.Schongalla@gmail.com](mailto:Nancy.Schongalla@gmail.com)



## YOUTH IN MISSION TRIP '26 - 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 11 to July 18, 2026. For more information or questions please contact Dan Jones or Pastor Alex Lester-Abdalla at [alexlester-abdalla@mpcusa.org](mailto:alexlester-abdalla@mpcusa.org).

### MPC Weekly Calendar

#### **SUNDAY, August 24**

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

11:30 Fellowship  
11:45 Teacher Training  
Noon Adonai Tabernacle

Sanctuary &  
Livestream  
Lounge  
Conference Room  
Room 220

#### **MONDAY, August 25**

6:30 p.m. Mostly Motets  
7:00 Food Packing  
7:00 Cub Scout Pack 3  
7:00 Session Meeting

Music Room  
Room 4  
Room 220  
Conference Room

#### **TUESDAY, August 26**

9:00 a.m. Produce Prep

Room 4

#### **WEDNESDAY, August 27**

9:00 a.m. Food Center Distribution      Parking Lot

#### **THURSDAY, August 28**

#### **FRIDAY, August 29**

4:00 p.m. Community Meal      Fellowship Hall  
Prep & Serve

#### **SATURDAY, August 30**

#### **SUNDAY, August 31**

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Sanctuary &  
Livestream

Noon Adonai Tabernacle

Room 220

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

### **CONTACT US**

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