



*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 MAY 1, 2022
THIRD SUNDAY of EASTER

GATHERING

PRELUDE — *Prelude in Eb major* - Alexandre Guilmant

Yun Kang

CALL to WORSHIP

Jill Monroe-Dillon

One: Children of God, if you lift your net and it is empty, come here!

All: We'll cast it out again into Christ's abundance.

One: If you open your eyes but do not recognize the Holy One, come here!

All: We'll find the Risen Christ here among us.

One: If your life is filled with mourning, come here!

All: Christ is leading a dance of joy.

One: Come here, people of God!

All: Let us give blessing and honor and glory to God!

HYMN — *Lift High the Cross*

CRUCIFER

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.*

*Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod,
the Lamb victorious, Christ, the Son of God.
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.*

*All newborn servants of the Crucified
bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died.
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.*

*O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
your death has brought us life eternally.
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.*

*So shall our song of triumph ever be:
praise to the Crucified for victory.
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.*

PRAYER of CONFESSION

Pastor Alex Lester-Abdalla

Gracious and merciful God, forgive us when we fail to see you in the face of a stranger, the voice of a neighbor, or the cry of a person in need. Forgive us when we are so consumed with our own stories that we forget the truth of the Easter story. Forgive us when we are quick to judge and slow to act, quick to speak and slow to listen, quick to fear and slow to care. Break into our lives, God of surprises, and grant us the faith to recognize you.

SILENT PRAYERS of CONFESSION

Here each worshiper may offer silent prayers of confession.

PROMISE *of* FORGIVENESS

One: Beloved church, the mercy of the risen Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. Christ meets us wherever we are and says "Follow me." As we seek to follow the risen Christ in our words and actions, let us give thanks and proclaim the good news of the Gospel:

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.*

L I T U R G Y *o f* t h e W O R D

PRAYER *for* ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING — *Psalms 30*

One: I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up, and did not let my foes rejoice over me. O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.

All: **O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol, restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.**

One: Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name. For his anger is but for a moment; his favour is for a lifetime.

All: **Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.**

One: As for me, I said in my prosperity, 'I shall never be moved.' By your favour, O Lord, you had established me as a strong mountain; you hid your face; I was dismayed.

All: **To you, O Lord, I cried, and to the Lord I made supplication:**

One: 'What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the Pit? Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness? Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me! O Lord, be my helper!'

All: **You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, so that my soul may praise you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.**

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING — *John 21:1-19*

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, 'Children, you have no fish, have you?' They answered him, 'No.' He said to them, 'Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the lake. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.' So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, 'Who are you?' because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the

bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Tend my sheep.' He said to him the third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, 'Do you love me?' And he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.' (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, 'Follow me.'

One: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Some Things Never Change

Pastor Rachel Rhodes

HYMN — *Will You Come and Follow Me*

KELVINGROVE

*"Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"*

*"Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?"*

*"Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?"*

*"Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"*

*Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
This I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.*

AFFIRMATION of FAITH — *Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING

Invitation to Give

Offertory Music — *This Is My Father's World* - Terra Beata

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.*

SACRAMENT of the LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

PRAYER of GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

THE BREAKING of the BREAD

COMMUNION of the PEOPLE

HYMN during COMMUNION — *Let Us Break Bread Together* - arr. Wayne Howorth

Chancel Choir

*Let us break bread together on our knees;
let us break bread together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me*

*Let us drink wine together on our knees;
let us drink wine together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me*

*Let us praise God together on our knees;
let us praise God together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me*

PRAYER after COMMUNION

ANTHEM — *O Taste and See* - Ralph Vaughan-Williams

*O taste and see how gracious the Lord is;
Blest is the one who trusteth in him.*

--Psalm 34:8

S E N D I N G

HYMN — *Be Thou My Vision*

SLANE

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.*

*Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
thou mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.*

*High King of Heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

POSTLUDE — *Postlude in D major* - Caleb Simper

QUESTION *for* REFLECTION

- How can you love Jesus by putting your faith into action?

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.***

MPC CLOTHING CENTER PARTNERS WITH CUB PACK 3

The MPC Clothing Center will be open for your shopping pleasure on Saturday, May 7, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in conjunction with the Cub Scout Mondo Yard Sale. This will give you, the congregation, an opportunity to come in and see what wonderful things we have to offer at a very "affordable" price. As always, all proceeds benefit those in and around our community. See you there.

CHANCEL FLOWERS NEEDED FOR MAY

Once again our Flower Ministry is serving our church family. If you would like to donate a flower arrangement for a Sunday in May, please contact DeeAnn Martin by phone at 215-493-3865 or via email to deemar918@aol.com. Not only do these flowers add beauty to our Sunday worship service, but they also provide a caring outreach as they are delivered to members who are unable to attend worship or are going through a difficult time. Each arrangement is \$30 and may given in memory of a loved one, in celebration of someone or a special event, or in gratitude for a ministry or act of kindness.

POSTAL FOOD DRIVE - MAY 14

After a two-year hiatus, the National Letter Carriers' Food Drive is back! Help is needed on Saturday, May 14 to sort and box food donations at the Morrisville YMCA, and then bring them to MPC. The Food Center benefits greatly from the food that is collected. Please consider helping out with this community wide effort. Sign up at the "Food Center" tab at MPCusa.org under the "Outreach & Mission" listing. Email questions to MPCfoodcenter@gmail.com.

APPLICATIONS DUE FRIDAY! MPC COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Morrisville Presbyterian Church is offering six scholarships for the 2022-2023 School Year to graduating high school seniors and college students. Interested students may learn more information about each scholarship, the criteria for each, and obtain a scholarship application at mpcusa.org under the "Quick Links".

The deadline to submit applications (completed application and one letter of reference) is Friday, May 6, 2022. Applications should be submitted to office@mpcusa.org using "Scholarship Application" in the reference line. Applications can also be mailed to or dropped off at the church office at 771 Pennsylvania Ave., Morrisville, PA 19067 by the deadline. Please mark "Scholarship Application" on the envelope.

Scholarships will be awarded on Sunday, June 12 during worship service and attendance is encouraged. Recipients will be notified prior to the worship service.

BOOK DONATIONS

Book Distributions have reopened, weather permitting (i.e. no rain), but **will be held only on the first Wednesday of the month at least during April and May.** The sorting of donated books by appropriate reading level is taking longer than expected and the hope is to provide additional distribution days after May once the sorting process has become more familiar.

We are well stocked with books, but need volunteers to help during distributions on Wednesdays from 9:00-11:30 a.m., by giving clients bags and creating a welcoming atmosphere, distributing Bibles and dictionaries to clients waiting in the car line, answering clients' questions, and keeping the books in good order. Spanish speakers are especially welcome.

Thank you to the Congregation for the generous book donations made this past year. We do not need books for adults right now except for Bibles, books on the Civil War, and very recent (past 2-3 years) best sellers. We need books for children from birth to about third grade, Harry Potter volumes, Bibles, and children's Bible stories. Coloring books are also great. Please contact Susan Light at susanlight@gmail.com for more information on how you can help.

THANK YOU! UKRAINE RELIEF FUND CONTINUES

MPC has always been a most generous church and it continues to be! A combination of your donations and \$875 from the recent College of New Jersey choir concert held at MPC has totaled \$10,000 in contributions to date being sent to The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (pda.pcusa.org), specifically to aid those impacted by the war in Ukraine. MPC has assisted the PDA for years, and now MPC (that's you!) continues to reach out to our brothers and sisters in Christ being affected by this awful war. Your contributions are still welcomed to add to this fund, using a check made out to MPC with "Ukraine Relief" placed on the comment line. There will also be baskets in the sanctuary labelled "Ukraine Relief". The MPC Outreach Committee continues to monitor the situation and continues to ask for your prayers.

MPC Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY, May 1

9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School	Zoom
9:00	Confirmation Class	Room 200
9:00	New Member Class	Lounge
9:30	Pre-K - High School Sunday School	
10:30	Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:30	Worship Service	Livestream
11:30	Teen Choir	Music Room
Noon	Deacons Meeting	Conference Room

MONDAY, May 2

6:30 p.m.	Mostly Motets	Music Room
7:00	Boy Scout Troop 3	Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY, May 3

6:00 p.m.	Cub Scout Pack 3	Fellowship Hall
6:00	Pack 3 - Webelos	Room 104
6:30	Alcoholics Anonymous	Room 220
7:00	Food Center	Parking Lot

WEDNESDAY, May 4

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	Chapel
7:00	Girl Scout Troop 2888	Fellowship Hall
7:30	Chancel Chimes	Chapel

THURSDAY, May 5

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 Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:00	Weekday Nursery School Board Meeting	Lounge

FRIDAY, May 6

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

SATURDAY, May 7

7:00 a.m.	Cub Scout Pack 3 Mondo Yard Sale	Parking Lot
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SUNDAY, May 8

9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School	Zoom
9:00	Confirmation Class	Room 200
9:00	New Member Class	Lounge
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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