



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 MARCH 13, 2022
SECOND SUNDAY
in LENT

GATHERING

PRELUDE — *Rondo on the tune RESTORATION* – arr. Timothy Carpenter

Chancel Chimes

CALL to WORSHIP

Mark Schnurr

One: What does the Lord require of you?

All: To do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.

One: What does God command of us?

All: To love God with all our heart, and all our soul, and all our mind, and all our strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

One: God does not call us to ease or to comfort.

All: But to presence, and abundance, and grace in our struggle.

One: Let us worship the God who believes in us, and trusts in us, and abides with us.

All: Let us worship the God who will ask much of us, but will be beside us every step of the way. Let us worship God together!

HYMN — *The Lord Is God*

AZMON

*The Lord is God, the Lord alone! Give honor, thanks, and praise
to God, the maker of all things and giver of our days.*

*With all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and might,
O people, love the Lord your God, the source of truth and light.*

*At night or day, at home, away, together and apart,
O children, take these holy words and keep them in your heart.*

*The Lord is God, the Lord alone! Give honor, thank, and praise
to God, the maker of all things and giver of our days.*

PRAYER of CONFESSION

Pastor Alex Lester-Abdalla

You asked for my hands, O God, that you might use them for your purpose. I gave them for a moment, then withdrew them, for the work was hard. You asked for my mouth to speak out against injustice. I gave you a whisper that I might not be accused. You asked for my eyes to see the pain of poverty. I closed them, for I did not want to see. You asked for my life, that you might work through me. I gave a small part, that I might not get too involved. Lord, forgive my calculated efforts to serve you—only when it is convenient for me to do so, only in those places where it is safe to do so, and only with those who make it easy to do so. O God, forgive me, renew me, send me out as a usable instrument, that I might take seriously the meaning of your cross.

SILENT PRAYERS of CONFESSION

Here each worshiper may offer silent prayers of confession.

PROMISE of FORGIVENESS

One: People of God, hear the good news concerning the love and forgiveness of God: *“As far as the east is from the west, so far does God remove our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him; for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.”* And so, together 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

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — *Mark 12:28-34*

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, 'Which commandment is the first of all?' Jesus answered, 'The first is, "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second is this, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." There is no other commandment greater than these.' Then the scribe said to him, 'You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that "he is one, and besides him there is no other"; and "to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength", and "to love one's neighbour as oneself",—this is much more important than all whole burnt-offerings and sacrifices.' When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' After that no one dared to ask him any question.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM — *Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated*— Craig Courtney

Chancel Choir

Text based on hymn "Take My Life" located on page 4.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — *Deuteronomy 6:1-9*

Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the ordinances—that the Lord your God charged me to teach you to observe in the land that you are about to cross into and occupy, so that you and your children and your children's children may fear the Lord your God all the days of your life, and keep all his decrees and his commandments that I am commanding you, so that your days may be long. Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe them diligently, so that it may go well with you, and so that you may multiply greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, has promised you.

Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of the Lord will stand forever.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Take My Moments & My Days

Pastor Rachel Rhodes

HYMN — *Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart*

MORECAMBE

*Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
wean it from earth; through all its pulses move;
stoop on my weakness, might as thou art,
and make me love thee as I ought to love.*

*I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,
no angel visitant, no opening skies;
but take the dimness of my soul away.*

*Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King;
all, all thine own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?*

*I see thy cross; there teach my heart to cling.
O let me seek thee, and O let me find!*

*Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh.
Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,
to check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh.
Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.*

*Teach me to love thee as thine angels love,
one holy passion filling all my frame;
the baptism of the heaven-descended Dove,
my heart an altar, and thy love the flame.*

AFFIRMATION of FAITH — from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

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. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

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 — *Variations on the tune MARTYDOM* - arr. Timothy Carpenter

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

SENDING

HYMN — *Take My Life*

HENDON

*Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.*

*Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee,
swift and beautiful for thee.*

*Take my voice and let me sing
always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee,
filled with messages from thee.*

*Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use
every power as thou shalt choose,
every power as thou shalt choose.*

*Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be my royal throne.*

*Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.*

POSTLUDE — *Postlude in B flat* - arr. Michael Ryan

Yun Kang

QUESTIONS for REFLECTION

- What could it look like to offer your moments and your days to God?
- How might God be calling you to do this more faithfully?

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.net.***

LENTEN MISSION PROJECT

This Lenten season we are collecting items to make a birthday cake for our Food Center clients. If you are able, we are asking you to fill a bag with the following items: cake mix, tub of icing, candles, and sprinkles for decorating. Bags can be dropped off in the Communication Center before/after Sunday worship, any Monday night from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. or any Tuesday morning from 9:00 -11:00 a.m. Thank you for helping to care for our neighbors!

UKRAINE RELIEF FUND

The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is working to aid those impacted by the war in Ukraine, 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 war. The MPC Outreach Committee has already made the commitment to assist the PDA, so might you also help? You may write a check made out to MPC and place "Ukraine Relief" on the comment line, or donate online at mpcusa.org/give and notate "Ukraine Relief" in the notes. There will also be baskets in the Sanctuary labelled "Ukraine Relief". Please visit pda.pcusa.org/situation/Ukraine to know more about PDA's efforts and to give directly to PDA for help in Ukraine.

... beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks.... - Isaiah 2:4

DEBORAH CIRCLE MEETING

Deborah Circle will meet tomorrow, Monday, March 14, at noon in the Lounge. As a reminder, masks are required for all attending.

IN-PERSON EDUCATION AND MUSIC HAS RETURNED!

We have returned to in-person worship and music programs, as well as most education programs. Below you will also find specific updates for each activity.

EDUCATION

- Pre-K through High School Sunday School classes have returned to in-person sessions from 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.
- Confirmation Class is meeting in-person from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- For the time being, Adult Sunday School will continue to meet over Zoom from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

If you would like to be added to the Adult Education email distribution list or if you have any questions about Children's Sunday School or Confirmation Class, please be in touch with Pastor Alex at alexlester-abdalla@mpcusa.net.

MUSIC

- Chancel Choir (Adult Choir) has returned to in-person rehearsals.
- Teen Choir rehearsal has returned after worship.
- Children's Music has returned during worship.
- God's Thunder (Youth Handbell Choir) returned for in-person rehearsals.

If you would like more information about any of our choir programs, please be in touch with Music Director Tim Carpenter, at timcarpenter@mpcusa.net.

Lenten Sermon Series—"Take My Life"



Today leading up to Palm Sunday, join us during worship for our Lenten Sermon Series which will be led by our pastors based on the hymn, "Take My Life." Each week we will discover what it means to give to God our moments & days, hands & feet, voice & lips, will & heart and our love & whole self.

MPC Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY, March 13 - Second Sunday in Lent

9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School	via Zoom
9:00	Confirmation Class	Room 200
9:30	Pre-K - High School Sunday School	
10:30	Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:30	Worship Service	Livestream
11:30	Teen Choir	Music Room

MONDAY, March 14

Noon	Deborah Circle	Lounge
6:30 p.m.	Mostly Motets	Sanctuary
7:00	Boy Scout Troop 3	Fellowship Hall
7:00	Rebecca Circle	Lounge
7:00	Trustees Meeting	

TUESDAY, March 15

6:00 p.m.	Cub Scout Pack 3	Fellowship Hall
6:00	Pack 3 - Webelos	Room 104
6:30	Alcoholics Anonymous	Room 220

WEDNESDAY, March 16

9:00 a.m.	Food Center	Parking Lot
Noon	Brown Bag & Bible Study	Conference Room
6:00 p.m.	Youth Club	Fellowship Hall
7:00	God's Thunder Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:00	Girl Scout Troop 2888	Room 220
7:00	Ivins Outreach Center Board Meeting	Lounge
7:30	Chancel Chimes Rehearsal	Sanctuary

THURSDAY, March 17

10:00 a.m.	Clothing Center	Room 4
Noon	Alcoholics Anonymous	Room 220
6:30 p.m.	Oakville Girl Scouts	Room 220
7:00	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary

FRIDAY, March 18

6:00 p.m.	Pack 3 - Wolf Den	Fellowship Hall
7:00	AA Meeting	Room 220

SATURDAY, March 19

8:00 a.m.	Cub Scout Pinewood Derby	Fellowship Hall
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SUNDAY, March 20 - Third Sunday in Lent

9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School	via Zoom
9:00	Confirmation Class	Room 200
9:30	Pre-K - High School Sunday School	
10:30	Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:30	Worship Service	Livestream
11:30	Teen Choir	Music Room

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